

papers. During all this time she was fed by means of a tube attached to a syringe.

June 25th. One grain of strychnine was dissolved in ℥ii. of water with a few drops of acid, (acet. dis.) of which twospoonfuls were given twice a day. The dose was gradually increased till the 5th of July.

July 6th. Seemed to have benefitted greatly by the above mixture. She complained of great numbness on the right side of the face; but otherwise felt much better and thinks she swallowed a little wine.

July 7th. Much better: swallowed wine and beef tea: walked a few steps without any assistance, but still complains of numbness.

Since that time she has steadily improved and has recovered to a great degree her proper sensibility. Her left arm and leg have partly recovered their normal strength so that she is able to walk a quarter of a mile without assistance and to busy herself in the affairs of her household.

Chambly, 1854.

ART. XII.—Pickings from some of the Parisian Hospitals By JAMES BARNSTON, M.D., Edinburgh; Extr. Member of the Royal Medical Society, Edinburgh; Member (*ex. of.*) of the Parisian Medical Society, &c.

Hopital du Midi... With reference to the special nature of the syphilitic virus, M. Ricord holds very decided opinions, viewing the poison as distinct and specific in its source, nature and consequences. It is hardly possible to believe that, at the present day, there should be some authorities of high repute confirmed in the opinion that syphilis is a specific disease, and that its virus manifests a specificity of action, and who would, at the same time, think that the uncertainties of contagion, the mysteries of inoculation, and the plurality of accidents consequent upon sexual intercourse, should perfectly justify them in denying to a special ulceration, as chancre, a special source, at all times and in every circumstance; in other words, they are willing to ascribe to purulent matter, of a kind not essentially syphilitic, effects analogous to those dependent upon virulent infection. Inoculation, however, is perfectly conclusive upon this point, and demonstrates the fact that the pus or muco-pus, furnished from any diseased surface other than a chancre, is ineffectual. As far as experiment and vigorous observation shew, it is chancre and chancre alone as a primitive ulcer, which can reproduce chancre, and determine syphilitic disease. This would appear too exclusive, since it rejects the belief, so generally entertained, of the transmissibility of sy-