

become saturated with exudation; but the iodoform strips are invariably allowed to remain throughout the whole two days. It is then removed by gentle traction on the out-hanging ends, when the wound is usually found clean, unirritated, and absolutely dry. Invariably careful suturing has resulted in primary union. Drainage is occasionally necessary; but even with this, or in cases where on account of hemorrhage from large vessels the tampons are allowed to remain for six days, primary union after suturing is the almost invariable rule.—*Univ'ty Mag.*

CHLORALAMIDE AS A HYPNOTIC.

Dr. Langaard of Berlin reviews in the *Therapeutische Monatsschrift* the present state of our knowledge of the action of chloralamide—one of the latest of the various hypnotics that have from time to time been recommended to the notice of the profession. According to most observers, the new drug is a less powerful hypnotic, weight for weight, than hydrate of chloral. Kny considers that 3 grms. of the amide is only equivalent to 2 grms. of the hydrate. The ordinary dose for healthy adults may be put down as from 30 to 45 grains. Women and delicate patients should be given decidedly smaller doses than strong men. According to Lettow's observations in Professor Mosler's clinic, the best way to give it is as an enema. Sleep comes on in from half an hour to three hours after the drug has been taken. Lettow found the time required to induce sleep was in twenty-nine cases one hour; in twenty-three cases, two hours; and in three cases, three hours; the duration of the sleep being four to six hours in seventeen cases, two to four hours in two cases, and two hours only in two cases. Chloralamide shows itself to the best advantage where the sleeplessness is of a purely nervous origin, but it is by no means useless in numberless cases where there is some definite affection—that is to say, if it be not accompanied by pain of too severe a character. It will, however, act when the insomnia is due to the lightning pains of locomotor ataxy, also when there is a moderate amount of cough, and in a number of mental affections which are not accompanied by any very considerable degree of excitement. It has proved very serviceable in delirium tremens; and in one case of cardiac asthma—myocarditis due to arterio-sclerosis—Hagan and Hüfler believed that it produced a real amelioration of the disease. There is very little to be said as to any undesirable by-effects; as a rule these are very slight, and are confined to a feeling of drowsiness and fatigue, with headache and giddiness of slight amount and short duration; but, notwithstanding the belief entertained by most writers on the subject that chloralamide is devoid of all action on the respiration and

circulation, Dr. Langaard was able to demonstrate, by a number of careful experiments on animals, that it makes the respirations shallow and diminishes the arterial tension, though more slowly than chloral hydrate. He therefore cautions medical men to be very careful in prescribing it in cardiac affections. It is best ordered an hour or more before going to bed, and may be taken as a powder, washed down with milk, water, or coffee, or in solution with syrup, or it may be dissolved with wine or beer.—*Lancet*, Dec. 7th, 1889.

TREATMENT OF ACNE OF THE FACE.

The most rational treatment of facial acne should be based upon the following two principles; first, to allay the congestion of the skin as far as possible; second, to remove all causes which could give rise to the hyperæmia of the face. To obtain these results, both internal and external remedies may be used. The direct care of the skin demands the principal attention. Every morning and evening the face should be washed with a fine sponge. The temperature of the water should be as high as the patient can possibly bear it. After washing, the skin should not be dried. Such a washing renders the skin extremely hyperæmic. As soon as the water begins to evaporate from the face, the superficial blood-vessels become contracted, and gradually regain their lost tone. In many cases, this simple treatment will be all that is needed, and a speedy recovery will follow. In severer cases, however, the following solution may be employed:

R Hydrarg. bichlor. corros.,
Ammon. muriat., āā gr. xv
Emuls. amygdal. amar., f3vij
M. et fiat lotio,
Sig. Apply morning and evening.

The following formula will be found to be of equal if not of greater efficacy:

R Aquæ destil., f3jx.
Sulphur. sublim., f3j.
Aetheris sulfuric., f3iij-f3jv.
M. et fiat lotio. Sig. Apply morning and evening.

The practitioner may, however, come across cases of such a stubborn nature that even these lotions will fail to effect a permanent cure. In such cases, the only remaining course of treatment is scarification. This procedure never fails to quickly relieve the congestion of the skin, and also causes the acne pustules to rapidly disappear.

Regarding the best advisable diet to be pursued during the treatment of acne, little need be said, other than the highly spiced and heating foods should be avoided. *Hilg. Med. Central-Zeitung*, Oct. 9, 1889.—*Med. and Surg. Report.*