tive process itself, which, when well arranged, occupies but a very few minutes, excepting the delay of the wire loop. My confidence in it is such that I now undertake with but little anxiety cases which I formerly approached with dread. Should other persons be tempted to adopt these rules, I trust that they will find in their own experience a confirmation of mine, and be saved from some of the most appalling scenes in operative surgery.

Where hæmorrhoids have existed several years—for many persons submit to them five, ten, or twenty years, even more, under a belief of their incurability, or of the hazard of an operation—they will be found complicated with prolapsus of the rectum. In such cases there are generally three tumors, one for each side of the anus, and a smaller one in front. The judgment of the surgeon here must determine whether he will dispose of them by one, two, or three distinct operations; also how much of the mucous coat of the rectum he will take away with the base of each tumor. No general directions on these points will meet the exigencies of each individual case. In the indurated or fig-like tumor, which is made almost wholly of coagulated lymph like the tumors of the labia interna of dissolute females, the immediate excision is the best process. My remarks are intended for the vascular form of piles, by far the most frequent, in my experience.

I will conclude by stating, that it is of importance to detach well, by the incision first alluded to, the base of the tumor from the internal sphincter muscle, without which precaution we cut through, instead of lifting up and removing a plexus of veins at the anus; we also leave thereby, unfortunately, a fold of tegument which swells and inflames largely, and the reduction of which swelling gives rise to a treatment as severe and protracted as a common attack of hæmorrhoids.—*Amer. Journ. of Med. Sci.*, Oct., 1842.

MANIA FROM DECAYED TEETH.

By Dr. WILLIAM MENDENHALL, of Beverly, of Anson Co., N. C.

A black boy, about twelve or fourteen years of age, was attacked with mania in the month of May, 1840, supposed to have arisen from overheating in trying to subdue a fire which broke out upon his owner's fencing. Cathartics, blistering, cupping, and venesection, with many other remedies, were tried, which relieved him, in some measure, during the greater part of the year 1841. But in January, 1842, he became quite a maniac again, and so continued, notwithstanding all the above remedies were used, together with shaving the head and the application of cold water, and opening the temporal artery, and taking considerable blood. A few weeks ago it was discovered that he had two decayed teeth in the upper jaw—one on the right, the canine tooth, the other on the left, one of the anterior molars—both of which were extracted, since which time he has been quite restored. The day before the extraction he escaped from the family, and passed the night in the woods, and was caught in the act of running away, after coming near or to the house in the absence of the family. Since that time he has regularly attended to business without showing any marks of insanity.—*Amer. Journ. of Med. Sci.*

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Without travelling very far, indeed, into the regions of conjecture, it is difficult to account for the recent proceedings of the College of Surgeons, with regard to medical education. A straw thrown up will show, it is said, which way the wind blows; but the college have been throwing up so many straws and kites of all kinds that we are completely bewildered. The agitation of the college, however, is significant and portentous. Some people die quietly; some are violently convulsed before dissolution; a few sink tranquilly in the full possession of their faculties; but the shadow of approaching death, or the twinges of conscience, unsettle the nerves and disturb the minds of many. Are the recent oscillatory movements of the college signs of decay, or symptoms of dissolution? Time will tell, but the members of the college and the corporate bodies, with which certain engagements had been contracted, have a right to demand some explanation of conduct little calculated to increase respect for the council of the college, or sustain the respectability of the profession at large.

A few words will suffice to explain our views upon this matter. In October, 1841, the college published certain regulations, respecting the professional education of candidates for their diploma. Under these regulations a very respectable course of education was prescribed, including, amongst other improvements, attendance on the practice of surgery at some recognised hospital during a period of three years; and attendance on the practice of medicine during a period of one year. It was also announced by the council "that after October 1, 1842, candidates would *only* be admitted to examination under the regulations alluded to, except under peculiar circumstances of apparent hardship."

The amended regulations of October, 1841, were promulgated under the authority of the council of the College of Surgeons, and students had prepared themselves for the more costly and extensive acquirements expected from them, when, in the course of the present year, a rumour got abroad that the college was privately admitting great numbers of practitioners, without any regard to their own regulations—without requiring from them the same proofs of professional education, which less favored individuals were compelled to furnish. We were the first to direct attention to this mysterious mode of manufactory, but our information was declared, by a respectable contemporary, to be incorrect, and it was announced, demi-officially, that no new regulations had either been made, or were contemplated. The first portion of this announcement