

morphine, blisters, digitalis, and even nux vomica were occasionally prescribed. The patient gradually acquired power in the lower extremities, with proportionate mitigation there and in the abdomen. In process of time the patient began to walk, and, at the close of the report, was restored to perfect health.—*Annali Universali*, Feb. 1831.

—*Annali Universali*, Feb. 1831.

ERGOT OF RYE IN LEUCORRHOEA.

IN the same Italian Journal, and of the same date, we observe a long paper from Dr. Bazzoni, on the use of ergot of rye in leucorrhœa. He details a considerable number of cases, in most of which the medicine appears to have produced decided effects. A single case, the first on the list. A female, aged 38 years, of feeble constitution, but regular in her menstrual periods, experienced some severe mental affliction at the expected time of menstruation, and was seized with severe abdominal pains in their stead, accompanied by head-ache, fever, &c. which were removed by bleeding and diluents. At the succeeding period, the menses were replaced by a fluor albus, preceded and accompanied by abdominal pains and distressing sickness, which continued for five or six days. The third period presented the same phenomena, except the leucorrhœal discharge continued much longer. After this the fluor albus seemed to have become habitual, attended with pains in her loins, bad digestion, and much general debility. At this time Dr. Bazzoni was consulted, and prescribed 20 grains of the ergot of rye to be boiled in eight ounces of water, and taken in the course of two days. No inconvenience was felt from the medicine, and on the third day the leucorrhœa had disappeared. On the succeeding month the menses appeared, and continued regular afterwards.

—*Annali Universali*, Feb. 1831.

POPULATION OF NAPLES.

THE *OSSERVATORE MEDICO*, for May, 1831, gives us rather a sorry account of the salubrity of Italy's boasted climate. It appears that the number of births in Naples, during the year 1830, was 14,267, while the deaths amounted to 15,419, leaving a deficit of 1152 in the population of the "finest climate in the world," in one year—and that year undistinguished by plague, pestilence, famine, or war! Our readers are aware that, according to Dr. Hawkins, the ratio of mortality in London is about 1 in 40 annually. In Naples during last year it was 1 in 23 and a fraction! What will the advocates of an Italian climate say to this? We believe, indeed, that the mania for running across the Alps and Apennines to bask in the brilliant suns of Italy, for restoration of health, is nearly over. It is the duty of medical men to make the non-professional public acquainted with the nature and effects of a transalpine climate, before their patients incur the fearful risk and expense of foreign travel—or rather of foreign residence. The British Isles offer facilities for travelling exercise in the Autumn far superior to the Continent—and perhaps equally conducive to health, at a much less expenditure of time and money. The day is probably not far distant when Snowdon and Ben Nevis will attract more tourists than the Simplon and the St. Bernard—when Windermere, Killarney, and Loch Lomond will vie with Como, Lake Léman, and the Lago Maggiore. In the former routes, as much health may probably be gained, and far less money and mortality expended in the pursuit!

XLVII.

FATAL CASE OF GOUT. By M. SAUVÉ.

This case is related in the *Annales de la Médecine Physiologique*, for April, 1831. The patient, æt. 62, was ad-

mitted into the Hospital of the Val-de-Grace, in 1831. He had suffered much from gout previously. The articulations of the fingers and toes were swollen, and misshapen, the appetite great, the corpulency considerable. Some time after the patient's admittance a gouty abscess formed in the right foot; it was opened, and the bone was found dead. For some months there was little else complained of excepting pain in the affected foot, but at length a "gastro-enterite" was set up, the liver became implicated, and jaundice was established. In spite of all the treatment employed the patient died.

Sectio Cadaveris. All the articulations were filled with a soft whitish matter, resembling in appearance cream-cheese, which extended into the spongy substance of the bones, leaving no trace of synovial membrane or cartilage. The compact substance of the bones was brownish in colour, and the periosteum was easily detached. The muscles were of a pale red colour, the cellular tissue indurated. In the right leg were several calcareous concretions external to the periosteum, and even on the fasciæ. In the knee-joint the synovial membrane and its appendages were reddened and very soft, and a large abscess extended from within the joint upwards, between the femur and the muscles surrounding the bone, as high as the hip-joint. Of this there had been no symptom during life. On the left tibia were several deposits of cretaceous matter. A yellow very viscid liquid was found in the left knee-joint, and the condyles were covered with a radiated chalky deposit. The same chalky concretions were observed in the joints of the upper extremities, and the sheath of the tendons and the ligaments were infiltrated with the same. The heart was almost buried in fat. The mucous membrane of the stomach was of a bright red towards the cardia, of a deeper dye towards the pylorus, which was indurated and thickened. The mucous membrane of the duodenum was softened, almost ulcerated, and the marks of inflammation extended down the intestinal tube, decreasing as it descended.

XLVIII.

LA CHARITÉ.

CLINIQUE OF MESSRS. BOYER AND ROUX.

FROM the multitude of cases without interest, facts without value, and reflections without judgement, published in the French journals, the wearied eye turns to settle with delight on a "clinique d'hôpital." In this we find less of that imaginative feeling which distinguishes our Gallic brethren, and the spirituality of the nation appears to succumb under the influence of experience and of common sense. The cases detailed by private practitioners in France are, for the most part, utterly valueless. In that land of liberty and equality, of spiritualism and republicanism, knowledge, or at all events professional knowledge, is monopolized to a degree unknown in this island of monopolies. The Parisian, and the hospital surgeons in the great provincial towns, possess all the current information, and though they naturally share in the spirit of vague generalization and eager disposition to refine which characterise their nation, yet the facts which present themselves before them tend to sober their theories, and dash their speculations with some of that caution and deliberation which their English compeers are more prone to exercise. On this account it is, that the hospital reports, and the productions of hospital surgeons and physicians, are almost exclusively deserving of attention in the French periodicals. We need not say that with us this is far from true. We shall proceed to notice a case or two from the clinique of Messrs. Boyer and Roux.

*Fungous Tumour of the Radius—Ligature of the Brachial Artery—Amputation—Death.**

On the 5th November, 1830, a man, æt. 35, was admitted into La Charité, with a tumour, nearly the size of the fist, on the inferior and anterior part of

* Hebdomadaire, T. iv. No. 40.