

juice than those which are young and small.

From the want of any direct experience of the above method, we cannot as yet express a judgment on the above proposition; but we must admit the manufacture of the food does not appear (as the author seems to think) so easy that we can always reckon on its being successfully prepared. The chances of fermentation in such a juice are so great that it is to be feared it will hardly be avoided. We should regard any tendency to laxity of the bowels—so common an affection of children—as a complete contra-indication to its use. Further, there seems to be no reason why, even for young infants, some animal matter should not be added, in the form of broth or yolk of egg.—*Schmidt's Jahrbücher*, from *Journ für Kinderkrankheiten*, July and August 1849.

Inhalation of Medicines.—Dr. Snow described a variety of apparatus for the inhalation of volatile drugs. One, to which special attention was directed, consisted of a thin cylinder, three inches in diameter, four inches in height, fitted with a flexible tube and mouth-piece above, and having a floor of talc below; upon the talc the medicines were placed in a little porcelain capsule; a spirit lamp applied beneath allowed the heat to be transmitted to the capsule, but not to the sides of the tin cylinder. When the heat applied to the substance to be volatilised was high, as in the case of opium, Dr. Snow was inclined to think that the result produced was by means of new chemical compounds. Opium, morphia, and meconate of morphia, required a temperature of 400 deg. Fahr. The resulting sublimate presented some, but not all the chemical properties possessed by the original substance.

When it was desirable to mingle the vapour of water with the vapour, a Wolff's bottle might be used, but only with those substances which are volatile at a temperature below 212°; such, for example, as iodine and chlorine.

Dr. Snow appended the results of the trial of a number of volatile medicines at the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton; in some instances great relief had been afforded; in others but little had been effected.

Dr. Routh had witnessed, in conjunction with Dr. Cogswell, and other mem-

bers of the society, some experiments on the administration of medicines by inhalation, conducted by Mr. White. In seven cases the result had been satisfactory beyond expectation, particularly in one where mercury was used.—*London Medical Gazette*.

Physiological and Therapeutic Action of Digitaline.—M. BOUILLAUD read a report on an essay by M. M. Houlle and Quévenne, containing researches of which the following propositions are a summary:—

1. Digitaline possesses all the therapeutic properties of digitalis.
2. When the dose of digitaline exceeds from four to five milli-grammes (0.06177 to 0.07721 Eng. grs.) in the twenty-four hours, an emetico-cathartic effect is produced; sometimes suddenly, sometimes slowly.
3. Digitaline should be preferred to digitalis, as being more readily dejected, more certain in its action, and more regular in its tolerance.
4. It produces two orders of phenomena—diuresis and nervous excitement.
5. Digitaline has a special action on the eyes, producing an obscuration of vision. *Lond. Med. Gaz.*

On the Tests for Strychnine. By A. W. BRIEGER.—M. Brieger says that the reaction of strychnine with pure chromic acid is more distinct than with chromate of potash, (See *Institute*, page 112, Strychnine). He thinks this reaction suffices to detect strychnine when mixed with santonine, brucine, &c.—But the presence of sugar conceals the reaction, and several other substances, more or less, prevent the development of the blue color, such as pure morphine or its acetate, whilst quinine renders the colour a pure rose red.—*Jahrb. für. Prakt. Pharm.* xx.

On Cod-liver Oil in Phthisis. By M. DUCLOS.—M. Duclos thus sums up the results of his experience with this substance. 1. The presence of fever is what we must chiefly attend to, relying more on this remedy when it is absent, and less when it is present. 2. The remedy frequently arrests the progress of the disease when only in the first stage. 3. It rarely arrests it when in the second stage, although it may retard it. 4. The third stage is not favorably