tendants to call me if bleeding returned. Some hours after, and about eight o'clock in the evening, I was again summoned to attend, when I found the blood issuing from the mouth, and running down the pillow of the bed. The apartment was heated, and several persons were in it, who, I had reason to know, had been talking to him, and the effort made to reply to their questions had, without doubt, loosened the bandage, which allowed the cork to shift its position, and the tooth to rise considerably in the socket. I now let him wash the mouth out freely with cold water, whilst the bedstead in the adjoining room was divested of everything except a mattress, over which a sheet was placed, and my patient was carried into this apartment, which was well ventilated, and placed on the sheet covering the mattress, and just a sheet thrown over him. All visitors were now excluded except one female attendant and myself. The skin being hot and feverish, and the pulse 96, full and bounding, I prescribed the following draught every half hour:—

Alum, one scruple;
Dilute sulphuric acid, twenty drops;
Tincture of digitalis, fifteen drops;
Water, one ounce;

and directed an assistant to keep up pressure on the lint (with which the socket had been filled) by the aid of a finger. On visiting him, about two hours after, I found the pulse and heat of skin subdued, but he complained much of nausea. The hæmorrhage was to a certain extent subdued, but not to such an extent as to induce me to relax my efforts. Sickness having supervened, I discontinued the medicine, and all previous means proving of little avail, I determined on applying the actual cautery. Having obtained an instrument from home (within five minutes' walk), and such an one as is ordinarily used for destroying the sensibility of the nerve in some decayed teeth, I heated it, and applied it to what appeared (as far as I could see by candle-light) the part from whence the bleeding came, but hæmorrhage appeared but little arrested. I waited a few minutes, and re-applied it, and certainly it then appeared with some effect; but I quickly found that hæmorrhage was still going on to such a degree as would not warrant my leaving my patient, or discontinuing remedies. In this predicament I scarcely knew how to act; it was now past midnight, but I ventured to hope that, as the hæmorrhage had been partially arrested by the actual cautery, perhaps pressure might do the rest. I, therefore, procured a piece of sponge, and having cut it into small pieces, directed an assistant, who was then called in, to draw back the right angle of the mouth, the female before mentioned holding the candle. I placed in the sponge very gradually, and made pressure as I went on (with an instrument used for pressing gold into decayed teeth), especially on the anterior and posterior part of the socket, and having filled the cavity level with the upper part of the gum, I placed on the sponge a *thin* piece of cork, and then wedged with *considerable force* a piece of lead—taken from a window-frame—on the cork, and between the adjacent teeth, which happily succeeded in again putting a stop to hæmorrhage, and I left my patient, with directions to one of the attendants to sit by him during the remaining portion of the night,

and at the same time gave strict orders that he should have no more clothes allowed him, and that no one should speak to him after my leaving him. I heard nothing more of him during the night, and on visiting him the following morning, found no hæmorrhage had returned, and that he had slept some time. He continued in bed a couple of days, taking cool and bland diet, at the termination of which time the cavity was emptied of its contents, and nothing farther occurred worth notice to prevent recovery.

My patient told me when he came to the surgery, after having had the tooth extracted, that he had only had one previously extracted, which was performed by a female in some neighbouring place where he was then living, and that bleeding then came on to such an extent that a medical man had great difficulty in arresting it.

A CASE

OF

HEMIPLEGIA TERMINATING IN COMPLETE RECOVERY.

By BEVERLY R. MORRIS, A.B., M.B., Trin. Col. Dub.
Physician to the York Dispensary.

February 8, 1841. Mrs. T—, aged sixty, of a spare habit, was seized yesterday about four, p.m., with a total loss of power of the right hand and arm, and with some loss of power over the leg of the same side. She had no previous headache, or warning of any kind; the bowels had been regular.

Present Symptoms.—Eyes natural; face rather anxious; tongue foul, with white fur; bowels slow; pulse 80, moderately full and soft; no headache; right arm entirely without power of motion; sensation remains perfect; hand red and swelled; tongue protrudes slightly to the right side; right leg drags, but is somewhat under command; utterance thick; slight tenderness over lower cervical vertebræ. A blister between the scapulæ; cupping glasses over the scapulæ.

Calomel, two grains;
Scammony, three grains;
Jalap, four grains;
Capsicum, two grains. Two pills to be taken at night, and half an ounce of sulphate of magnesia.

9. Tongue cleaner; bowels moved freely; utterance somewhat improved; swelling of hand less; in other respects as yesterday; blister has risen well. Repeat the pills and the sulphate of magnesia.

12. Each day some very slight improvement in the tongue and right leg; swelling of hand gone; no power over the hand or arm yet. Each day the pills and sulphate of magnesia have been repeated; continue remedies.

14. To-day she can very slightly move the arm by the muscles of the shoulder-joint; leg better; tongue still deviates a little to the right side. Continue treatment.

15. To-day can move the forearm with the biceps; no motion yet in the hand; in other respects as yesterday; is cheerful. Continue remedies.

