Dangers of Large Doses of Quinine.—Dr. Smith, in the *N. Y. Med. Jnl.*, writes upon the danger of large doses of quinine in hyperpyrexia, with special reference to the treatment of typhoid fever. He says that in cases with a tendency to heart failure it is dangerous. Heart failure may be due to degeneration of the heart muscle, or to failure of nerve energy. There are two types of fever in which these causes of heart failure generally appear: the short, as in acute pneumonia where heart failure is liable to occur from the third to the sixth day: and the long, as in typhoid, where heart failure occurs usually from the second to the fourth week. A large dose of quinine twenty or sixty grains at once or within an hour, certainly has a depressant effect on the heart, and this should always be carefully examined before administering the drug in such doses. It is also well to guard it by small doses of opium or digitalis or ammonia. In the same journal Dr. Wright reports a case of pneumonia in an adult in which fifty grains of quinine were given in twelve hours. The temperature fell 9° to 93° 4/5, collapse ensued, but by the exhibition of heart stimulants recovery finally took place. Another case is reported of a boy with intermittent fever who took 128 grains of cinchonidia, followed by collapse and death.

Washing the Stomach in Nurslings.—Dr. Epstein, of Prague, for some years practiced washing of the stomach in nurslings. In this manner he treats acute stomachal catarrh, the first period of cholera infantum, and in a word all those gastric conditions accompanied by vomiting, and rapidly producing marasmus. In case of poisoning, washing is equally indicated. The operation is simple; more simple than in adults. A soft rubber sound is used—number eight or ten—terminating with a glass tube—to which, after introduction, another elastic tube, bearing the funnel, is attached. The length of the pharyngo-œsophageal canal in a child 50 cm. in height is about 18 cm. The child is laid on its back, the finger presses back the tongue, and guides the tube, which is easily swallowed. The washings are done with magnesian or sodic water. It is suggested in athrepsics to feed artificially in this way.—*Journal de Méd. de Paris.*

Acute Sub-umbilical Peritonitis.—Mr. Goix, (*Jour de Méd. de Paris*) says that acute sub-umbilical peritonitis is manifested clinically; (*a*) by the general symptoms common to every acute peritonitis; (*b*) by local phenomena peculiar to it, which are a superficial pain limited to the sub-umbilical portion of the abdomen, retention of urine and intestinal meteorism; (*c*) by a very important negative sign, the integrity of the diaphragmatic respiration. From *acute perityphlitis* it is distinguished by the absence of the cæcal and pericæcal swelling, and from *sub-peritoneal phlegmon* by the preservation throughout the duration of the disease of the normal mobility of the skin on the subjacent layers. In phlegmon the subcutaneous tissue of the abdomen always participates secondarily to the inflammation and the skin loses its mobility.

Relation of Diseases of the Abdomen to those of the Right Heart.—Passerini, (*Gaz. degli Ospitali*) mentions three cases of tricuspid insufficiency consecutive to a peritoneal effusion. On auscultation there was heard a prolongation of the first sound and a murmur; the second sound was intensified over the pulmonary orifice. The disappearance of the peritoneal effusion caused the cessation of these sounds. The abdominal effusion acts mechanically by compression, causing venous ischemia of the viscera and overloading, and hyperæmia of the thoracic organs. In pregnancy and in ovarian cysts, and by simple pressure upon the abdominal walls, these abnormal bruits have been called into existence. —*Jour. de Méd. de Paris.*

Non-Vesicating Croton Oil. — Harold Senier, of the London Chemical Society, states that when alcohol of the specific gravity of 0.794 to 0.800 is added to croton oil in the proportion of seven or more volumes to six, the oil separates into two parts, one of them (the vesicating oil) dissolves in the alcohol and remains soluble in alcohol in all proportions; the other (the purgative oil), separates and is then found to have become insoluble in any proportion in alcohol. The insoluble oil is said to be a safe and pleasant purgative free from any undesirable action, in doses of one-tenth to one-half a minim, in the form of pills made with magnesium carbonate and extract of henbane as excipients.—*N. Y. Med. Jnl.*