

is brief. 3. It is accompanied by dyspnoea and by cardiac palpitations, often severe. 4. It occurs in persons predisposed to its influence. 5. It seems to be due to vaso-motor paralysis, as also are the dyspnoea and palpitations which accompany it. In a number of cases recently reported to the Société Clinique, by Mayor, and those noted by Martinet, the eruption seemed to relapse from time to time, even after the discontinuance of the chloral.

METHOD OF PRESERVING DEAD BODIES.—

Mr. Keysmann, United States Consul General at Berlin, in his dispatch to the Department of State, dated October 30th, communicates a description of a newly discovered process for the preservation of dead bodies. The inventor or discoverer had secured a patent for the process, but the German government, conceiving the high importance of the invention, induced the patentee to abandon his patent. Thereupon the government made public, through the press, a full description of the process, as set forth in letters patent. The following extracts are translated from the German newspapers of Oct. 23rd: The dead bodies of human beings and animals, by this process, fully retain their form, colour and flexibility. Even after a period of years such dead bodies may be dissected for purposes of science and criminal jurisprudence. Decay and the offensive smell of decay are completely prevented. Upon incision the muscular flesh shows the same appearance as in the case of a fresh dead body. Preparations made of the several parts, such as natural skeletons, lungs, entrails, etc., retain their softness and pliability. The liquid used is prepared as follows: In 3,000 grams of boiling water are dissolved 100 grams of alum, 25 grams of cooking salt, 12 grams of saltpetre, 60 grams potash and 10 grams arsenious acid. The solution is then allowed to cool and filter: to 10 litres of this neutral colourless, odourless liquid, 4 litres glycerine and one litre methylic alcohol are to be added. The process of preserving or embalming dead bodies by means of this liquid consists, as a rule, in saturating and impregnating the bodies with it. From 1½ to 5 litres of

the liquid are used for a body, according to size.—*Med. and Surg. Reporter.*

TOXIC EFFECTS OF TEA.—1. With tea, as with any potent drug, there is a danger of abuse and improper dose. 2. In moderation, tea is a mental and bodily stimulant of an agreeable nature, followed by no violent reaction. It produces contentment, allays hunger and bodily weariness, and increases the incentive and the capacity for labour. 3. Taken immoderately, it leads to a serious group of symptoms, such as headache, vertigo, heat and flushings of body, ringing in the ears, mental dullness and confusion, irritability, nervousness, sleeplessness, apprehension of evil, exhaustion of mind and body, with disinclination to mental and physical exertion, increased and irregular action of heart, increased respiration. Each of these symptoms is produced by tea taken in moderate quantities, irrespective of dyspepsia or hypochondria, or hyperæmia. The prolonged use of tea produces, additionally, symptoms of these three latter diseases. In short, immoderate doses, tea has a most injurious effect upon the nervous system. 4. Immoderate tea drinking, continued for a considerable time, with great certainty produces dyspepsia. 5. The immediate mental symptoms produced by tea are not to be attributed to dyspepsia. In the above experiment upon myself, the whole group of symptoms was produced, and no sign of digestive trouble superadded. Tea retards the "waste," or retrograde metamorphosis of tissue, and thereby diminishes the demand for food. It also diminishes the amount of urine secreted. 7. Many of the symptoms of immoderate tea drinking are not as may occur without suspicion of tea being their cause; and we find many people take tea to relieve the very symptoms which its abuse is producing.—*Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease.*

Births, Marriages, and Deaths

MARRIED.

At Chatham, on January 7th, A. E. Mullory, M.L.R.C.P. and L.R.C.S., Ed., to Fanny Q. W. Waddell, daughter of the late John Waddell.