

sly laugh is still called up at the apothecary's by a perusal of the indorsement on that prescription.

THE OYSTER TUMOR—A NEW VARIETY.—Dr. Theobold of Baltimore reports the removal by a physician, from the nose of a lady, of a suspicious-looking mass which had apparently sloughed off from its former attachments; the supposed neoplasm being regarded as probably of a malignant character. It was examined with the microscope, and at one of the meetings of a Baltimore society, its histological characteristics, together with the clinical facts, were duly presented. An animated discussion followed, and more than one hypothesis was advanced to account for the unusual features of the case. During the heat of the debate, an inquisitive individual inspected the supposed tumor with more care than others had displayed, and announced that it was a harmless specimen of the "bi-valve" order, familiarly known as the *oyster*. It was half-digested, and had become lodged in the nose during a previous attack of vomiting. This is a forcible illustration of discussions, "long, labored and loud," too often held over imaginary "facts."—*Gaillard's Med. Jour.*

PATHOGNOMIC SIGN OF FRACTURE OF THE NECK OF THE FEMUR.—Prof. Bezzi, after showing in the *Spallanzani* the difficulties and uncertainties which often attend the diagnosis of this accident, observes that at the Milan Hospital a traditional practice exists of exploring, whenever fracture of the femur is suspected, the short space between the trochanter and the crest of the ilium. In place of the considerable resistance which there is produced in the sound limb, through the tension of the tensor facię lataę, there is found, when the injury has occurred, a deep depression, due evidently to the diminution of the tension of this muscle, owing to the approximation of its points of attachment.

OZÆNA.—Any simple treatment which is efficacious in so troublesome a complaint as ozæna is a desideratum. Dr. Gottstein (*Berlin Klin.*) believes that ozæna is due not to a congenital narrowing of the nasal fossæ, but to their being too wide. The current of expired air loses its force and becomes powerless to remove the products of secretion, which, being retained, become fetid. The author has always found a condition of atrophy and anæmia of the mucous membrane of the turbinated bones in ozæna. He has always found advantage in plugging the nostrils with cotton wool so as to allow the passage of air. Under the influence of this plugging the mucous membrane resumes its vitality, and the secretions become normal again, and the ozæna is cured.—*Cin. Lancet and Clin.*