

rudimental blood-cells, such as may have been formed in the lymph or chyle; and in these cases they are either increasing quickly in adaptation to quick growth, or increasing because, through disease or defective nutriment, although their production is not hindered, yet their development into the perfect red blood-cells cannot take place. In either case, their peculiar adhesiveness, making them apt to stick to the walls of the blood-vessels, they may accumulate in a part in which the vessels are injured or the circulation is slow, and thus they may sometimes augment the hindrances to the free movement of the blood. But I believe nothing of the kind happens in other or more healthy frogs, or in any ordinary inflammation in the warm-blooded animals. I have often examined the human blood in the vessels of inflamed parts after death, and have found no more white corpuscles in them than in those of other parts. In blood drawn from inflamed parts during life, I have found only the same proportion of white corpuscles in them as in the healthy parts of the same person. I therefore cannot but accord with the opinion often expressed by Mr. Wharton Jones and Dr. Hughes Bennett, that an especial abundance of white corpuscles, *i.e.*, of rudimental blood-cells, in the vessels of an inflamed part, is neither a constant nor even a frequent occurrence; and I believe, that when such corpuscles are numerous in an inflamed part, it is only when they are abundant in the mass of the blood. Now, as already stated, they are thus abundant in *some cases* of inflammation, especially, I think, in those occurring in people that are in weak health, and in the tuberculous."

ART. IX.—On *Uterine Hæmorrhage* By JOHN MACKELCAN, M. D.,
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The numerous articles which appear from time to time in the various British and Foreign Medical journals on the subject of post partum uterine hæmorrhage, show that the treatment hitherto adopted has not been altogether satisfactory. The frequency of its occurrence also, and its formidable character, render it of so much interest that some practical remarks on the subject may not be deemed superfluous. Before the discovery of the powers of *secale cornutum*, small doses of the tincture of opium, with the application of cold and pressure, were the principal, if not the only means depended on for the arrest of hæmorrhage after the removal of the placenta. This was indeed the established practice, and one which the records of the profession show was not always successful; cases sometimes occurring of hæmorrhage fatal at the time, or leading to fatal consequences within a few days. When the ergot was first brought into use the older members of the profession doubted its efficacy, while the younger practitioners availed themselves of its powers in producing uterine contraction, and relied on it as the internal means (almost exclusively) for the purpose of arresting post partum hæmorrhage.

As a specimen of the opinions of the older practitioners, I quote from the British Record of May 1 1848, a passage from an article by Mr. Newnham, of Farnham in Surrey, a well known intelligent and experienced surgeon. He says:—"It is not perhaps every case of uterine hæmorrhage in which we would recommend the exhibition of opium,