

rhage, notwithstanding her great improvement, had never subsided entirely for more than a day, and that only once, in a period of about eight months. While we cannot be sure of the proper hoc from the post hoc, in a single instance, it certainly looks as if the Sanmetto has been of service to the vis medicatrix nature. I have just received a letter from an old friend in the profession, who has used Sanmetto with decided benefit to a patient afflicted with hæmaturia."

THERAPEUTIC BRIEFS.—*Coll. and Clin. Rec.*, Dr. Cantrell, Polyclinic, believes that scarification is the best treatment for *Acne Rosacea*. He freezes the part with a rhigolene spray or ethyl chloride, and freely scarifies with a five-bladed knife. This treatment gives prompt relief.

Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, *Asclepiad*, 1894-95, in *Medical News*, April 20, calls attention to the occurrence of *Cramps* in the lower limbs in cases of *Diabetes*. They are rare by day and most common at night. They are very painful although not of long continuance. They occur principally in the muscles of the calf of the leg, but they may also involve other leg-muscles and, at times, even distant muscles. In conjunction with this condition there is sometimes a painless motion or twitching of the leg-muscles, observable mostly in the early morning after good sleep, and lasting two or three hours, but passing away during the day. These movements may number thirty or forty in the minute.

Chloralamid succeeds in arresting night-sweats in over half the cases. Thirty to thirty-five grains were given at bedtime. Agaricin gave still better results, controlling the sweating in three-fourths of the trials. One-twelfth grain in pill-form at bed time.

NEW AND SPEEDY METHOD OF DILATING A RIGID OS IN PARTURITION.—At a meeting of the Obstetrical Society of London, Dr. Farrar, *Lancet*, gave the details of two cases in which he had used a 10 per cent. solution of cocaine as an application to the rigid os. In one case he had applied the cocaine after endeavoring vainly to relax the cervix by means of chloral, bromide of potassium and morphia, and the most persistent attempts at digital and mechanical dilatation, with and without chloroform. He decided upon incising the os,

and used the cocaine to this end. After five minutes he introduced the finger as a guide to the scissors, and, to his surprise, found the os widely dilated. In the second case, a primipara, forty-eight years of age, he used every effort, as before, to produce relaxation, and waited three days before making the application of cocaine, which was immediately successful. In four minutes the os had yielded. He considered the dilatation to be due to the cocaine in both cases. Dr. Armand Routh said that Dibbs, of Shankin, had recommended cocaine as relieving the pains of the first stage of labor, and that Mr. Head Moore advised cocaine and boric acid pessaries in cases of rigid os. He himself had found it useful. The president, Dr. G. E. Herman, said that two cases were rather a slender foundation upon which to base a conclusion, but if Dr. Farrar's results were confirmed by further experience, he would have made a valuable addition to our obstetric resources.

MERCURIC CHLORIDE IN THE TREATMENT OF RHUS POISONING.—I would call attention to the value of corrosive sublimate in the treatment of dermatitis venenata. Dr. Witmer, in *Phila. Polyclinic*. Permit me to cite a case. D. L., aged 28 years, is very susceptible, direct contact with the plant not being necessary to induce a violent eruption. He has yearly attacks of a severe type, frequently lasting for six weeks. He applied for treatment in the early part of May, with the typical eruption on the face and fingers. The patient was given onethirty-second of a grain of mercuric chloride every three hours. Within four days the eruption had entirely disappeared. The topical applications consisted of lead-water and laudanum during the acute stage; of hot water, frequently applied, during the stage of exudation, and of a two per cent. carbolated petrolatum ointment during the stage of desquamation. This case is of interest owing to the rapid convalescence of the patient during a time when the toxic plant (rhus) is particularly virulent.

THE TREATMENT OF LOCOMOTOR ATAXY.—The use of suspension as a method of treatment in locomotor ataxy is scarcely ever heard of now; many observers claimed for it that it relieved the tightening pains, which form one of the most trying symptoms to the patient, but we believe that,