way of intestinal absorption, is much less constant and measureable than that by the stomach. I have ascertained this by a large number of observations. The state of the mucous membrane of the colon is subject to much more variations than that of the mucous membrane of the stomach; and, besides that, much will depend if, and how long, the injection remains within the bowels, or how much of it has been voided after a certain time. Thus, in two children of a good constitution, both two years old, the same dose given by injection may produce very different results, according to the length of time during which the liquid is retained within the rectum; and for the same reason in the one three drops of the tincture will produce narcotism, whilst in another the double quantity will remain without effect upon the brain. If we can suppose that the injection will be absorbed, we may administer only the double of what we would give by the mouth.

Digitalis, frequently employed as an antiphlogistic, in particular against acute affections of the brain, I have been fully satisfied does not answer that indication. As a diuretic, it must be postponed to many other remedies of the kind; this action of it being particularly inconstant in children. The unique real indication of *digitalis* is the nervous hyperæthiis of the heart, unconnected with inflammation or aneurism. The best mode of administering it is by two doses daily, at the interval of twelve hours. The single doses may be for the third year a quarter of a grain, for the fifth one-third of a grain, and for the eighth year half a grain, which can be considerably augmented. Commonly, too small doses are prescribed.

CASE OF STRANGULATION OF THREE FEET OF THE JEJUNUM,

BY A RENT IN THE MESENTERY, PRESENTING NO SYMPTOMS OF THE DISEASE FOR SEVERAL HOURS, AND THEN TERMINATING VERY RAPIDLY.

By CHARLES BAILEY, Esq., CHIPPENHAM.

Read at the Quarterly Meeting of the Bath and Bristol Branch, March 25, 1852.

HENRY TAYLER, aged 25, was on the 13th of March, 1852, in perfect health; in the evening of that day, after partaking of a hearty supper, he was returning home about a quarter of a mile distance, when at the half way of his return he fell over some large stones which had been carelessly left on the foot-path; he got up, did not feel much hurt, went into an adjoining house, and partook of some warm beer, and smoked a pipe of tobacco; after sitting about half an hour went home to bed, did not complain, but slept soundly till six o'clock; came to his employment a little before eight. Feeling some uneasiness about the bowels, he was induced to seek their relief; this was effected, and urine was also voided. Directly upon this the pain became severe, and he vomited several times; the ejected contents had not undergone digestion, as the food of the last meal of the

preceding day was unaltered. Frequent rigors, cramp, thread-like pulse, cold extremities, and leadened countenance. When I was first apprized of his illness I found that thirty drops of the tincture of opium had been given in a little warm brandy and water, and was rejected. Being ignorant of the fall of the previous night, and conceiving he was labouring under spasmodic colic, I gave him a pill, consisting of two grains of opium and two of calomel; this remained, but still there was no abatement of symptoms. He then related the circumstance of his fall, but said he was sure that would not have anything to do with his present painful condition. I again examined him, could find no tenderness, but he complained of a fulness and tension. Being put into bed, after warm appliances to the abdomen and feet, with doses of the compound spirits of æther and small quantities of tincture of opium, a little reaction took place, yet no abatement of pain, therefore, listening to the entreaties of the poor fellow to do more for him, I reluctantly took away ten or twelve ounces of blood, and he expressed himself relieved. Small quantities of fluid now remained on the stomach. Another dose of calomel only was given, and shortly after one ounce of castor oil; this remained, without any more sickness, which led me to hope the result would have been different, but in about three hours he breathed his last, having endured seven hours severe pain.

The following day my young friend, Dr. W. Colborne, examined the body. No external appearance of injury. On opening the abdomen, more than a pint and a half of bloody serum was found; intestines much inflated; on placing aside the omentum and colon, there was seen a considerable portion (three feet) of the jejunum in a state of mortification, with much discoloration of the connected parts. By carefully carrying on the examination, it was discovered that the mortified part of the jejunum was strangulated, or rather had been so, in a wound or rent of the fold of the mesentery, through which the intestine had fallen, and its functions been destroyed. No injury had been inflicted on any other organs of the abdomen. Other parts of the body not examined.

Hospital Reports.

MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.

CASES

Reported under the terms proposed by the Association.
By MEDICUS.

Fungus Hæmatodes after Fracture.

GRACE FAULKNER, aged 39, factory operative, Duckinfield, was admitted into the Manchester Royal Infirmary, under Mr. Wilson, October 10, 1850. She states that on the 16th of August, 1850, she fell down, her arm twisted under her, and fractured both radius