

the principal characteristic of which was, the absence of the forehead, eyes, and nose.

SECTION OF SURGERY.

Sitting of the 30th of August.

LUMBAR ABSCESS, THE CONTENTS OF WHICH WERE, IN PART, DISCHARGED BY THE BRONCHI.

A person, who had been for some time labouring under pain in the left side of the chest, which was followed by difficulty of respiration, and painful movements of the chest, was, at last, seized with a fixed pain behind the false ribs. A fluctuation being perceptible in this spot, an opening was made, which gave exit to two pounds of healthy pus; a few days afterwards, when another opening was about to be made, the patient suddenly, in a fit of coughing, expectorated six pounds of matter mixed with pus, similar to that which escaped from the lumbar abscess. A large opening was made in the abscess, and the patient was cured in about a month.

It is probable that, in this case, the abscess was first formed in the chest, whence it escaped in part into the loins, and in part into the lungs.

HYDROPHOBIA.

M. Cloquet communicated a case of hydrophobia, which occurred in a woman six weeks after a bite in her hand. This woman was admitted into the hospital of St. Louis three days after the appearance of the first symptoms; she was in a state of imminent suffocation, and was seized with violent convulsions at the sight of shining bodies or liquids. The base of the tongue was examined, for the purpose of seeing if any pustules were present, but none were found; notwithstanding, this part was cauterised; the woman died in nine hours after admission. On opening the body, a small pustule was found on the left side of the frænum of the tongue; the mucous follicles at the base of the tongue were very much developed, and covered with a false white membrane, neither very firm nor thick, which extended to the mouth, pharynx, stomach, and commencement of the duodenum. The membranes of the brain were a little inflamed.

STAPHYLORAPHY.

M. J. Cloquet communicated an account of an operation for divided palate, which he recently performed; notwithstanding two sutures were used, there remained an opening in the upper part of the fissure, which he several times touched with caustic. Inflammation ensued, which caused the complete adhesion of the parts.

THE PHYSICIANS'

INTENDED PETITION TO THE LEGISLATURE.

It has been determined that a Petition shall be presented to Parliament early in the ensuing session, on the part of the Doctors of Medicine of the United Kingdom, Graduates of the Scotch and other Universities, with a view of engaging the Legislature to emancipate the profession from the shackles which have for centuries been so illegally and unjustly imposed on it by the arrogated professional monopoly of the College of Physicians in London; of which Petition the following is an outline:—

1. It is essential to the national welfare that his Majesty's subjects be supplied with medical attendance, of excellence commensurate with the improved state of science, and avouched by competent testimonials.

2. To affect these objects, it is necessary that the profession of physic be so organised as to insure adequate qualifications on the part of practitioners, and afterwards to secure, to individuals so qualified, full power to exercise their talents, in the way most conducive to the public good and to their own interests.

3. On this account, it is incumbent on the Legislature to establish by law, such an arrangement of the profession, in its several branches, as shall insure that all who profess the practice of the art, possess the necessary qualifications.

4. The supply of medical aid being left free to accommodate itself to the demand, the welfare of the profession requires that its different branches be protected, both from unqualified intrusion and from unnecessary restrictions.

5. To enable your Honourable House to judge of the alterations required for this profession, it appears necessary to inquire into the nature of the divisions of its different branches, the relative proportion of their numbers to each other, and to the population, in this, as compared with other nations, as well as the causes and effects of these divisions and proportions respectively.

6. That a feeling very generally prevails, that serious grievances do exist in the medical profession, is placed in evidence by the following facts, either officially before your Honourable House, or otherwise notorious:—Last year it was resolved, by the surgeon-apothecaries, or general practitioners, that a petition be presented to Parliament, praying for an inquiry into the existing state of medicine and surgery, so far as regards the general practitioner, &c. It