

the mitral valve of the heart. Her abdomen and legs had been tapped several times, but after using onions as above she had been free from dropsy for two years, although still suffering from albuminuria. Case second suffered from heart disease, cirrhotic liver, and dropsy. Case third had dropsy depending on tumor of the liver. In both of them the remedy had been used with good results. Both had been previously tapped, purgatives and diuretics alike having failed to give relief. All other treatment having failed, recourse was had to the onions. Under their use the amount passed steadily rose from 10 or 15 ounces to 78 or 100

A NEW FORM OF DIALYZER.—Mr. Huizinga, of Groningen, has published a method for preparing dialyzing apparatus which seems to have various advantages. Parchment-paper is cut so as to form, when folded together, a conical bag. The edges are glued together by means of chrome-glue, which is made by adding to a solution of gelatine of 15 per cent. a solution of potassium chromate of 3 to 5 per cent. This mixture must be made in a room lit by artificial light, and it must be carefully kept from daylight, as this makes it insoluble in water. It should not be prepared in large quantities, as it will gradually become tough, especially when often re-melted for use, although it may not have been exposed to sun-light. The edges of the moistened parchment-paper having been treated with the chrome-glue, the bags are exposed to day-light, and when dry are suspended, kept open and circular by a small hoop placed inside, and filled with water to test their tightness. Any small leak may be stopped by a further application of chrome-glue. A number of these conical bags may be placed into one vessel at the same time.—*Weekbl. f. Naturwet.*

JELLY FROM OLD BOOT.—The reader may stare, but Science smiles superior and asserts very emphatically that a toothsome delicacy can be made from a dilapidated foot covering. Some time ago, Dr. Vander Weyde, of this city, regaled some friends not merely with boot jelly but with shirt coffee, and the repast was pronounced by all partakers excellent. The doctor tells us that he made the jelly by first cleaning the boot, and subsequently boiling it with soda, under a pressure of about two atmospheres. The tannic acid in the leather, combined with the salt, made tannate of soda, and the gelatin rose to the top, whence it was removed and dried. From this last, with suitable flavoring material, the jelly was readily concocted. The shirt coffee, which we incidentally mentioned above, was sweetened with cuff and collar sugar, both coffee and sugar being produced in the same way. The linen (after, of course, washing) was treated with nitric acid, which, acting on the lignite contained in the fibre, produced glucose, or grape sugar. This roasted, made

an excellent imitation coffee, which an addition of unroasted glucose readily sweetened.—*Scientific American.*

ERGOT IN TRICHINA DISEASE.—Dr. Rhode relates, in the *Berliner Klin. Woch.*, a case of trichinosis in which severe bleeding of the nose occurred, and in which he prescribed extract of *secale cornutum* as a styptic. The hemorrhage was immediately arrested, and with this rapid improvement of the general symptoms also occurred. This result led him to prescribe ergot in other cases of the disease; and in all instances distinct improvement followed. He believes, therefore, that we have, perhaps, in ergotin a means of treatment which, without having any marked effect on the human economy, may prove fatal to trichina and their offsprings.—*The Doctor.*

THERAPEUTIC ACTION OF IODOFORM.—Dr. Moleschott states that he has used iodoform with good result in the treatment of exudation into the pleura, pericardium, and peritoneum, and of the acute hydrocephalus of children. He generally applied it in the form of ointment (one in fifteen of lard) or with elastic collodion (or one in fifteen of collodion). Large glandular swellings were caused to disappear under the use of the iodised collodion. It was found useful as a means of assuaging pain in gout, neuralgia, and neuritis. Syphilitic myocarditis was cured by iodoform inunction, combined with the internal use of the drug in doses of from three-fourths of a grain to a grain and a-half daily. Iodoform appears to act like digitalis upon the heart, increasing the strength and reducing the frequency of its beats, and was hence used successfully in uncompensated valve disease. Its action depends probably on its ready decomposition, by which the iodine in the nascent state is brought into action upon the tissues.—*Wiener Medicin. Wochenschrift.*

TREATMENT OF STRYCHNIA POISONING BY APOMORPHIA.—R. Gilsan, M.D. (*American Journal of Medical Sciences*, April, 1878), was called in December, 1877, to see a man who had taken probably about six grains of sulphate of strychnia with suicidal intent. The man when first seen was in spasms; all the muscles seemed tense, and in fact in such condition that a stomach pump could not be used or anything administered by the mouth. About one-third of a grain of muriate of apomorphia administered hypodermically gave prompt emesis, and relaxed the muscles so fully that there was very little spasm at all after it had taken effect. The poison had been swallowed about half an hour.

The doctor is of the opinion that apomorphia will be found the remedy in all cases of poisoning by nux vomica or any of its preparations, but he would not recommend it in cases of narcotic poisoning.

COLOCYNTH IN MINUTE DOSES.—Dr. Tucker