

or no action on the calomel, and that if substances like corrosive sublimate can be formed from calomel in the body, which on *a priori* grounds has been assumed as probable, such mercuric compounds are at least not formed in the stomach within an hour and a half. The solution of portions of the calomel begins in the duodenum, and reasoning from his fistula and test tube results, Nemser believes that the pancreatic juice is the most potent factor in effecting the solution. What rôle sodium chloride (from the gastric juice) or the substances of nutrition may play in aiding this solution is as yet undetermined.

As to the absorption of the portion of calomel made soluble by the pancreatic secretions, the author believes that this takes place not higher up in the intestine than the ileum, in which place the process of solution reaches its maximum. It is highly probable that the soluble mercuric compound set free is either absorbed in the large intestine or precipitated by the sulphides present in that viscus, since the faeces contain no trace of soluble mercurial substances. The kidneys, the liver, and the large intestine retain a portion of the calomel for a considerable length of time, but as to the form of mercuric compound which is formed from the calomel in the process of solution, it is to be regretted the author does not enlighten us.

"The Clinical Value of Cryoscopic Examinations." Editorial in *N. Y. Medical Record*. October 13th, 1906.

It is nearly ten years now that Koranyi of Budapest applied the determination of the freezing point (cryoscopy) to the study of pathological urine. Since then work has been constantly going on in various parts of the world with this method, and the results obtained seemed to vary so much that a great deal of skepticism has been expressed, both here and abroad, as to the actual clinical value of cryoscopy. We have had occasion more than once within these years to comment on the situation editorially. As has been and is the case with most of the newer laboratory methods, experience, tempered by judgment, and sustained by an increasing accumulation of statistics, has gradually crystallized opinion as to the value of cryoscopy, until to-day its limitations are quite well understood, while its advantages are fully appreciated.

After Koranyi's historic work came that of Claude and Balthazard; of Achard and Castaigne, of Bernard, of Casper and Ritcher, of Rovsing and of Kümmel—to mention only some of the more important investigators in this interesting field. But little of importance has been published in this country on cryoscopy during the past few years, if we except the practical and thorough paper of Dr. A. A. Berg of this city.