

THE EVENING NEWS.

Monday, November 15, 1869.

A CURIOUS SURGICAL SUCCESS—
TRANSFUSION OF BLOOD.

(From the New York Post, October 28.)

The Medical Record for October 1st publishes an account, by Dr. Joseph Buchser, of this city, of a successful operation, of a kind commonly dreaded and avoided by the most skillful surgeons.

The patient, a young German woman, lost much blood after an attack of typhus fever, became reduced in strength, and was apparently dying. As a last hope, Dr. Buchser proposed to her husband the dangerous operation of a transfusion of healthy blood from his vigorous body into her veins. The husband consented, and Dr. Guleke, who was called in consultation, assisted at the experiment.

The following account is given of what occurred:

"After a satisfactory trial of the transfusion of Eulenburg-Landois, we proceeded to the operation. We banded her right upper arm, previously having done the same to her vigorous and healthy husband, aged twenty-seven. A graduated glass, ready to receive the blood, and syringe, were lying in the water of 40 deg. C. The median basilic vein was the most prominent. I made an incision of an inch in length, and dissected the skin till the vessel appeared, covered by its sheath. The cellular tissue of the vein was raised and cut, a sound introduced in the hollow, the cellular tissue in both directions separated, and the vein was free.

"An eared curved sound, provided with two silk threads was pushed under the vein; both threads were separated at a distance of about six. Thus by raising these threads every flux and reflux of blood was impossible, at the same time the influx of air after the opening of the vein was prevented.

"We then proceeded to the resection of the husband. During a powerful flow of the blood a solution of carb. soda, Na O/CO, was added—two grains to dr. ij. aq.; as far as it united with the blood the same took a lively red color. Lifting the vein, a V-shaped incision was made with a small scissors. The large syringe of Eulenburg-Landois was rapidly filled, surrounded by a warm cloth, the canule affixed, the air expelled, and the point of the syringe introduced into the vein about 12. The transfusion of about two ounces was easily accomplished. At once a decided resistance was felt; immediate change of position of the canule proved of no avail. The syringe was withdrawn, the canule detached; coagulated blood was found in it. Syringe and canule were emptied and cleaned, about three ounces of fresh blood were received in the instrument, and above one ounce was again injected.

"The patient, who could not possibly be anesthetized, underwent the operation with ease.

"The vein was on both sides underbound; the patient looked instantly refreshed, and said, 'I feel better.' She relished at once a glass of claret and water.

"In three-quarters of an hour the operation was accomplished. Pulse immediately after the operation had fallen to 116, respirations, 16. One hour later, pulse 108, respirations, 18.

"During the afternoon patient felt very hungry and thirsty; took light food and drank a pint bottle of claret. Evening pulse 116, respirations 22, temperature 37 deg. C."

The great danger of this operation lies in the possibility of injecting coagulated fibrine into the vein, or a bubble of air, either of which will be fatal to the patient. Dr. Buchser thinks his plan of using "defibrinated blood," and that after Dieffenbach's method, as described in this paper, a perfect security against both dangers.

Of course no unpracticed hands, and no mind unfamiliar with the history of transfusion, both in its few brilliant successes, and in its terrible accidents, will venture to attempt such an operation as this. But a few such cases as this would afford the hope that, in skillful hands, transfusion of blood may become a powerful agent for good, in an important class of cases.

A PRODIGY IN MATHEMATICS.—H. Glaze informs us, that he recently found at Fayetteville, (Fayette?) Mo., a young man by the name of Fields, seventeen years old, and entirely ignorant of letters or figures, who could, inside of three minutes, solve any problem given. The following are a few of the examples, and the time taken in the solution: The number of faxes necessary to reach the sun, allowing six faxes to reach one grain of wheat, and thirteen grains of wheat to the inch; Ans. 469,497,800,000,000, given in two minutes. What would \$3,000 amount to in ten years, compounding interest at 10%?

This example he worked in three minutes, absolutely correct, although he had to carry a score of decimal fractions. What would a horse bring (there being 52 nails in his shoes) allowing 3 cents for the first, 6 for the second, 9, 27, 81 and so on? This required 32 distinct multiplications, and ran up into trillions, yet he did it in three minutes. These examples will suffice to show his wonderful power. He is very ignorant on all other matters, having never learned his letters and does not know one figure from another. He is very untruthful in appearance and has no faith in his fellows. He can do anything mental arithmetic, even in complex fractions.—Macon Journal.

The keeper of a peanut stand in Washington died recently and left his daughter \$50,000. The young lady still attends the stand, which is a great attraction to the young men of the capital.

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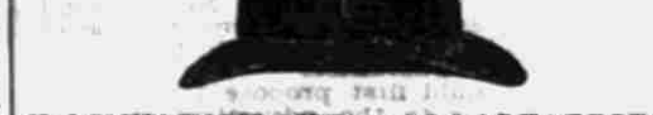
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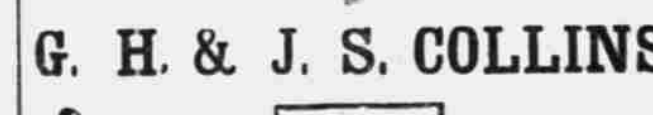
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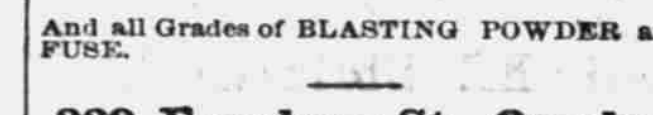
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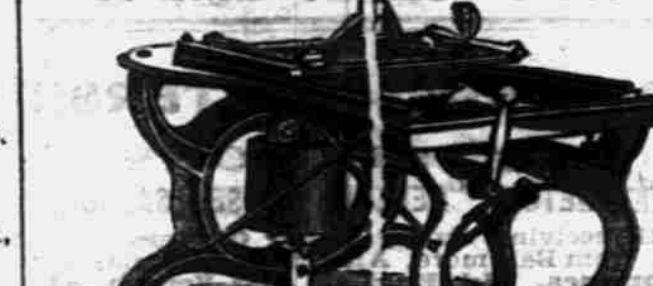
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