

tal position. He then takes a good pinch of the snuff and during the violent sneezing which follows, a companion standing ready at the side, plunges back the rupture with his fist, and if it is not a case of strangulation, the treatment is sufficient. To undo matters, so to speak, the patient is advised to eat all the pork he can. Mr. Strath is of the opinion that hernia is common with the tribe in consequence of the abundance of grease consumed by them, and he ventures to say that eight out of ten Crees are ruptured.

Skin diseases of all kinds are there, and are treated with an ointment made of equal quantities of gunpowder and lard.

Sturgeon oil is used in the place of Cod Liver Oil and is clarified till it becomes the color of Tincture of Capsicum. In one ounce doses, which are considered large, it acts as a cathartic.

An infusion of wild raspberry leaves combined with willow bark is an excellent remedy for cholera infantum, if promptly administered, but there are a great many deaths from diarrhoea. In that latitude, and in all degrees north of 54, a very large raspberry grows which is called the "headberry" by the Indians; its botanical name is *Rubus arcticus*. The berry is found at the head of the stem, two feet in height.

Rumex, or Yellow Dock, is well known and used extensively as a laxative and for poultices. In any critical case of illness, the medicine man of the tribe is called in and is required to say whether or not the patient will recover. This skillful fakir has a powder resembling pulverized Rhei in appearance. This he places on the surface of a saucerful of water. The powder in a moment or two spreads out into rays either to the east or to the west. If to the former point of the compass, the victim will die; if to the latter, which invariably happens, recovery is promised. It is quite likely that a promise of such a nature materially helps the patient by buoying him up, and by inspiring him with hope. So much for one feature of Indian superstition.

Indian revenge or rather that of the

Northern Crees in particular, is, if true, of the most shocking character. It is said if a Cree wishes to punish another severely, he does it by disfiguring him for life, by introducing an almost tasteless compound into his tea or tobacco—generally into his tea, which he drinks strong and in great quantities. This vile compound is made up of 27 vegetable and animal drugs. The victim feels no ill effects at the time of taking it, but in the course of two or three months the skin begins to peel, a rash breaks out and spreads over the entire body. Subsequently the skin gradually darkens to black, and on the exposed parts hair grows so thickly as to give the unhappy Indian the appearance of a baboon. He never recovers. There is no romance about this, I am assured, for there are at least half a dozen cases of the kind to be found in the country at this day.

Their most fatal poison is the wild carrot. These Indians have a fashion of boasting among themselves of their ability of poisoning enemies at various distances. Just imagine an Indian polishing off an enemy at a distance of five miles by a wild carrot!

A PHYSICIAN'S VIEWS ON PHARMACY.

Dr. Adolph Koenig says in the *Pittsburg Medical Review*: "The very fact that pharmacy exists is evidence of our inability to master everything pertaining to medicine and surgery within the limits of an ordinary lifetime. The progress of the sciences, for which the latter half of the nineteenth century will forever be celebrated, may be referred with absolute certainty to the separation of the various sciences into specialties, and a division of labor in the study of these different branches. No medical man can be an expert surgeon, general physician, ophthalmologist, laryngologist, gynecologist, neurologist, or other 'ologist' at one and the same time, let alone a pharmacist. In the early times of medical empiricism, however, when superstition rather than