ART. VII.—*Varicose Veins ; their Nature, Consequences, and Treatment, palliative and curative.* By HENRY T. CHAPMAN, F.R.C.S., &c.—London, 1856. pp. 99.

THIS little volume, the author states in the preface, consists, with the exception of a short section on the palliative treatment of varix, of a reprint of several papers on the curative treatment of the above complaint, from the pages of the "Medical Times and Gazette." The author lays stress on the intimate connexion which exists between dilatation and inflammation of the venous walls, and contends that pathological writers have not pointed it out with such distinctness as to attract attention to it practically.

In the first part, the author describes the nature, causes, and consequences of varix; in the second, the treatment. Under the latter head he justly condemns the various surgical operations that have been heretofore resorted to for the cure of the malady, because—

"First, there is more or less danger of extensive phlebitis supervening upon the section or ligature of veins, in whatever manner it may be conducted. And, secondly, were no such consequence to be apprehended, every operation hitherto devised fails, in the majority of instances, in accomplishing the object for which it was performed." (p. 40.)

Under the head of curative treatment, the author describes his appliances of wet strapping and bandaging, with ingenious modes of effecting local compression. We believe indeed that, at the present time, all right-minded surgeons are agreed that the best mode of remedying this complaint is by the aid of circular pressure. "In the present state of information upon the subject," says Mr. Syme,* "it seems that the most judicious course in treating varix is to be satisfied with remedying its bad consequences, and using means for preventing their occurrence."

The author has appended notes of eight cases corroborative of the utility of the measures which he advocates. The work is clearly written, and reflects credit on the intelligence and industry of the author.

ART. VIII.—*The Liverpool Medico-Chirurgical Journal.* No. 1. January, 1857.

WHETHER or not the conductors of the 'Liverpool Medico-Chirurgical Journal' have met a want by the establishment of a half-yearly periodical, is a point upon which we offer no opinion. That a town containing hospital accommodation for 1400 patients presents a large field for the cultivation of medical science, there can be no doubt of; but it is an open question whether, in the commonwealth of science, every province or provincial town should be individually represented by its own journal, or whether their honour and dignity would not be sufficiently maintained, and the true interest of science advanced, by seeking as much as possible to combine and interchange their labours in periodicals representing a still larger sphere. Time will afford the

* Principles of Surgery, p. 122. 1856.