

by them, the mothers and nurses of our land will at once commence the acquisition of a kind of experience which will become every year of increased importance. In addition to its practical value in reference to the health of their households, we must also add that all who become familiar with the facts of human thermometry must learn some interesting lessons in physiology." *N. Y. Medical Journal.*

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Sir William Ferguson, Bart., has been elected to the presidency of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, thus breaking through the hitherto scrupulously observed practice of selecting no one but an Examiner of the college for this post. The precedent thus established is a good one, and meets with the general approval of the medical press.—*N. Y. Medical Journal.*

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In San Francisco recently occurred a case of sudden death, which, in a medico-legal point of view, was highly interesting. A boy ten years of age died suddenly, shortly after having been whipped by his father. The circumstances seemed sufficiently suspicious to warrant an examination by the coroner, and, accordingly, Dr. Bentley carefully examined the various organs, and finding nothing to account for death, removed the stomach in order to have its contents subjected to chemical analysis, and sewed up the body. The father had, in the mean time, been arrested, under the supposition that he had caused the death of the child. After completing the autopsy, from some singular afterthought, Dr. Bentley was induced to examine the larynx; he therefore reopened the body and removed that organ. Upon making section of the larynx, there was found a large bolus of beef quite filling its cavity, fully accounting for death, and completely exonerating the parent. It was learned subsequently, that the boy had eaten freely of beefsteak before going to bed. In the night he was roused from sleep by an attack of vomiting, during which a piece of the imperfectly-masticated beef caught in the larynx, and produced suffocation.—*Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal.*

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Another death from a similar cause occurred in the same city recently. The lad, however, was under the influence of