

THE DUBLIN
MEDICAL PRESS,

A Weekly Journal

OF

MEDICINE AND MEDICAL AFFAIRS.

VOL. XIII.

FROM JANUARY TO JUNE, INCLUSIVE.

DUBLIN :
MEDICAL PRESS OFFICE, 15 MOLESWORTH-STREET.
MDCCCXLV.

city of Edinburgh, the Surgeons' or Chirurgeons' Craft forms one of the fourteen incorporated trades of that city, and the members or fellows of the said craft are entitled to elect a deacon of craft to represent them in the conveyery of the said city; and whereas it is expedient that the connection of the surgeons with the incorporated trades, and the conveyery and municipal corporation of the city, should cease; be it enacted, that if her Majesty shall be pleased to grant a new charter to the Royal College of Surgeons at Edinburgh, wherein it shall be granted that there shall no longer be a surgeons' or a chirurgeons' craft, forming one of the incorporated trades of the city of Edinburgh, then upon the grant and acceptance of the said charter to and by the said royal college, the incorporated trades of the said city shall consist of thirteen only; and it shall not be lawful for the surgeons or chirurgeons to elect a deacon of craft, or to be represented in any way in the conveyery, or to have any voice in the election of deacon convener, but the deacons of the remaining thirteen incorporated trades only shall compose the conveyery, and shall elect the deacon convener, and shall exercise the powers now in use to be exercised by the deacons of the fourteen incorporated trades; and all municipal privileges belonging to and now enjoyed by the members of the surgeons' or chirurgeons' craft, as one of the incorporated trades of the city, shall cease, and no person shall thenceforward be entitled to any such privileges by reason of his being or becoming a member or fellow of the body or Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh: provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be taken to deprive the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh of any other corporate rights now enjoyed by them in virtue of any charters, statutes, letters patent, or usage not expressly repealed or altered by this act, or by any charter granted in pursuance of this act, or of the right of presentation to the Trades Maiden Hospital now enjoyed by them, or to relieve the said Royal College of Surgeons from any obligation connected with such right of presentation.

4. New charter may be granted to King's and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland. 40 Geo. 3, c. 84 (I)

And whereas an act was passed by the parliament of Ireland, in the fortieth year of the reign of King George the Third, intituled, "An act for repealing an act passed in the twenty-fifth year of his present Majesty, intituled, 'An act for establishing a complete School of Physic in this kingdom;' and also for repealing an act passed in the thirty-first year of his present Majesty, intituled, 'An act to explain and amend an act for establishing a complete School of Physic in this kingdom;' and also, for extending and enlarging the powers of the President and Fellows of the King and Queen's College of Physicians, and establishing a complete School of Physic in this kingdom," whereby certain provisions were made which were deemed expedient and necessary for the good government of the last-mentioned college; and whereas it is expedient that certain changes should be made in the constitution of the said college: and whereas the said college is willing that such changes should be made, but the same cannot be effected without the authority of parliament; be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for her Majesty to grant, and for the said corporation to accept, any new charter or charters for making from time to time such alterations as shall be deemed by her Majesty expedient, in the name and constitution of the said college, and that the grant and acceptance of any such new charter shall operate as a repeal of the said act of King George the Third, so far as the same shall be inconsistent with or repugnant to such new charter.

5. Charters not to contain new restrictions in the practice of physic or surgery.

Provided always, and be it enacted, that nothing herein contained shall extend to authorize her Majesty to create any new restriction in the practice of physic or surgery, or to grant to any of the said corporations or colleges any new powers or privileges, contrary to the common law of the land; and that no such new charter shall in anywise prejudice, affect or annul any of the existing statutes or bye-laws of the corporation or college to which the same shall be granted, further than shall be necessary for giving full effect to the alterations which shall be intended to be effected by such new charter and by this act in the constitution of such corporation or college.

6. Act may be amended and repealed.

And be it enacted, that this act may be amended or repealed by any act to be passed in this session of parliament.

ORIGINAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PRACTICE.

MEATH HOSPITAL AND COUNTY OF DUBLIN INFIRMARY.

NEURALGIA.—INTRODUCTION OF FLUID TO THE NERVE.

BY MR. RYND.

(Reported by Mr. Richard Gregory.)

MARGARET COX, *ætat.* 59, of spare habit, was admitted into hospital, May 18, 1844, complaining of acute pain over the entire of left side of face, particularly in the supra-orbital region, shooting into the eye, along the branches of the portio dura in the cheek, along the gums of both upper and lower jaw, much increased in this situation by shutting the mouth and pressing her teeth close together, and occasionally darting to the opposite side of the face and to the top and back of her head. She states that about six years ago she fell from a wall, and, in the act of falling, a stone struck her in the temple; that twelve months after this she was much exposed to cold, and one night was suddenly seized with the most agonizing pain in the situations above described. "She thought her eye was being torn out of her head," and her cheek from her face; it lasted about two hours, and then suddenly disappeared on taking a mouthful of ice. She had not had any return for three months, when it came back even worse than before, quite suddenly, one night on going out of a warm room into the cold air. On this attack she was seized with chilliness, shivering, and slight nausea; the left eye lachrymated profusely, and became red with pain; it went in darts through her whole head, face, and mouth, and the paroxysm lasted for three weeks, during which time she never slept. She was bled and blistered, and took opium for it, but without relief. It continued coming at irregular intervals, but each time generally more intense in character, until at last, weary of her existence she came to Dublin for relief.

She had been salivated three times, and had been so much in the habit of taking laudanum that latterly half a drachm, three times in the day, had no effect in lulling the pain, and was the quantity she commonly took. She was a miserable sallow-complexioned looking creature, had been sleepless for months, and her face was furrowed with constant pain.

On the 3rd of June a solution of fifteen grains of acetate of morphia, dissolved in one drachm of creosote, was introduced to the supra-orbital nerve, and along the course of the temporal, malar, and buccal nerves, by four punctures of an instrument made for the purpose. In the space of a minute all pain (except

that caused by the operation, which was very slight,) had ceased, and she slept better that night than she had done for months. After the interval of a week she had slight return of pain in the gums of both upper and under jaw. The fluid was again introduced by two punctures made in the gum of each jaw, and the pain disappeared. After this the pain did not recur, and she was detained in hospital for some weeks, during which time her health improved, her sleep was restored, and she became quite a happy looking person. She left the hospital on the 1st of August in high spirits, and promised to return if she ever felt the slightest pain again. We conclude she continues well, for we have not heard from her since.

CASE II.—R. Dolon, ætat. 28, a thin spare man of middle stature, was admitted into hospital 9th September, 1844, and came under Mr. Rynd's care on the 10th of November, complaining of acute pain in the right hip, thigh, and leg, to the sole of the foot, along the entire course of the sciatic nerve and its branches, but chiefly in the main trunk of the nerve. He is unable to sleep from the pain, and quite unable to walk. He is much emaciated, and the muscles of the limb are attenuated and wasted. He has been ill for three years, during which time he has been almost always confined to bed. He has been frequently treated for the disease with calomel, to produce salivation, cupping, blistering, leeching, &c., all without any salutary effect. Exposure to cold and wet is assigned as the cause of the disease.

On the 13th of November the fluid was introduced, ten grains acetate morphine to the drachm of creosote, one puncture behind the trochanter, and one half-way down the thigh. He was instantly relieved from pain, and walked steadily through the ward without any pain or difficulty; before, walking increased the pain. For about half an hour after the operation he felt uneasiness from the puncture.

16th. Says he is perfectly well in the thigh, and feels only a slight pain in the course of the anterior tibial nerve. The fluid was again introduced to-day to the seat of pain by two punctures; it disappeared as before.

29th. Says he is perfectly well; has walked every day since; has slight stiffness in the knee from previous want of use.

