

been able to find in medical literature where ammonia was used as an antidote in cocaine poisoning was by Dr. Gooding, of Barbadoes, reported in *The Lancet* of 1888, vol. i, p. 394, and copied into the *Méditsinskoe Obozrénie*. (This was a case of a negress who had developed alarming symptoms after less than half a grain had been injected into the gum; she was treated by hypodermic injections of ether and ammonia.)—*Lancet*, Nov. 30, 1889.

INFANTILE DIARRHŒA.

At a meeting of the Harveian Society of London, held November 7, 1889, and reported in the *Medical Press and Circular*, on the causation and the treatment of that variety of acute infantile diarrhœa produced by irritative products, resulting from fermentations set up in milk, either previous to or after ingestion. While admitting that though probably several irritating substances resulting from the fermentation of milk are factors in production of the form of acute infantile diarrhœa under consideration, he contended that the principal share of blame rests with milk or cheese ptomaine tyrotoxin produced during the fermentation of milk under certain conditions. The treatment of acute infantile diarrhœa, with the view of arresting the abnormal intestinal fermentation was then considered. Carbolic acid, creosote, resorcin, salicylic acid, salicylate of soda, naphthol, and salol have been given in the hope of checking the putrefactive changes in the bowels. Ringer has recommended the administration of a weak solution of bichloride of mercury in infantile diarrhœa attended with very slimy stools. Dr. Luff then referred to Hlingworth's antiseptic treatment of infantile diarrhœa, which he had himself found most useful, and the employment of which had first directed his attention to the treatment he had employed. This consists in drug treatment and diet treatment combined. The drug treatment consists in the administration of one-fiftieth of a grain doses of chloral hydrate. It was shown experimentally that the biniodide of mercury is an extremely soluble and diffusible salt, and that it possesses the property of combining with and rendering insoluble the milk ptomaine tyrotoxin. As regards the diffusibility of the biniodide of mercury, Dr. Luff has detected it in the urine within two hours of its administration. Dr. Luff had never found that soluble biniodide of mercury itself acts as an intestinal irritant. Of eighty cases of acute infantile diarrhœa treated by this method the diarrhœa ceased within two days in seventy-two of the cases, in five out of the remaining eight cases it ceased within four days, and in no case did it last seven days.—*Medical and Surgical Reporter*.

CAUSE AND TREATMENT OF THE VOMITING OF PREGNANCY.

At a meeting of the Paris academy of medicine, Dr. Guéniot said that the idea of combating the intractable vomiting of pregnancy with a single medicament appeared to him erroneous, as experience has shown. The numerous observations published up to the present time show that the cures obtained with therapeutic agents were obtained after trying various remedies without any particular one having shown a specific action.

Three organs concur in the production of the vomiting of pregnancy: First, the uterus, which is at once the seat of pregnancy and the source of special excitation to other organs; second, the nervous system (spinal and ganglionic), which transmits excitations to distant parts; finally, the stomach, which feels in an exaggerated manner the action of the uterine stimulus.

In order to combat the vomiting, not with a doubtful accidental result, but with almost constant success, it is necessary to resort to a complex treatment directed simultaneously to the three sources of the disease. The following fundamental indications must be fulfilled:

1. To calm the morbid excitement of the uterus by correcting the abnormal conditions which give rise to it. For this purpose the most valuable agents are belladonna, cocaine, morphine, vaginal injections, or appropriate topical applications, Gariel's pessary, cauterization, or even artificial dilatation of the neck of the uterus, according to the indications.

2. To diminish or suppress the exaggeration of reflex impressions, either by the use of chloral, or bromide, or refrigeration of the spinal region, moral influences, etc.

3. To combat the intolerance of the stomach, treating the different affections of which it might be the seat, and calming its erethism with the following measures: Almost absolute diet: abstinence from every sour drink, wine, juice of oranges, grapes, etc.; use of alkaline waters and ice in very small quantities; a fly blister with morphine to the epigastrium, and at times laxatives or other purgatives to regulate the functions of the intestines.

In order to insure the success of this medication, it is necessary to spare the stomach as much labor as possible. For the remedies, the intestinal tract should be used in preference to the stomach, and next in order the skin (hypodermically).—*Revista de Ciencias Medicas, of Barcelona*.—*New Orleans Med. and Surg. Journal*.

STERILIZATION OF FÆCES.

Dr. Charles J. Foote has made some very interesting and instructive experiments, in the laboratories of the Yale Medical School, to