

Facts About Digitalin.

Ten years ago Henry Beates, of Philadelphia, published a remarkable paper in which he called attention to the superiority of digitalin-German over all the other preparations of digitalis, his conclusions being that this substance is a derivative not contaminated with other active principles, possessing uniform and unvarying strength, relatively free from that property which produces gastric irritation, a powerful stimulant to the whole cardiac apparatus, and a reliable and pronounced stimulant to the vasomotor system, which does not develop cumulative action, the adult dose ranging from 1-10 grn. as a minimum to 1-2 grn. as a maximum. He found it applicable to all lesions of the heart, with the single exception of mitral regurgitation complicated by dilation of the auricle.

Last February, ten years later, Dr. Beates stated that his further clinical experiences have more conclusively proved the therapeutic value of this digitalin. During these ten years he has treated numerous cases with this product, in the doses and manner outlined, with the most satisfactory results. He says: "I cannot too strongly urge upon physicians the liberal use of digitalin in cases with circulatory disturbances. In collapse of pneumonia, typhoid fever, and in surgical shock as large as 2-grn. doses in 25 cc. of salt solution, hypodermically, has been successfully employed in several instances."

Dr. Beates, as the head of the Pennsylvania State Examining Board for many years, is a man of unquestionable standing; more than that, in his ability as a clinical observer he has few rivals and no superiors, even in that centre of medical culture, Philadelphia. Such testimony is of infinitely greater value than that of any number of even the most accomplished pharmacists. —*Amer. Jour. Clin. Med.*, Feb., 1908.

Some Notes on Styralol.

Charles B. Reinhardt, of London, Eng., states that it is his principle to avoid the use of drugs as much as possible in the treatment of consumption. In the ordinary case there is no advantage in administering drugs when the open-air treatment is followed. Even those suffering from such symptoms as dyspnea, diarrhea, or cough do not always demand medicines. There is, however, one preparation, guaiacol, which is of decided benefit in the treatment of phthisis. Dr. Reinhardt cites a case of cavities in the left lung, in which a fairly good prognosis could be made, owing to the non-involvement of the right lung and the absence of fever. Guaiacol had been given, but was dis-