

strips of plaster applied crosswise, or, as I have done during the last ten years, to apply a small pad of lint and one broad strip of adhesive plaster? No case has failed; no soreness have I ever seen, "so far as my memory serves me."

LARGE CALCULUS.

The following account of a calculus of gigantic magnitude is copied from the preface, by a Mr. Gouge, to an old book of sermons by the Rev. Nicholas Byfield, Isleworth, who lived in the time of Queen Elizabeth and James I. The book was published, after his death, by the editor, Mr. Gouge, to whom we are indebted for the details of this remarkable case, and is dated 1623.

"It appears that he carried a torturing stone in his bladder fifteen years together and upward. I have heard it credibly reported that, fifteen years before his death, he was by a skilfull chirurgeon searched; and that, upon that search, there was a stone found to bee in his bladder; whereupon he used such meanes as were prescribed to him for his case, and found such help thereby, as he thought; that either the chirurgeon which searcht him was deceived; or that the meanes which he used had dissolved the stone. But time which manifesteth all things, shewed, that neither his chirurgeon was deceived, nor yet his stone dissolved; for, it continued to grow bigger and bigger, till at length it came to bee of an incredible greatness. After his death, hee was opened, and the stone taken out; and being weighed, found to be 33 ounces and more in weight; and in measure about the edge, fifteen inches and a halfe; about the length, above 13 inches; about the breadth, almost thirteen inches; it was of a solid substance; to look upon, like to a flint. There are many eie-witnesses besides who can iustifie the truth hearof. A wonderfull work of God it was, that he should be able to carry such a stone in his bladder, and withall to doo the things which he did."—J. M. WINN.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*, April 11, '74.

HYPODERMIC INJECTION OF ERGOTIN IN VARICOCELE.

In a case of varicocele which had existed for a long time, Dr. Bertarelli, of Rome, injected a solution of ergotin under the skin of the scrotum. The solution consisted of ergotin, 1 gramme, water, with a little alcohol, 2 grammes. The patient was ordered to maintain absolute repose, and to make local application of cold compresses. The next day the varicosities had disappeared. The success was complete after another injection, which was attended by but slight local reaction.

Dr. Cittaglia had cured another case of varicocele by the same treatment. By the eighteenth day nearly all the varicosities had disappeared; and there was nothing but a slight induration of the corresponding testical to be observed.—*Alm. di Therapie*, 1874, *Lo Sperimentale*, March, 1874.

CHLORHYDRATE OF TRIMETHYLAMIN IN RHEUMATIC FEVER.

A new successful instance of the above has been communicated to the Therapeutic Society of Paris, by Dr. Martineau. When called to the patient he found that the elbow had, since the morning, become red, enlarged, and painful; skin hot; pulse 90. Ten grains of the drug were administered. The next day a great improvement was noted. The pain in the elbow had entirely disappeared, and the pulse had fallen from 90 to 65. No crisis or cardiac complication had occurred. The same treatment had been equally successful in a similar attack a year previously.

THE "ESCAPE-BOX."

It is stated in the reports of the different prisons of Paris that five or six thieves die annually in jail from the effects of swallowing this box. It is of polished steel, about three inches long, and contains turnscraws, hammers, silk thread, and every implement necessary for escape. The box is easily swallowed, but sometimes refuses to glide along the intestinal canal as expected, and often causes death. When, however, it does reappear, the thief is in possession of implements with which he can saw through the thickest bars.

Philadelphia Medical Reporter.

TREATMENT OF HEADACHE.

Dr. Lauder Brunton, in a paper On the Action of Purgative Medicines," recently published in the *Practitioner*, writes: "The administration of a brisk purgative, or small doses of Epsom salts, thrice a day, is a most effectual remedy for frontal headache when combined with constipation; but if the bowels be regular, the morbid processes on which it depends seem to be checked, and the headache removed even more effectually, by nitro-hydrochloric acid or by alkalies, given before meals. If the headache be immediately above the eyebrows, the acid is best; but if it be a little higher up, just where the hair begins, the alkalies appear to me to be the more effectual. At the same time that the headache is removed, the feelings of sleepiness and weariness, which frequently lead the patients to complain that they rise up more tired than they lie down, generally disappear." *Boston Journal of Chemistry*.

Warts upon the Margin of the Lid.—Although warts upon the margin of the lid may, in most cases, exist for years without giving any annoyance, yet two cases have lately occurred within a short period in Prof. V. ARLT's private practice, in which a wart that had rapidly grown upon the free margin of the lid, gave rise to an acute catarrh of the conjunctiva, without any direct mechanical irritation of the membrane. Prof. V. Arlt smiled at the suggestion of the patient, that the wart might be the cause of the conjunc-