CHLOROFORM IN HYDROPHOBIA.

By S. B. DENTON, Esq., M.R.C.S.

George Witty, aged 5 years, on his way to the infant school, on the 16th of October, 1848, was bitten by a dog through the under lip. The wound was quite free from pain, and soon healed.

The child betrayed no symptom of indisposition until the expiration of a month. On Sunday, the 12th of November, the child went to school as usual, and nothing uncommon was noticed until dinner time, when he refused to eat anything. His mother asked him why he did not eat his dinner. He replied that he felt sick and weary, and had been so the whole day, accompanied by unusual perspiration. She prevailed upon him to eat a little potato, but could not induce him to take any liquid.

Not complaining of any pain he was sent to school again, and during the time he was there the teacher perceived no alteration in his general appearance. When he returned home he again complained of being very tired, and wished to sit upon his mother's knee.

Tea time came, but he took nothing, and being fatigued was put to bed. When he had been there a short time he asked for something to drink two or three times. Accordingly something was taken him, and he tried to swallow it, but as soon as it came in contact with his lips he was alarmed, and gasped for breath. Sometimes he would in an agony endeavour to gulp a little tea down, and then throw the cup away with great violence. Upon being asked why he was so impatient, he said he could not help it. After he had obtained some sleep fever began to make its appearance, and at intervals he was delirious, and occasionally complained of pain in the chest and throat. He continued in this state until the morning. No alteration took place during the whole of Monday, excepting a wilder expression of the eyes, and he also shewed a stronger aversion to drinkables, although it was very evident his thirst had much increased.

On Monday night he again said he had great pain in the chest and throat, the expression of his eyes more fierce, he breathed with greater difficulty, and inspirations deeper. When his mother put him to bed she threw the clothes in rather a careless manner over him, and the partial air so produced, puffing over his face, occasioned violent involuntary starting and fright, approaching to convulsions, the same as when he attempted to take any fluid. During the whole night he was occasionally delirious, and had frequent short intervals of sleep, but generally awoke in dreadful alarm and fright. About three o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 14th, he awoke in terrific agony, saying that a pin was running into his head. At four o'clock, A.M., he jumped out of bed and ran down stairs, "declaring that if he stayed in *that* bed he should choke." His mother followed him, and found him in the kitchen, in strong convulsions. As soon as he recovered a little he rubbed both his sides and said they hurt him very much; he also would have his mother "feel his sides, as he said they were very soft."

From six to eight o'clock he complained of pain on each side of the head, and then in every part of the body.

At ten o'clock, A.M., a tough, mucous, frothy-like saliva came from his mouth, which continued to increase until his death; frequently the foam accumulated to the size of an orange.

Chloroform was perseveringly administered, but the vapour upon the branches of the olfactory nerve produced such terrific fright, screaming, and convulsions, that *I was glad* to discontinue its use.

Every remedy administered produced not the slightest impression on the complaint. Aconite, opium, Ant. Potassio. Tart., enemata, rubefacients, assafoetida, and ice, were energetically used, but without the slightest avail, and the poor sufferer sunk about a quarter past five, P.M., in one long convulsive struggle.

Hornsea Holdness.

Hospital Reports.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

CASE UNDER THE TREATMENT OF JOHN TOPHAM, M.D., LIC. (EXTRA URB.) ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, AND PHYSICIAN TO THE HOSPITAL.

HYPERTROPHY OF THE SPLEEN.

Joseph Bennett, aged 28, was admitted into the South Staffordshire General Hospital, Wolverhampton, March 28, 1849. He is employed in working in the coal mines. The history which he gives of the first detection of the disease under which he now labours is curious.

Five months ago his fellow workmen observed that his abdomen was larger than it used to be, and joked him for having "a big belly." He all the while was unaware of the enlargement until difficulty of breathing, when engaged in his work, called his attention to it.

He is a very clear-headed fellow, and states his case exactly. He never had any fever, intermittent or other, and does not think that he has received any particular injury in the abdomen more than his trade exposed him to. When first observed, the tumour was rather to the left of the umbilicus; but the man seems to have thought very little about its existence until he saw me.

March 27th, 1849.—He now has great abdominal enlargements, insomuch that I at once set him down as having ascites, and without looking to his abdomen, listened to his heart-sounds. There is a murmur coincident with the first sound, loudest at the base, but not accompanied by any other sign of disease in the heart. The lungs appear to be perfectly healthy. Perhaps slight pulmonary emphysema exists. The whole of the left half of the abdomen is occupied by a firm solid tumour, extending from the region of the