

the resident student. But to the professor, on his morning visit, the words in quotation were ominous. A gum-elastic catheter was introduced in the presence of the medical class, and to the present writer, more especially, it did seem that the flow of urine would never cease.—*Wd. Med. Jour.*

**FROSTBITTEN FINGERS AND TOES.**—Dr. Lapatin, in the *Proceedings of the Caucasian Medical Society*, advises that fingers and toes which have been slightly frostbitten, and which subsequently suffer from burning, itching, and pricking sensations, should be painted, at first once, and afterwards twice a day, with a mixture of dilute nitric acid and peppermint water in equal proportions. After this application has been made for three or four days, the skin becomes darkened and the epidermis is shed, healthy skin appearing under it. The cure is effected in from ten to fourteen days. The author has found this plan very effectual amongst soldiers, who were unable to wear their boots, in consequence of having had frozen feet. They were, in this way, soon rendered capable of returning to duty.—*British Med. Jour.*, Sept. 5th.

The *Denver Medical Times* puts the matter of abortion in the following forcible anecdote: A woman carrying her 12-months' old child consulted a doctor to have an abortion performed, giving as her reason that she could take care of one child, but not of two. "So you want one of them destroyed?" suggested the doctor. "Yes," replied the mother, with lowered voice and dropping her head. The doctor seized a hatchet and rushed at the child in her arms as if to brain it. "In Heaven's name," shrieked the woman, "Do you mean to murder my darling?" "Madam," replied the doctor, "you want one of your children killed. I prefer to kill the one in your arms, for in attempting to kill the other I might possibly also kill you, and thus be a double murderer."

**HYDRASTIS IN UTERINE DISEASES.**—Dr. Shives-tizeyeff writes to the *Moscow Medical Review* of the satisfactory results he has obtained by the use of hydrastis canadensis in uterine hemorrhages of various kinds due to hyperæmic conditions of the organ. He gives 20 drops of the fluid extract. The same remedy is, he says, useful in cases where the uterus is enlarged with ulcerated mucous membrane, giving off a copious exudation. Also in cases of dyspepsia due to disorder of the female sexual organs. The drug acts, according to Shatz and Mendes de Leon, on the vessels of the uterus, not, like secale cornutum, on the muscular strictures: but it is at present doubtful to which of the three alkaloids—hydrastin, berberin, and another which is not yet known—the hæmostatic action is due.—*Lancet*.

**DELIRIUM IN BRIGHT'S DISEASE.**—On the occasion of a case of delirium in Bright's disease being read at the Paris Hospital Medical Society, Dr. Quinquaud observed (*Gazette hebdomadaire*, August 28th), that in clinical practice great difficulty often exists in determining whether this symptom arises from primary cerebral disease, or is an uræmic manifestation. But there is a very simple means of determining the point; for if analysis of blood obtained by cupping reveals an excess of urea, we have to do with uræmic accidents. This is almost a constant rule whatever may be the pathogeny of the uræmia. There is no proof that excess of urea in the blood is the proximate cause of the morbid manifestation, but when uræmia exists, this excess is almost always met with.—*London Med. Times*, Sept. 5.

**SUBINVOLUTION OF THE UTERUS.**—Dr. F. Ellingwood (Chicago) considers fluid extract of ergot and bromide of potassium as specifics in subinvolution. Regarding the benefit to be obtained from electricity we quote as follows: "Electricity is a most powerful adjuvant, and if used in the form of the mild galvanic current, will rapidly produce an amelioration of the symptoms, and, if used immediately subsequent to confinement, will absolutely prevent the conditions, and the long train of evils which will surely follow, and will restore the whom rapidly to its normal state. The galvanic current, judiciously applied, will accomplish this restoration in three weeks."—*Weekly Med. Review*.

**TREATMENT OF HICCOUGH BY COMPRESSION OF THE PHRENIC AND PNEUMOGASTRIC NERVES.**—To properly perform this operation, Dr. Grognot advises us (*Bull. gén. de therap.*) to use the thumb and index finger, one on either side symmetrically, applying pressure sufficiently strong to cause the spasm to disappear. One or two minutes, as a rule, sometimes less, are sufficient; meanwhile the patient's head must be kept immovable. Four or five centimetres of the inferior clavicular portion of the sterno-cleido-mastoid muscle lie directly over these nerves, and it is here that the pressure is to be made.—*Med. and Surg. Rep.*, Oct. 10th.

**ASTRINGENT FOR THE URINARY TRACT.**—Gallic acid is probably the best hæmostatic in bleeding from the kidneys, bladder or urethra. It should be given at frequent intervals, in doses of about ten grains, and is best taken in water.—*Med. World*.

WE understand that Dr. Wallace, of Liverpool has successfully performed resection of the female bladder for cancer by abdominal section, being we believe, the first time the operation has been performed in this country. The patient is progressing favorably, seven days having elapsed since the operation.—*Lancet*.