

in large doses, and on two occasions in a few days caused a marvellous improvement, the second time the œdema completely vanishing. Here, as in Erb's case, the patient, after the second treatment with calomel, had, as proved by his urine and the post mortem (he died suddenly two months after), a contracted kidney, chronic parenchymatous and interstitial nephritis.—*Berl. Klin. Woch.*

TREATMENT OF THE DIARRHŒA OF CONSUMPTIVES.—Polyak reports the results obtained by him in the treatment of diarrhœa of consumptives with silicate of magnesia (in the form of talc) proposed by Debove, and lactic acid proposed by Sézary e Aimes. About 250 grammes of talc were administered in 500 grammes of milk. As a general rule diarrhœa ceased after some days, but reappeared as soon as the remedy was discontinued. Patients preferred milk mixed with talc to ordinary milk, but it was found impossible, nevertheless, to prolong its use beyond six or seven days, as patients complained of a sense of oppression in the epigastrium. The author does not believe that a cure of the intestinal ulcers can be produced by prolonged use of talc. The results were more favorable with lactic acid. He began with 1 gr. 80 of lactic acid in 120 grammes of milk; the dosage was gradually increased until 4 gr. 50 were taken per diem. As early as the third day the diarrhœa and pain had disappeared, and one or two days later the motions had become natural. It was thought well to continue the drug in small doses for some time after the cessation of diarrhœa. The patients bore lactic acid well; no troublesome secondary symptoms were observed unless the drug was used too long. Dr. Polyak believes that, thanks to the lactic acid treatment, we can even look forward to the cure of intestinal ulcers.—*Courrier Méd.*, 1890. *L'Union Médicale*, Nov., 1890.—G.A.F.

PYOKTANIN IN THROAT AFFECTIONS.—Basing his experiments on the work of Stilling with regard to the employment of the aniline dyes as antiseptics, Bresgen tried pyoktanin (methylene blue) in eighteen cases in which he had cauterized the nasal mucous membrane, in order to lessen the inflammation and suppuration after the operation. Methylene blue tablets were

used to make a solution of 2 : 1000. Immediately after cauterizing, the mucous membrane was painted with absorbent cotton saturated with this solution. The result of this treatment was to diminish the inflammation and pain; but suppuration, although diminished, was not completely avoided. In several retro-nasal affections, pyoktanin, employed after cauterization, seemed to stop the purulent secretion quicker than the ordinary treatment. In a case of abundant secretion coming from the posterior wall of the larynx, painting, by means of absorbent cotton saturated with a solution of pyoktanin, is said to have diminished considerably the formation of dry crusts.—*Journal de Medicine de Paris.*—G.A.F.

GRAVE ANÆMIA CURED BY RECTAL INJECTIONS OF SALT WATER.—In a case of grave anæmia occurring after delivery, O. Heer tried ergot stimulants, brandy, coffee, etc., without success. Rectal injections of tepid salt water were then tried, five grammes of salt being used for a litre of water. Two litres were injected; a great part was absorbed. The pulse improved, and the general condition ameliorated. Some hours later a second collapse. Rectal injection was again resorted to, and final success obtained.—*Revue Méd de la Suisse, Romande*, 1890, No. 6.—*Lyon Medical.*—G.A.F.

FIBRIN AS A PERMANENT PACKING AFTER OPERATIONS FOR STRUMOUS AFFECTIONS.—Professor Kraske (Freiburg), rather than aim at union by first intention in such cases, would pack the wound, and has found fibrin impregnated with iodoform to be most suitable, destroying any remnant of tuberculous matter, and permitting good results as regards functional usefulness after operation. The wound must be carefully dried and the packing pressed into every corner of it. The dressing is changed after four or five days, and then again when healing has occurred. The method of preparing the fibrin is described. Professor Kraske has also employed muscular tissue for the purpose.—*Beitrage zur klinischen Chirurgie.*—*Edin. Medical Journal.*

Quinine is now worth the small sum of 25 to 30 cents an ounce.