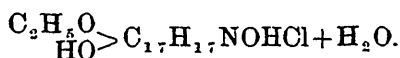


favorite of the physicians. There is no doubt that a small draught of Hunyadi Janos taken in the morning before breakfast will in almost all cases cause a free watery action from the bowels before many hours have passed, and at the same time not have the after effect such as so many cathartic agents have of causing a condition of constipation perhaps for days after.

Deficient innervation will be found in old people, people of sedentary habits, and those who have little exercise. In these cases the partaking of water will be found only to weaken the digestive power, unless it can be combined with a different mode of life and abundance of out-door exercise. Cold bathing, however, cold against the spine and abdomen, plenty of exercise in the open air, and nux vomica will generally be found to give relief. In constipation dependent upon the large intestine, the trouble will generally be found to be due to deficient innervation rather than any lack of secretion. It is best treated by keeping the rectum empty, by nux vomica, or belladonna in doses sufficient to cause dryness of the throat, and by electricity. The latter should be in the form of the faradic current, one pole being placed over the spine and the other passed up and down along the track of the colon.

DIONIN: A NEW MORPHINE DERIVATIVE.

A NEW morphine derivative has recently been introduced to which the name "dionin" has been given. It is described by Ludwig Hesse (*Pharm. Centralh.*, XL., p. 5) as the hydrochlorate of morphine mono-ethyl ether, or ethyl-morphine, having the composition



It occurs as a white, somewhat bitter, micro-crystalline powder, which, under the microscope, is seen to consist of fine needles. It melts at 123°-125° C. and decomposes at the latter temperature. Dionin appears to be very serviceable, therapeutically, because it affords neutral solutions which may be advantageously employed subcutaneously. It is soluble in about 7 parts of water, in about 1.4 parts of alcohol, and in about 20 parts of syrup; while it is insoluble in ether and in chloroform. It is precipitated from its solutions by most of the alkaloidal reagents. The pure base, morphine mono-ethyl ether or ethyl-morphine, is readily liberated by alkalies, and crystallizes from water also with one molecule of water of crystallization. It is quite insoluble in water, 1 part dissolving in 286 parts of the latter; it is very soluble, however, in alcohol, 100 parts of the latter dissolving 140 parts of the base. It is also easily soluble in ether, but difficultly so in benzene, and is almost insoluble in benzin. Dionin has been employed by Dr. O.