

Miscellaneous.

Ayer's Pills consist of pepper, colocynth, gamboge, and aloes.

Dr. Paul F. Eve, of Nashville, died on November 10th, at the age of 72.

Dr. W. R. Basham, Senior Physician to the Westminster Hospital, died on October 16th.

Professor John H. Balfour, M.D., has resigned the Deanship of the Medical Faculty of Edinburgh University.

The total number of students registered at the Royal College of Surgeons, England, is 1,879 against 1,793 last session.

The induction of reflex action by "blowing in the ear" is said to be efficient for the removal of a foreign body in the throat, such as a piece of meat.

In Paris ladies' bonnets are now trimmed with flowers dipped in chloride of cobalt, which causes them to assume in dry weather a dark-blue colour, and in the humidity preceding a rain, a pinkish hue.

The Chinese Government has passed a permissive edict calling upon the governors of the various provinces to suppress the indulgence of opium smoking. Three years' notice is given before the edict comes in force.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup consists, says Hager, of 8 parts of white simple syrup mixed with 1 part of a tincture made by extracting 10 parts of freshly crushed fennel seed and 1 part of oil of fennel with 60 per cent. spirits.

LARGE DOSES OF IODIDE OF POTASSIUM.—In the course of the recent meeting of the American Dermatological Association, it was stated that Dr. A. Brooks, of Chicago, had given as much as one thousand grains per diem of iodide of potassium.

The widow of the late Dr. J. Rhea Barton, of Philadelphia, has endowed with fifty thousand dollars the chair of surgery in this institution. The professorship will hereafter bear the name of the distinguished surgeon to perpetuate whose memory this liberal gift was made.

Dr. C. J. Cullingworth, in the *British Medical Journal*, reports a case of cancer (cylinder-celled epithelioma) of the stomach in an infant five weeks old. The first symptoms manifested themselves on the tenth day after birth.

A Circulating Surgical Instrument Association has been started by Mr. Millikin in London. By an annual subscription of one guinea, any medical practitioner may borrow, in good working order, any surgical instrument which may be required either for operation or for the treatment of a case.

A NEW MUCILAGE.—The *Journal de Pharmacie* states that if, to a strong solution of gum arabic, measuring $8\frac{1}{2}$ fluid ounces, a solution of 30 grains of sulphate of aluminum, dissolved in two-thirds of an ounce of water, be added, a very strong mucilage is formed, capable of fastening wood together, or of mending porcelain or glass.

TREATMENT OF BLEPHAROSPASM.—Several obstinate cases of this malady, after resisting the action of all other remedies, have at last been cured by the inhalation of nitrite of amyl. The most recent is one recorded by Dr. Harlan, of America, in which the cure seems to have been permanent. — *Schmidt's Jahrbucher.—Clinic.*

TO MAKE SHOES WATER-TIGHT.—The following recipe is from the *Droguisten Zeitung*: A litre of boiled linseed-oil, 125 gm. of mutton suet, 46 gm. of wax, and 32 gm. resin, are melted together on a charcoal fire, under constant stirring, and the melted mixture applied to the well cleaned and dried shoes. The leather retains its full elasticity, and becomes absolutely impervious to water.