

is 6,0006 greater than that of common air, and from this circumstance he is induced to imagine that this acid abounds more in the lower than in the higher strata of the atmosphere. This difference he thinks may be owing to the fermentations and other decompositions of bodies near the surface of the earth, the effect of which is to disengage more or less of this aerial acid. He also conjectures that it may be precipitated from the higher regions of the air by lightning.

[*To be continued.*]

SECTION II.

ESSAYS AND OBSERVATIONS.

- I. *A new Method of treating Uterine Hæmorrhages after Delivery.* By M. Saxtorph, M. D. (from the Acta Havniensia, Vol. II.)

THIS new method, which consists in the use of vinegar and water injected into the uterus, has succeeded in three cases of menorrhagia, that had resisted every other means

of cure. In the first case the flow of blood from the uterus had continued 4 hours, and cold drink, as well as cold applications to the abdomen had been tried without effect. No pulse or respiration were perceptible, and the patient was perfectly cold. In this state a mixture of vinegar and cold water was injected into the uterus. The hæmorrhage was immediately stopt, and the patient's pulse and breathing returned. The reason why injections of this sort have so often failed in cases of menorrhagia and fluor albus, is perhaps owing to their having been thrown up into the vagina only, and not into the uterus. In this patient the injection was repeated three or four times, and she was perfectly recovered in fourteen days. The lochia flowed in small quantity, and she secreted but little milk.

In the second case the patient from the continuance of the uterine discharge was troubled with convulsions and frequent syncope, but as soon as the injection was thrown into the uterus, the menorrhagy stopt, and she recovered in a short time.

In the third case the uterine hæmorrhage had been thrice stopt by pressure and cold applications to the abdomen, but constantly returned
again,

again, till at length the same injection was used as in the other cases, and proved equally effectual.

With regard to uterine hæmorrhages it may be observed, that if the placenta is attached to the anterior surface of the uterus, its adhesion is always uncommonly strong. The more that part of the uterus to which the placenta is fixed is extended during pregnancy, and the more that same part is in consequence of such extension contracted after delivery, so much the more easily, in general, will the placenta be separated, and so much the less reason will there be to fear menorrhagia. The fundus uteri is, during pregnancy, the most extended, and after delivery the most and the quickest contracted; of course the placenta, when attached to the fundus, is always easily separated, and it very seldom happens that its removal occasions a violent flooding; on the contrary, the anterior surface of the uterus not being much stretched, and contracting little and slowly after delivery, the placenta when fixed to this part will, in general, adhere very strongly, and its separation frequently give rise to considerable hæmorrhage. It will therefore be prudent for the accoucheur, as soon as
 he

he perceives that the placenta adheres to the anterior surface of the uterus, to provide himself with a syringe, and cold water, and to be careful not to separate the cake till he is convinced that the uterus begins to contract itself, and even then to proceed slowly.

II. *A new Method of treating the Fistula Lachrymalis.* By Mr. William Blizard, Surgeon, F. A. S. (abridged from the Philosophical Transactions, Vol. LXX. Part I.)

THE principal means of cure in the first and most simple stage of the *fistula lachrymalis*, are, 1st, compression; declared by experienced practitioners to be injudicious. 2d, The passing an instrument into the nostril and up the duct; a troublesome and painful operation. The introducing a probe through one of the puncta into the duct; by experience proved to be inadequate to the design. 4th, The impelling a fluid by a syringe thro' one of the puncta; allowed to be sometimes useful. On reflecting upon this last method, Mr. Blizard was induced to think, that if a fluid of a great degree of specific gravity,