

tables. Thin slices of underdone roast meat, fresh broiled fish, raw oysters and other shell fish, soft boiled eggs, boiled ham, together with sour kraut, smoked herring, a little stale cheese, etc., have been recommended, the latter articles being particularly unlikely to undergo putrefactive decomposition. Chronic indigestion of this type is the result of long-continued dietetic errors, and in its treatment the dietetic plan marked out above should be adhered to as closely as possible. By way of medication, intestinal antiseptics is indicated, and is unquestionably of some service. For this purpose combinations of chalk, bismuth, magnesia, salol, salicylate of soda and naphthol are valuable. The patient may take after each meal a powder consisting of 5 grs. each of prepared chalk, magnesia, and salol, or 5 grs. each of salicylate of bismuth and naphthol. Nux vomica and columbo are also valuable. Diastases often are of service. Either malt or pancreatic diastases may be used. They are to be given during the meal. [They probably act by digesting the starch in the stomach, and favoring absorption of the resulting sugar before it reaches the intestine.] Laxatives often prove beneficial, but must be used judiciously, and with the single purpose of emptying the bowel of its fermenting contents. Rhubarb, senna, aloes, sulphur, cascara, and magnesia are among the best laxatives in this condition. Dr. G. B. Wood says: "The remedy which we have found most effective in the permanent cure of a disposition to the accumulation of flatus in the bowels is an infusion made with  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of columbo,  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of ginger, a drachm of senna, and a pint of boiling water, and given in the dose of a wineglassful three times a day."—*Journal American Medical Association*.

**OIL OF EUCALYPTUS.**—According to an American paper, more than 20,000 pounds of eucalyptus oil were exported to Europe from California in 1891, the popular belief as to its efficacy in influenza having probably created the demand. The beginning of the cultivation of the eucalyptus tree in California dates apparently no further back than 1869, in which year fifty acres in the neighborhood of Haywards were planted chiefly for lumber purposes. Since then enormous numbers of trees have been

planted. Some ten years ago it was discovered that a decoction of eucalyptus has the property of removing the scales of incrustation from boilers. The engineers engaged in preparing the fluid for this purpose noticed that those among them who suffered from bronchitis and asthma experienced considerable relief, the credit of which was, rightly or wrongly, assigned to the eucalyptus. From this incidental beginning, an important industry has since sprung up. Whatever may be the real or supposed virtues of eucalyptus in respiratory affections, however, it seems more probable that its sudden rise into popular favor during the influenza epidemic was chiefly due to its reputed antimalarial and microbicide properties.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

A GERMAN physician has been subjecting the belief that cheese aids the digestion to a chemical test. Cheshire and Roquefort cheese took four hours to digest; genuine Emmenthaler, Gorgonzola, and Neufchatel, eight hours; Romodour nine hours; and Kottenberger, Brie, Swiss, and the remaining varieties, ten hours.—*College and Clinical Record*.

A REMEDY FOR CHRONIC RHEUMATIC ARTHRITIS.—According to Mr. Hugh Lane, in his recent work on "Rheumatic Diseases, the following prescription was found of such service among the pensioners of Chelsea Hospital who suffered from chronic rheumatic arthritis that Lord Anson gave three hundred pounds for the liberty to give publicity to it: R. Honey,  $\text{℥xvj}$ ; sulphur,  $\text{℥j}$ ; cream of tartar,  $\text{℥j}$ ; rhubarb,  $\text{℥iv}$ ; gum guaiaci,  $\text{℥j}$ ; nutmeg, No. j. Misce. The patient took two tablespoonfuls in a small tumbler of hot white wine and water when going to bed, and the same quantity before rising in the morning, remaining in bed until any perspiration that was occasioned had subsided. The treatment was continued until a perceptibly good effect had ensued, when only one tablespoonful was administered at a dose until the mixture was used up.—*N. Y. Medical Journal*.

ATROPINE IN BRADYCARDIA.—In the *St. Petersburg Med. Wochens*, 1892, No. 1, Prof. Karl Dehio shows that by the use of atropine we can readily differentiate between the cases of