

A REPORT comes from Dallas, Texas, that a Mrs. George Hirsch, of Navarro county, has given birth to six children, four boys and two girls, all of whom are said to be doing well.

BENZOIC ACID IN ALIMENTS.—Its use in beer and foods of all kinds has been reported against by the *Comite d'Hygiene* on the ground that "substances having antiseptic qualities are injurious to the normal evolution of the digestive processes."—*Arch. de Phar.*, October 5, 1888.

DRUNKENNESS AMONG CHILDREN.—According to recent intelligence, the School Board of Vienna is placed in a painful position with regard to some of the school children. It appears that it is not uncommon for the children of poor parents to receive by way of breakfast, nothing more than a glass of spirits, and even to appear in the school room drunk.

TERPIN IN BRONCHITIS.—This remedy seems to have been largely prescribed of late by Parisian physicians. Cheron's preparation has been most frequently used; it is given as follows in the *Monde Pharm.* of Oct. 5th:—Terpin, 5 gm.; glycerin, alcohol of 95 per cent., syrup of honey, of each, 70 gm.; vanillin, 0.02 gm. A tablespoonful contains 50 cgm. of terpin. Two tablespoonfuls are given daily to loosen and finally diminish expectoration. In the above doses it is not liable to cause gastric disturbance, especially if given after meals.

CONSULTATION BY TELEGRAPH.—In regard to an alleged novel medical consultation supposed to have been held between physicians at Vancouver's Island and Sir Andrew Clark, as related in the *Times* of Tuesday last, we have the best authority for stating that no such consultation ever took place. The only ground for the allegation consists in this, that Sir Donald Smith having asked Sir Andrew Clark by what questions he might best learn from the doctors in Vancouver Island the state of the patient, Sir Andrew Clark furnished him with a copy of questions whereby his purpose might be fulfilled. — *British Medical Journal*.

GRINDELIA ROBUSTA IN CHRONIC BRONCHITIS.—Dr. Paul has obtained good results from extract *grindelia robustæ* fluid in chronic bronchitis, both the idiopathic form and in that complicated with asthmatic attacks, in doses of 45 to 60 minims daily.—*Deut. med. Woch.*, 1888, No. 6.

TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.—At the last meeting of the Hospitals Medical Society M. Gancher gave additional evidence in support of a line of treatment for diphtheria which he had brought under the notice of the Society last January. It consists in the application of strong alcoholic solution of carbolic acid (50 per cent.) to the surface which has been denuded of false membrane. The application is made three times a day, and in addition the mouth is frequently well rinsed with an aqueous solution of carbolic acid (1 per cent.). The method indicates a return to the old plan of cauterisation, and the results quoted by M. Gancher, which included a series of eighty cases treated on this plan by M. Dubousquet, are reported as having been very satisfactory. There was no inflammatory reaction, nor any symptom of carbolic acid poisoning, although there was usually carboloria.

COPY OF MEMORIAL TO THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—The undersigned members of the British Medical Association and others beg to direct the attention of the President and Council to the publication in the 1450th number of the *Journal* of the Association of the facsimile of a "script" by the late Emperor Frederick of Germany, referring to his treatment by one of his medical attendants. The publication of this document the undersigned regard as a violation of professional confidence, and its appearance in the *British Medical Journal* as discreditable to the medical profession of this country. They accordingly request the President and Council to take such immediate action as may be required to clear the Association and profession from the discredit now attaching to them in respect to this matter.