Ordered; Camphorated oil to rub the knee with.

December 15th. Left hospital to-day, saying he felt perfectly free from all pain and uneasiness.

February 6th. He walked up to Dublin to-day, (twenty miles) and says that since the last operation, on the 16th of November, he has never felt his old pain, and is perfectly well.

ON THE
PHYSICAL AND MEDICINAL QUALITIES
OF
INDIAN HEMP, &c., &c.

BY M. DONOVAN, ESQ.

(From the Dublin Medical Journal.)

(Continued from No. cccxxii, page 154.)

I HAVE now done with my own case, and shall proceed to describe the effects of this powerful medicine on other persons labouring under various kinds of painful disease.

Mr. Hanlon, watchmaker, had long laboured under violent sciatica, which confined him to bed for nine weeks. After ineffectually trying the usual remedies, Dr. Rynd directed for him twelve grains of the weak resinous extract (at this time it was the best procurable) in three pills, one to be taken three times that day. No good effect having been produced, he

next morning took another pill, and at mid-day another. In the evening, happening to converse with a lady, he imagined there was a third person speaking to him behind his chair, and even though he turned round and saw that there was no one, he still thought he heard the voice. He felt stupid and fatigued. During the next day he took twelve grains of the extract. At night he became so overpowered with drowsiness that he could scarcely undress himself. Having got into bed, the pain, up to that time very severe, left him; he became "tranquil and happy in his mind." He soon fell asleep, and was no further affected; slept soundly until six o'clock in the morning, although his disease allowed him but three hours every other night. Next day the pain did not return until late; he was so drowsy that he was constantly obliged to walk about, but on sitting down the drowsiness returned. During this stupor the pain left him, and although it sometimes returned, it was never so severe as before.

Some months after, the same patient was attacked with a pain in his instep, unaccompanied by swelling or redness; it was constant during the day, but allowed him five or six hours' respite at night. He was put on the strong tincture of resinous extract of hemp, of which he took fifteen minims at ten o'clock in the morning. In two hours he became so drowsy that he was obliged to keep himself in motion lest he should fall asleep. Transactions that had occurred a few minutes before appeared to him to have happened years ago, and were recollected through a mist of memory; "when spoken to, the voice appeared to him to come through a long tube, and to be conveyed through his stomach to his ear." In taking hold of any object he felt as if something was interposed between him and his fingers. His mouth was dry, and he perceived a bitter taste in it. This condition lasted until six o'clock, when he dined with an excessive appetite.

He represents the tendency to sleep, and the efforts to resist it, as very distressing. At nine o'clock he was still so much affected that people walking in the street appeared to him to move without sound, like automata, or in a sitting way, like enchantment. During this state he lost the true perception of time, and if he closed his eyes for a moment, he imagined that he had slept for a long period, and being aroused he forgot where he was. If not disturbed during the drowsy periods he had no pain; but on being fully awoken it returned as badly as ever.

In two nights after this he took fifteen minims of the same tincture. Within three hours he found himself "unnaturally drowsy, yet unusually hungry;" he went to bed; slept until six in the morning without any annoyance; but at one o'clock that day he had a slight return of pain, and in the evening it was as bad as ever. At night he repeated the fifteen minims, soon after was almost quite free from pain; went to bed, slept profoundly until six in the morning, got up perfectly well, and in the middle of the day became irresistibly hungry at an unusual time. For two other nights he took his dose with constantly increased benefit; and on the eighth day he was perfectly restored, and walked as well as ever.

Mr. Hanlon describes that for two months before this attack his appetite was much impaired, half a cup of tea and a small bit of bread being his breakfast. From the time of taking the second dose of tincture of hemp his allowance was tripled, with the addition of two eggs. He represents himself better in health, and more competent to all his duties than for many months before. He did not at any time feel exhilaration from the medicine. The foregoing account is given nearly in his own words, taken down by me from his dictation. During one of his attacks, while