

move. The opaque body eluding the grasp of the forceps, a fine hook was passed through the pupil, and fixed in the thickened capsule, which was immediately drawn out entire. This substance was quite firm, about half a line in thickness, a line in diameter, and had a pearly whiteness. A light bandage was placed on the eye, and the patient directed to wash it occasionally with warm water. On the fourth day, we examined the eye closely and found the cornea healed, the aqueous humour secreted anew, and the eye plump and fair as before the operation, without opacity, and nearly free from inflammation. No inconvenience followed, till about two months after the operation, when a slight inflammation was brought on by some accident. Two or three bleedings removed this disorder. The patient is now well, and sees to distinguish every object with the left eye, while the right, which is equally clear, has a very imperfect vision.

The event of this operation shows the superiority of the new method, to the frequent repetition of couching.

Oil of Turpentine in Burns.

SINCE the publication of some remarks on injuries by fire, in the first number of this Journal, additional grounds have occurred to confirm the preference of other remedies before the oil of turpentine in ordinary cases of burns. In the instance of a patient who was violently burnt over the whole of the back and both arms, I applied the terebirthinate liniment of Mr. Kentish to the left arm, and simple olive oil to the right. The patient complained of severe pain in the left arm during a great part of the subsequent night, although an hundred drops of laudanum were administered. The next morning nearly all the suffering was referred to this arm. The other parts were comparatively easy, although some of them to appearance had suffered more by the fire. On exchanging the dressings for the liniment of lime water and oil, the patient expressed the utmost satisfaction from the comparative ease which the exchange afforded. Every subsequent dressing with the lime water and oil

produced the same evidence of mitigation in the pain and soreness.

The late conflagration of the Richmond theatre must have produced in the persons of many survivors the most deplorable instances of the morbid effects of fire. A very extensive field was here opened for watching the influence of different applications and methods of practice. I take the liberty to insert the following extract of a letter from Dr. Joseph Trent, a distinguished practitioner in that city.

“Dr. Kentish’s practice was intended generally to have been pursued by the faculty here, but could not be in the proper time and manner, owing to the great confusion and consequent difficulty of getting from our apothecaries, alcohol, spirit of turpentine, &c. When the means were obtained, the practice was pursued, even many hours after the accident. The result has not been, I think, favourable to the stimulant practice, as recommended by that gentleman. Most of those who were severely burnt, have died. In cases of less severity, the pain excited by this practice was grievously complained of. This may have been owing to its adoption too long after the accident.”

It would not have been thought necessary to bring forward this additional testimony against a painful and irritating method of practice, were it not for the powerful support which has brought it into extensive use, and opened its way into many of the elementary and common place books of our profession.

J. B.

MR. TRAVERS’S work on “Injuries of the Intestines” is now published. It is of an experimental nature, and is therefore a valuable acquisition to the surgical art. It seems from the result of his experiments, that the cut extremities of a divided intestine, require such a ligature as will produce contact of the whole edge of the gut. In the spacelation, so often the result of strangulated hernia, Mr. Travers, in opposition to the common practice, is of opinion, 1st. That the stricture should not be divided. 2d. That the mortified intestine should not be removed, unless previously separated. 3d. That no suture should be applied to the sound intestine, for he incontestibly