

strung convulsion, lasting several minutes; but it passed off without any constitutional disturbance. No cause for the attack was detected by him or other practitioners. In a day or two the fits returned, and were repeated at short intervals for about ten days, during which time he is confident he must have had a thousand. Every resource in his power was exhausted to relieve him, and three eminent medical professors examined the child from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet, but no local irritation was detected. After carefully watching the commencement of the paroxysms, he observed that the muscles of the left side of the face invariably began to twitch on the recurrence of a fit. After a convulsion had passed off, and while in a state of unconsciousness, he raised the upper lip as high as possible, and lo, and behold! the corona of the second canine tooth, instead of having caused by its pressure the absorption of the root of the deciduous tooth, had passed behind it and forced it through the alveolus and gum and into the lip. The gum was slit vertically and the old tooth removed. In less than an hour the convulsions began to subside, and before day they were entirely gone, and never appeared again.

It is a humiliating reflection, he says, in conclusion, that five old and respectable practitioners, and two of them professors in medical schools, should allow a child to have fits for ten days, the result of so simple a cause, and not sooner detect it.—*Medical Record*.

How to Disguise the Taste of Quinine.

Dr. R. W. Parke, of Mobile, Ala., says that chocolate will completely disguise the taste of this medicine.

Let the patient obtain a few "chocolate drops" from the confectioner, and he can take quinine in solution without tasting it. Immediately after each dose is swallowed, put two or three chocolate drops in the mouth and chew them up, and the bitter taste of quinine will no longer be perceived. Chocolate, perhaps, would answer the same purpose, but I have not tried it. Any one can satisfy himself of the truth of the above statement by filling the mouth with a solution of quinine, and using the chocolate drops immediately after ejecting it. By this simple means, the solution of quinine can be used, when otherwise the pillular form would have to be resorted to. Oftentimes it is desirable to get the patient quickly under the influence of the remedy, which could not be done where pills are used.—*Med. and Surg. Reporter*.

Mr. Lister's Carbolic Acid Lac Plaster.

The following is the formula for its preparation: Take of shellac three parts, and crystallized carbolic acid one part. Heat the lac with about a third part of the carbolic acid over a slow fire till the lac is completely melted; then remove from the fire, add the remainder of the acid, and stir briskly till the ingredients are thoroughly mixed. Next strain through muslin, and pour into the machine for spreading plaster; and when the liquid has thickened by cooling to a degree ascertained by experience, spread to the thickness of about one-fiftieth of an inch. Afterwards brush the surface of the

plaster lightly with a solution of gutta-percha in about thirty parts of bisulphide of carbon. When the sulphide has all evaporated the plaster may be plied in suitable length in a tin box.

For an antiseptic dressing that is intended to be changed from time to time, perfect absence of adhesion or upon the skin during the process of withdrawing it, with the concomitant risk of regurgitation of air or liquid charged with living putrefactive organisms.

But for the permanent dressing in compound fracture, this complete want of adhesiveness is the converse of what we desire. Here, the material employed, being designed to form part of the scab, should stick to the skin or to anything that lies beneath it. The lac prepared as above described hesiveness is a most valuable property; not only because it permits all discharge to escape beneath it into the porous material placed outside to absorb it, but because it avoids traction upon any deeper may, however, be readily made suitable for this purpose, by rubbing off the film of gutta-percha by firm friction with a dry cloth, and then brushing the surface over with liquid carbolic acid. It then, at once, assumes a sufficient degree of adhesiveness.—*Brit. Med. Journal*, Nov. 14, 1868.

Death from Gonorrhœa.

Samuel Jepsun, M.D., of Cincinnati, alludes to the following death from gonorrhœa: A male, aged 40, was admitted into the Cincinnati Hospital with gonorrhœa and painful prepuce, accompanied with marked swelling and redness. In a few days the entire organ was affected, the inflammation invaded the abdominal walls in right inguinal region, and finally implicated the scrotum. He never had any sore, either on the glans or the prepuce.

The prepuce and distended scrotum were freely incised, quite a quantity of serum evacuated, and a fomenting poultice was ordered to be applied to the affected parts, with tinct. ferri chlor., gr. xx., whiskey ʒ ss., and beef essence ʒij., every three hours. In ten days after admission he died of exhaustion. At the time of death, one-half of the glans penis was destroyed, also the anterior portion of the scrotum, exposing to full view the testicles, or what was left of them—for the right one had entirely sloughed away, and the left one was assuming a gangrenous appearance, when death interfered and ended the patient's sufferings.—*Cincinnati Med. Repository*.

Prescribing in Cheap Periodicals.

A most dangerous practice prevails of publishing in some of the cheap literature of the day various receipts for the cure of minor ailments, and it is one that is certainly upon the increase. Many of the prescriptions so given are absurd, and even dangerous; and this is not to be wondered at if we consider that the writer is often very deficient in all real knowledge of medicine, and that he is assisted by the errors of the printer to whom the symbols of quantities are so many hieroglyphics. Our attention has been called to the following prescription for instance: "Syr. of poppies one ounce and a half; syr. of squills, half an ounce; tincture of digitalis, thirty drops a teaspoonful to be given to a child frequently." We can quite imagine a fractious baby being dosed into the effectual quietness of death by such mixture.—*Lancet*.