

The routine to be followed in distention of the stomach is withdrawal of food eight hours after a meal, analysis after a test meal, microscopical examination of contents of fasting stomach, and microscopical and chemical analysis of fæces. Pyloric stenosis may be caused by spasm or may be organic. The size of the orifice does not account for the amount of food stasis, which must be explained by spasm preventing the chyme from passing out. Diseases of the pancreas play an important part in causing pyloric spasm. Cancer of the stomach may be cured by operation undertaken before glandular involvements, hence the value of early diagnosis. Chronic duodenal ulcer causes duodenal stenosis in most cases.

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**The Eye of Yesterday and of To-day.** Frank Valk of New York, (see *Medical Record* for Feb. 6, '09) indicates the ideas that were held in old times as to the eye, and then goes on to state the truths with reference to it that should be familiar to the general practitioner. With reference to the prevention of ophthalmia neonatorum, he recommends the use of a modification of Credé's method in the form of a solution of nitrate of silver five grains, sweet spirit of nitre two drams,

and water six drams, which is stable and gives a solution of nascent silver, which is most effective when used in the eyes of the new-born infant. Paresis of accommodation after diphtheria is seldom seen since the use of antitoxin, although formerly it was not infrequent. The author believes that the general practitioner should know the ophthalmoscope well enough to diagnose choked disc or albuminuric neuroretinitis. Photophobia always indicates involvement of the cornea: discharge from the eye, disease of the conjunctiva. In case of keratitis or iritis atropine will give relief and lessen destruction of tissue. Results in operative surgery have improved as the dark room has passed away. Glaucoma may be relieved by eserine or pilocarpine with iridectomy, and failure of sight limited. Squint is due to want of development of one lateral muscle. Shortening of the weak externus gives relief. Refraction should be done by a competent physician, since the fitting of glasses is not the only needed measure to relieve eyestrain. Hypermetropia and astigmatism will require correction as long as we use our eyes so much for near work. Every physician should have a test card, and every one be able to detect muscular imbalance.

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## EDITORIAL

### MARITIME MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

**T**HE dates first announced for the Charlottetown meeting of the Maritime Medical Association were found to coincide with those fixed for the Sydney meeting of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, and in consequence new dates have been selected for the Maritime Association

meeting, viz.: July 14 and 15. The Nova Scotian Society will meet one week earlier. The Committees are busily engaged in making arrangements for the meeting at Charlottetown, and everything points to an interesting, instructive and enjoyable conference. There will, of course, be a large representation of Prince Ed-