

EXTIRPATION OF THE UTERUS FOR COMPLETE INVERSION.

M. Velpeau has recently extirpated the uterus in a case of inversion, the result of labor, which had existed four years, and threatened the life of the woman through the continued hæmorrhage which it occasioned. After bringing down the uterus by means of double hooks (erignes), ligatures were passed through the base of the tumor which it formed, and it was then excised. From the account given of the operation, it is rather difficult to understand how the ligatures were applied. In another case in which M. Velpeau operated, three months ago, it appears that the base of the tumor traversed with two ligatures, and they were then tied circularly. Owing, however, to gradual retraction and ascension of the divided surfaces, the ligatures slipped off. In this case, therefore, it is stated, that the ligatures were placed from one side to the other, and united in front, so as to approximate the divided surfaces, as in the operation for hare-lip. The patient died of peritonitis a few days after the operation.

M. Velpeau has operated by excision on a woman, who recovered. He has lost another patient by hæmorrhage, and has met with three cases of complete inversion; he has, therefore, seen six cases in all.—*Gazette des Hôpitaux*.

DECOMPOSITION OF TINCT. OPII BY AMMONIA.

It is of great importance for prescribers to remember that the addition of ammonia, either as carbonate or spiritus ammon, aromaticus, to mixtures containing tincture of opium or any salt of morphia, will after some time, say twenty-four hours, precipitate the morphia in a crystalline form; so that if a mixture is made a day or two before it is taken, the patient may get several doses of morphia concentrated in the last portion left in the bottle, and fatal consequences may be produced. The presence of alcohol will prevent the precipitation.—*Chemical Gazette and Boston Med. and Surg. Journal*.

OVARIAN DISEASE.

Dr. Jefferson thus sums up the results of the operation for the extirpation of ovarian tumors, in 74 cases: in 37 cases the tumor was removed, and the patients recovered; in 24 the operation was followed by the death of the patient; of these 24 fatal cases, the tumor was removed in 14, could not be removed on account of adhesions in 6, and was found to be other than ovarian tumor in 4 cases. Thus, again, in 74 cases, in which the operation for extirpation of ovarian tumor had been undertaken, it has been completed in 51 instances, in 14 of which it has been followed by death, and in 37 by the successful removal of tumors, and by recovery of the patients; whilst, out of the