fourth, which is a much larger proportion than holds good with respect to either of the others.

CAPSULAR RHEUMATISM.—PERIOD OF TREATMENT.

	Cured.	Relieved	
1 week	0	0	Fatal disorganisation of the joints . . 3
2 —	8	1	
3 —	11	0	
4 —	12	2	
6 —	13	3	Urethral discharge 2
8 —	13	0	
10 —	4	0	
12 —	4	0	
16 —	1	0	Inflammation of the eye 2
20 —	1	0	
24 —	1	0	
	68	6	7

The most remarkable circumstance in this table is the length of time during which some of the patients were under treatment, as compared with those labouring under the other forms of the disease. Of the cases of acute rheumatism, properly so called, as we have seen, more than one-half were discharged within three weeks, whereas the number of those with capsular rheumatism discharged within the same period amounts only to twenty out of eighty-one, or within a fraction of one-fourth. Of the cases of rheumatic fever, one-half were discharged cured in three weeks; of the cases of capsular rheumatism, more than half remained in hospital at the end of six weeks.

CASES OF MUSCULAR RHEUMATISM.

Ages.	Males.	Females.	Total.
15 to 20	2	4	6
20 — 25	4	4	8
25 — 30	5	5	11
30 — 35	9	3	12
35 — 40	5	4	9
40 — 45	3	4	7
45 — 50	6	2	8
50 — 55	2	2	4
55 — 60	5	0	5
60 — 65	4	1	5
65 — 70	4	1	5
	49	31	80

So far as this table goes, it would seem to show a remarkable difference between the ages at which the fibrous and muscular forms of rheumatism are most prevalent. In the former instance, from fifteen to twenty years of age gave about two-thirds of the entire number of cases; here the same period gives only twenty-five out of eighty, being rather less than one-third. After the middle period of life, as we have seen above, the tendency to rheumatic fever progressively and rapidly diminishes. Not so with regard to the muscular form of the disease, which is spread

more equally over the whole period of adult age: of the acute fibrous cases, only eight occurred between the ages of fifty and sixty, being rather more than one twenty-eighth part of the whole number; whereas the same period gives nine cases of the more chronic muscular form, being very nearly one-ninth of the whole.

MUSCULAR RHEUMATISM.—PERIOD OF TREATMENT.

1 week	.	.	.	.	.	2
2 —	.	.	.	.	.	11
3 —	.	.	.	.	.	18
4 —	.	.	.	.	.	21
6 —	.	.	.	.	.	14
8 —	.	.	.	.	.	6
10 —	.	.	.	.	.	5
11 —	.	.	.	.	.	
12 —	.	.	.	.	.	
Date of discharge not recorded						3
Total						80

In about three-fourths of the above the pain was entirely, or almost entirely, removed; in the remaining fourth the disease was so far mitigated as to admit of the parties being made out-patients. But it must here be observed, that while the tables of the fibrous and synovial forms of the disease may be regarded as close approximations to the truth, that of muscular rheumatism is open to this objection,—that the majority of such cases are not admitted into the hospital, and do not enter at all into the above lists, which are confined to the very severe cases of what passes under the general denomination of chronic rheumatism.

The nervous and periosteal forms of the disease have not occurred in numbers or under circumstances to warrant any attempt at reducing them into a tabular form.*

CASE

OF

COMPLETE OBLITERATION OF THE AORTA

By Dr. ROEMER,

Professor of Anatomy at Vienna.

An officer, high in rank in the Austrian army, who had served during the war from 1770 to 1815, and had always enjoyed good health till his 45th year, went at that time to reside at Mayence. He then suffered frequently from dyspnoea and gastralgia, but did not apply for medical advice until he had had several attacks of threatened suffocation, and his stomach had refused to receive every kind of food. During a year he was treated homœopathically, without benefit. Severe palpitations then came on, accompanied by œdema of the extremities. The continued use of bismuth and digitalis made the dyspnoea and vomiting almost entirely disappear, but the pulse continued rapid, vibrating, and full. As his decease approached, he was seized with hoarseness and a small dry cough; and at last he expired suddenly in his fiftieth year, while playing at whist.

* From Dr. Macleod's work on Rheumatism.

