

The North American Medical and Surgical Journal.

[We have lately been favoured with the first number of this valuable publication, which was issued out on the same day as our own, 1st. January last, and which has met with a general cheering reception throughout the United State; and if we may judge of its merit from this specimen, it cannot be questioned that in point of usefulness, the work is an acquisition to the world at large. The communications are numerous and highly interesting, the review is exercised with energy and justice and displays an uncommon stock of professional knowledge; but what appears, in our opinion, to give it a decided preference over a great number of publications of this nature, is the taste and judgement with which their numerous selections of the daily improvements, throughout the medical world, have been made. From this peculiar advantage, and from the facility with which it can be procured, we have no hesitation in recommending its perusal to every practitioner in this country. The Editorship is conducted by five medical Gentlemen of consideration in Philadelphia, viz: Drs. Hodge, Baché, Meigs, Bates and La Roche.—We can now afford room for the following extracts.]

DEAR SIR. About three years ago, my servant, Lemuel Jones, was afflicted with a neuralgic affection of the right side of the forehead, of a periodical character. Such was the severity of the paroxysm, as to affect his mind, and to raise a considerable tumor at the time of attack. Believing, from the protracted duration of the complaint, and from certain phenomena, that the bone was diseased, I cut down to it, in the hope of relieving him. The bone was found perfectly sound, but the part appeared unusually vascular. This led to the opinion that perhaps the local irritation might be removed, by tying up the branch of the temporal artery going to the part, which was accordingly done. The disease ceased, and from that period he has not felt, in the part, the least symptom of irritation; nor has a similar disease attacked any other part of his system. Dr. Sharpless, of this city, favoured me with his assistance in this operation, and can vouch for the accuracy of the statement.

Encouraged by the success of this operation, I have since, in two other cases of neuralgic affection of the scalp, passed ligatures round the principal arteries going to the part, and in both cases had the pleasure of effecting an immediate and perfect cure.

I expect soon to receive from the country two cases of neuralgia, one of the cheek, and another of the great-toe, in both of which, if acupuncture should fail, I will try the effect of ligatures on the arteries of the part, and report to you the result.

J. K. MITCHELL.