16. Can pronate the hand when it has been supinated; leg better; in other respects as yesterday.

17. Can both pronate and supinate the hand; leg

better ; seems going on very well. Repeat the blister, and continue other remedies.

18. Can flex the fingers a little, but cannot extend them ; tongue protruded nearly straight.

19. Can both flex and extend the fingers a little ; tongue almost straight ; blister has risen well ; metallic taste in mouth. Omit the pills ; continue the magnesia.

21. Going on very well ; complains of soreness of mouth ; motion in arm considerable. Friction of the arm to be practised.

March 20. She went on so well that I omitted all medicine till now, when the arm appearing to be still a little deficient in power, I ordered extract of nux vomica, half a grain twice a day. This she continued for a fortnight with very decided benefit, as by that time she had entirely regained the use of her hand and arm.

October 10, 1842. She has continued quite well up to this time (eighteen months), and does not appear to experience any ill effects from the attack.

REMARKS.

I have not brought forward this case with the view of propounding any novel ideas as to the pathology or treatment of the disease, but simply as a case of a usually rather intractable disease resulting in perfect cure. There can be no doubt that hemiplegia is very closely allied to apoplexy ; yet the same active treatment so essential in apoplexy is seldom called for or justifiable in hemiplegia. Bleeding from the arm is seldom to be had recourse to except in cases where general plethora or a particular determination to the head exists. Cupping and blisters to the back of the neck will usually be found sufficiently active. Free purgation is also a very essential part of the treatment, and is generally indicated by the constipated state of the bowels. Calomel will also be found very beneficial in most cases, but it is not necessary to push it to salivation ; indeed its alterative effect should be rather sought. If to this we add stimulation to the extremities of the nervous filaments by friction, we shall have enumerated nearly all the remedies most to be relied on. In this case the nux vomica was ordered, and certainly seemed to be of use ; but generally I have not seen much good result from its exhibition. The way in which the power returned first to the portions of the nerves nearest their source, and slowly and by degrees to their more distant extremities, is interesting. The tenderness over the lower cervical vertebra would lead one to suppose the seat of the disease to have been there, but this I think is by no means certain, though probable ; and, indeed, this induced me to apply the local remedies to which I had recourse at that spot, and with seeming benefit. If this was a case of spinal hemiplegia, as I am inclined to believe, the affection of the tongue and leg are easily accounted for, as we know that the effects of a slight injury would be felt more in its immediate neighbourhood, and less at a distance ; and the more severe it was the greater distance would its injurious consequences extend ; and this I conceive to be a rational explanation of the symptoms which occurred in this case. This subject might be pursued much farther, but I feel that I have already occupied as much of your valuable columns as I could reasonably expect to be allowed me.

AFFECTION OF THE COLON.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—The late Dr. Holland entertained the opinion that the functions of the colon were peculiar, and that they exercise a much greater influence on the animal economy than has been generally admitted. My own experience and observations on the phenomena of some diseases induce me to coincide with this excellent physician ; and my attention has been, since reading his opinions, more particularly directed to them ; and I beg to place at your disposal the following case, selected from many on account of its brevity, from the very formidable and complicated symptoms, leading apparently, and I have good reason to believe, to phthisis pulmonalis :—

June 22, 1841. Grace Barrow, aged twenty, a fine, robust, healthy-looking young woman, has been dreadfully afflicted with headache for thirteen years, and twelve months since it was so intense that she was obliged to leave her place, and has remained at home to the present time, a burthen to her poor parents, who have a large family. When she was seven years old she had ague with headache, and although the ague left her, the headache remained, and has continued nearly constant ; but of late, and at present, is so violent that she cannot do her work. She has lived in the families of two or three general practitioners, who have bled her at the arm, had her head shaved and blistered, and given her a great deal of medicine ; in fact, it appears that these highly respectable medical gentlemen had paid her every attention, and would seem to have done their utmost to relieve her sufferings.

I find her tongue swelled, and of a blueish cast ; pulse natural ; she tells me she has no pain whatever except in her head, yet, on making only moderate pressure on the left half of the transverse arch of the colon, she suddenly started and complained of much pain ; nevertheless, she was not aware that this part was in any degree affected. I ordered her to rub in half a drachm of the ointment of the biniodide of mercury every night and morning till the part became so sore that she should be obliged to desist, and then to rub in the ointment as often as she could ; I enjoined a wholesome diet only she seemed surprised and dissatisfied that I did not prescribe any medicine to take.

July 6. She tells me that as soon as the ointment had made the part sore the headache ceased, and that she has had no headache this week past ; she adds, "which is more than I could say these fifteen months past," and, "the disagreeable taste in my mouth has left me." She has no pain on pressing the colon, and she is quite well.

I have never seen her since, but I heard of her (August 2), when she remained well ; in August 24, the pain had returned on omitting the ointment, but ceased on its reapplication. On Tuesday last, October 11, 1842, E. C., another neighbour, told me that "she continued better"—i. e. well.

I am, Gentlemen,

Very faithfully yours,

P. S. KNIGHT,

Dorchester, Dorset,

Oct. 15, 1842.