

## Notes on Treatment.

UNDER THIS HEADING ARE INCLUDED BOTH ORIGINAL SUGGESTIONS AND THE ENDORSATION OF METHODS ALREADY PUBLISHED.

### **The Use of Douching after Parturition.**

The practice of giving vaginal douches immediately after the completion of the third stage of labour and at intervals during the puerperium has been practically abandoned during recent years, except in some of the large maternity hospitals. Thus, the data collected by Jewett show that in New York, in the Maternity Hospital, the Lying-in Hospital, and the Polyclinic, in Philadelphia, in the Preston Retreat, and in Boston, in the Lying-in Hospital, vaginal douches (usually of bi-chloride) are used before and immediately after the completion of the third stage. In private practice, such men as Edgar, of New York ; Hirst, of Philadelphia ; Jewett, of Brooklyn, and Etheridge, of Chicago, do not employ ante-partum or post-partum douching except for cause. Leopold, of Dresden, collected statistics of upwards of 10,000 cases, and in two-fifths of these, where no douches were used, the fever-free puerperiums averaged 95 per cent., while in the remaining three-fifths that received douches the fever-free puerperiums averaged between 78 and 87 per cent.

Clinical experience and experimental research result in the following practical conclusions :

Ante-partum vaginal douching is not indicated unless there is evidence of abnormal vaginal secretions nor is post-partum douching called for unless intra-uterine operations have been undertaken.

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### **Impetigo Contagiosa.**

The following method of treatment has yielded uniform good results in the dermatological clinic of the Montreal General Hospital during the last ten years or more.

The crusts of dried pus and serous exudation are picked off the patches of impetigo (in some cases it is necessary to soften them previously with a little sweet oil) and an ointment of the ammonio-chloride of mercury applied directly to the raw surface.

The strength of the ointment varies from the pure unguentum hydrargyrum ammoniatum (B. Ph.) to equal parts of this and unguentum simplex, the latter being used for very young children.

That this preparation of mercury can be used without the slightest