Post-mortem examination.—The contents of the cranium were healthy, with the exception of a softened and exsanguine state of the brain, and ossification of the basilar artery. Four ounces of serum were found at the base of the skull. The heart was considerably hypertrophied; the valves were healthy. The aorta, as far as the origin of the arteria innominata, was much dilated, which latter was almost twice its normal size. The subclavians and the left carotid artery did not appear unnaturally large. The coronary arteries were ossified to the extent of about three inches. From the origin of the arteria innominata, to the point where the ductus arteriosus enters, the aorta became gradually smaller, and at this latter spot the diameter did not exceed half an inch; it was there found obliterated to the same extent; its thoracic and abdominal portion was hardly as large as that of a child ten or twelve years old; the walls of these vessels were evidently thickened. The intercostal arteries, which arose below the obliteration, had nearly the diameter of a quarter of an inch, and communicated freely between the third and fourth ribs, with the mammary and thoracic arteries. It was by means of these anastomoses that the collateral circulation was established; the pulmonary arteries were greatly dilated; the left laryngeal recurrent nerve was greatly stretched, and the turn which it makes round the aorta corresponded to the obliterated point of that vessel. Biliary calculi were found in the gall-bladder. The lungs and other organs were healthy.—*Arch. Gén. de Médecine*, Dec. 1841, and *Edinburgh Monthly Journal*.

CAUTERISATION OF THE NECK OF THE UTERUS.

During the last three months of the past year M. Lisfranc has made a great number of experiments at the hospital of la Pitié, for the purpose of determining what is the best caustic that can be employed in cases where it may be necessary to cauterise the neck of the uterus. Simple ulcerations of this organ require the use of caustic, and it is now well ascertained that they are more or less rapidly healed by this means. Practitioners are equally in the habit of employing the nitrate of silver and the deuto-nitrate of mercury, but the circumstances which should guide us in the choice of either remedy have not been pointed out. From the numerous experiments instituted by M. Lisfranc, it would appear that hæmorrhage very rarely ensues after the use of the deuto-nitrate, while lunar caustic frequently occasions more or less abundant loss of blood. Hence it follows that, whenever ulceration of the neck of the uterus is accompanied, as it often is, by congestion or sub-inflammation of the organ, we must not employ the nitrate of silver, which

has a tendency to increase the congestive state of the uterus.

During the last three months of the year 1841, 72 cauterisations were performed on eleven women affected with ulceration of the neck of the uterus; in 44 of these 72 operations, the nitrate of silver was used, and in 31 its employment was followed by a discharge of blood; on the other hand, the deuto-nitrate of mercury was used in 28 cases, and in 3 only occasioned a slight discharge.—*Bul. de Therap.*

VACCINATION.

Medical men, who are in the habit of vaccinating the children of the poor must have observed that the success of the operation is often impeded by the dry and flaccid condition of the skin to which the matter is applied. To remedy this inconvenience, M. Hulard, of Rouen, proposes the preliminary application of one or two small cupping-glasses over the part, for the purpose of stimulating its vitality, and affirms that he has had recourse to this method with the best results in a great number of cases.—*Ibid.*

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

List of Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, April 1, 1842.

Joseph Thomas Fletcher, Arthur Gillot, Michael Allen Jane, Francis Southam, William Row, William Mitchelmore, John Pegge, William Pocock, Michael Hudson, Peter Montague Pope, James Dunn, Arthur James Cumming.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.

Licentiates admitted on Thursday, March 24, 1842.

W. V. Beadle, Bristol; H. Wright, March, Cambridgeshire; W. R. Shiell, Newcastle-on-Tyne; R. Roper, Sheffield; H. B. Square, Kingsbridge, Devon.

CORRESPONDENTS.

The letters of Dr. Chambers, Mr. Buckell, Mr. Kempson, Dr. Miles, Mr. Beadles, &c., have been received, and shall be attended to.

New Members of the Provincial Association are informed that they can receive back numbers of the Journal, to January 1, 1842, by sending to us the name of a country bookseller, through whom they may be forwarded.

We thank Mr. Crosse for his communication on the certificates for lunatics; it shall appear in our next number.

COMMUNICATIONS, JOURNALS, AND BOOKS FOR REVIEW, TO BE FORWARDED (CARRIAGE PAID), TO THE PUBLISHER, 356, STRAND, OR 58, MARGARET STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE, LONDON.