lation and growth of animal and vegetable productions, which take place in these receptacles, and the case is proved against the whole present supply of the metropolis."* It is indeed impossible to contemplate the world of monsters contained in a drop of London water, without being satisfied that a score of globules would go but a little way in affording them a satisfactory repast. Besides these living impediments to the action of our globules, and besides the lead derived from the pipes and cisterns, which will be a stronger dose of Plumbum than our rigorous dietists ever employ, there are no less than from 20 to 30 grains of inorganic matter, carbonate of lime, of magnesia, &c., in every gallon of London water.†

So much for our patient's morning draught of pure water—now for his slice of bread.

[TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.]

A NEW PLAN OF EXTRACTING FOREIGN BODIES FROM THE NOSE.

PRACTITIONERS are often called upon to extract various substances introduced into the nose of children, either by themselves in play, or by others in mischief. This little operation is not at all times of easy performance; the struggles of the child; the frequent free bleeding, and the nature or position of the foreign body, often prove serious obstacles in the way of a prompt and harmless success. Various means and instruments have been recommended and devised; but having had to perform the extraction in very many cases I have generally succeeded readily with a very simple instrument—taking a large pin and bending its point just enough to make a small hook, the pin is then held, or secured by a thread in a pair of forceps. The nostril being spread out, the pin is passed behind the object, and with a steady hand — to prevent tearing the mucous membrane—slowly and gradually bring it out at the anterior opening. This plan has always promptly succeeded when the foreign body, such as a pea, bean, or kernel of corn had become somewhat softened by the nasal discharges. The pin hooks in firmly, and although it may be somewhat swollen, it is no impediment to its easy removal. Not so, however, if the body is of a nature, for example, a metal, pearl or bone button. I have removed such, but not without some trouble, and occasionally with more or less scratching of the nasal membrane.

In May last I was called to see the child of Mr. D., of this village, who had pushed up into the left nostril a fancy pearl button, nearly the size of a five-cent piece. The button could be indistinctly seen at the bottom of the nostril; I prepared a pin as usual, and the child's head being securely held, I passed it into the nose and endeavored to bring out the button, but from its hardness and smoothness the pin slipped over it again and again; I still persisted, but soon had to give up, as a free discharge of blood filled the nostril and obscured everything. Reflecting one moment upon M. Maisonneuve's plan of washing out the nose in ozæna—which had been reported in a late number of my LANCET —by throwing in a stream of water into one nostril it would run out freely through the other; I, at once, resolved to make a new application of this expedient. Having procured a four-ounce syringe and charging it with water, the pipe was introduced into the right nostril, and the piston being suddenly and forcibly pushed home a full stream of water rushed out from the right nostril, but the button was not dislodged. However, I was well satisfied with the simplicity and feasibility of the procedure, and threw in a second syringe-full, when the button was thrown out at some distance upon the floor.

A few days after, a stout Irish boy was brought to my surgery to have a kernel of corn removed from the left nostril. I did not, this time, attempt the pin-operation, but at once had recourse to the syringe. The first syringe-full proved of no benefit, very little water being thrown into the nostril, the movement of the child displacing the syringe,

* Food and its Adulterations, by Arthur Hill Hassall, M.D., p. 52, et seq.
† Johnston's Chemistry of Common Life, p. 38.