

LACTOPEPTINE.—In the early part of the present year we received a large package of lactopeptine from the N. Y. Pharmacal Association, asking us to give it a fair trial and report the results. As it may interest those who have never used this agent in their practice, we answer through the *Clinic*. We have given it a full and fair trial, both in private practice and in the hospital department of an asylum, which is under our care. As a digestive it comes nearer the gastric juice (particularly when combined with a little extra hydrochloric acid) than anything we have ever used. Its formula shows it to be a strictly scientific preparation. Dyspeptics are generally greatly benefitted by its use. In vomiting in pregnancy it has relieved three-fourths of the cases in which we have tried it, and in cholera infantum (chronic) it has been of inestimable service in our hands.—*The Southern Clinic*, Richmond, Va.

ON THE DURATION OF THE LIFE OF THE FŒTUS IN UTERO AFTER THE MOTHER'S DEATH.—This question has been carefully investigated by C. Garezky, in his inaugural dissertation, St. Petersburg, 1878 (and *Wien. Med. Woch.*, No. 22; 1879). He has collected 379 cases, in which the Cesarean operation was performed after death; 308 infants were extracted dead, 37 showed signs of life, 34 were born alive; but of these, only five remained alive for some time. The author then gives a sketch of Breslau's experiments on animals, and sums his conclusions up as follows: 1. The fœtus undoubtedly survives the sudden death of the mother. 2. If it can be extracted in the course of the first six minutes, it may be born alive. 3. Six to ten minutes after the mother's death, the child may still be alive, though slightly asphyxiated. 4. Ten to twenty-six minutes after death, the infant is highly asphyxiated. 5. In a great many cases, the infants are either highly asphyxiated or dead after the first minute. 6. The shorter the time is which elapses between the cause of the mother's death and the ceasing of the cardiac action, the longer the fœtus remains alive. 7. If the mother's death has been caused by some quickly acting poison, the chances for the child's life are greater than when it has been brought on by some other cause.—*British Medical Journal*.

THE PERMEABILITY OF A STONE WALL. We have before referred to the experiment of Pettenkofer and others, showing the readiness with which gases permeate walls of stone brick. A Buffalo paper gives the following account of a recent illustration of the fact: "Yesterday Professor Doremus, of Buffalo Medical College, performed a very interesting and instructive experiment before class. A block of sandstone, such as is usually employed for window-caps and sills, and about twelve inches square and four or five inches thick, had a panel one half an inch thick set in each side. In each panel was fitted a block which was perforated by a piece of common gas-pipe, and this was cemented about the edges. The whole was then coated with impervious varnish. Air now entering the pipe on either side had access to the surface of the stone beneath the panel, and was found that if the mouth be applied to protruding pipe on one side, and a candle placed in front of the opposite one, it could very readily be blown out by the air, with very little effort, was forced through the stone. When a rubber tube was connected with the house gas-pipe on one side of the stone, and a burner was attached on the opposite side, the simple pressure from the mains was sufficient to force the gas through the stone till it was lit at the burner on the opposite side. When by any means the pressure was increased, a very large flame was thus produced. This shows the permeability of building stone. Brick walls and the paving of rooms are much more porous, and readily seen that unglazed tile, or stone brick sewers afford but little security against the escape of sewer gas.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry*."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths

BIRTHS.

At Enniskillen, on June 30th, the wife of Mitchell, of a son.

In Brantford, on June 12th, the wife of F. T. Kins, A.M., M.D., of a son.

At Hamilton, July 22nd, the wife of A. E. Mall, M.D., of a son.

In Belmont, on June 6th, the wife of Dr. G. Marlatt, of a son.

DEATHS.

At Richmond Hill, on June 21st, Mary Ann Mills, beloved wife of James L. ngstaff, M.D.

On July 20th, at Thornhill, Percy Norman Powell, infant son of Dr. J. McConnell, aged 1 year and 5 days.