

The Dilatable Tampon to arrest Hæmorrhage after Lithotomy.—Dr. C. F. MAUNDER, in the *British Medical Journal*, remarks: Having to perform lateral lithotomy out of town a short time since, on a patient sixty-five years of age, with a large prostate and deep perinæum, I provided myself with one of Mr. Buckston Browne's instruments. The operation was performed on a curved staff, and the patient was soon comfortably in bed. After a short time a little bleeding occurred; and as I had to return to London, I introduced the tampon and stopped it. One of my dressers, Mr. W. Whitford, remained in charge, with the acquiescence of Dr. Wolston, the medical attendant. On visiting this gentleman in the evening, eight hours subsequently to the operation, I found him very comfortable indeed; no bleeding, and the urine flowing freely through the tube. At 5 A.M., Mr. Whitford allowed the tampon to collapse; and at 9 A.M. I removed the instrument. The patient made an uninterrupted recovery.

Should the tampon become somewhat flaccid too soon, as it may do by an insidious escape of air, it can be readily refilled. Certainly I shall never perform lateral lithotomy without having one of these instruments at hand.

Turpentine as an external application in Small-Pox.—Dr. Farr, of Lambeth, ascribes great value to turpentine as an external application in small-pox. He claims that it at once relieves any smarting or irritation, effectually corrects the unpleasant odor given off in the more confluent form of the disease, and seems in a marked degree to arrest pustulation, thereby modifying and sometimes entirely preventing pitting. In consequence of its powerful antiseptic and disinfectant properties, it tends, moreover, to prevent the spread of the infection. Mr. Farr uses it in the proportion of one part of rectified spirits of turpentine to three or four of olive oil, and applies it night and morning by means of a feather.—*The Lancet*, May 11th.