

THE JOURNAL OF INSANITY.—Its first number reflects great credit on its originators. We would not be surprised in seeing other institutions follow the example, and this independently of the annual report; these last, undoubtedly useful in many respects, are insufficient in a medical point of view. We trust that the attempt will be as successful as it is praiseworthy; the paper is published quarterly. We offer our thanks to the gentlemen of both Journals for their attention in forwarding us their numbers—we can but reciprocate, and that with gratitude.

A New Mode of relieving Prolapsus Ani.—By A. Robert.—The author having stated the most powerful cause of procidentia ani to be the paralysis or relaxation of the sphincter, and having enumerated the modes hitherto adopted of relieving the affection, thus proceeds:

“It is easy to observe that if these modes of treatment differ among themselves, they have one common result, that of forming, either above or below the sphincter, a wound, either with or without loss of substance, which in suppurating and cicatrizing contracts the anus, and determines a more intimate union of the intestine or the skin with the subjacent parts. In ordinary cases this cicatrix resists sufficiently well, because it receives a solid support in the sphincter ani, which has lost little of its contractile power. But if this muscle is itself affected with extreme relaxation, whether primary, or the result of the long and excessive distension which it has been submitted to by the tumor, it is easy to foresee, that the cicatrix, being no longer supported, will become extended, and the prolapsus reproduced.”

Mr. Robert next relates a very bad case of prolapsus ani of considerable duration occurring in a washerwoman, as an example of his mode of relieving the affection. He made two incisions at the posterior border of the anus, in the form of a V, the apex meeting at the coccyx, and, having removed a corresponding portion of the sphincter, he united the parts by the suture, the threads of which were removed on the 6th day. On the 15th day (constipation having been induced by abstinence and opiates) fecal matters were removed by a scoop, and on the 18th day the woman had a natural stool without the reproduction of her infirmity. She became eventually completely cured.

Mémoires de l'Académie Royale de Médecine.

An Efficacious means of relieving Hæmorrhage, occurring after the Lateral Operation for the Stone.—By M. Bégis.—The only means of any efficacy employed hitherto against this formidable and not unfre-