

be expected that many will volunteer assistance in partaking of oxalic acid.

In conclusion, I may remark that the result with lime water seems to favour the belief that oxalic acid is a natural constituent of the blood, and for experimental evidence on this latter point the Profession is indebted to the labours of Drs. Garrod and Parkes.—*Med. Times and Gazette*.

70 Wimpole-street

Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children.

CASE OF MENSTRUATION IN THE MALE.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—Permit me gentlemen, through the medium of your Journal, to lay before the profession the particulars of an anomaly, which will doubtless prove interesting to your readers.

In the month of December, 1855, while attending the medical lectures of the University of Louisiana, I formed the acquaintance of a young gentleman, who was then a student in the same school. His character and attainments were such as to commend themselves to my admiration, which subsequently ripened into friendship and intimacy.

On one occasion, in a moment of extreme melancholy, and under the influence of the confidential relations existing between us, he communicated to me, that though not possessed of the usual organs, he periodically performed the simulated functions of menstruation; and that this deviation from the laws of nature, in his person, was not only inexplicable, but the source of the most painful and gloomy reflections. I enjoyed peculiar opportunities of observation, which were faithfully improved. He had been the victim of this vicarious function for a period of three years, eliminating an apparent catamenial secretion, with the same regularity, and attended by the same indications by which it is characterized in the human female.

The fluid exuded, flowed from the sebaceous glands of the deep fossa behind the corona glandis, and was of a sanguineous appearance, homogeneous and thick. The quantity of this exudation varied from one to two ounces during each hemorrhagic period, and the duration of the periods from three to six days. The subject was then about twenty-two years of age, of a lymphatic temperament, and had never been contaminated by venereal disease. Though not prone to the indulgence of lustful passions, he was not innocent of having sometimes yielded to their promptings, which were especially potent immediately preceding his periodical purifications. I was made the sole repository of this gentleman's gloomy