

DENTAL MANIFESTATIONS OF GOUT.—Kirk (*Lancet*): The coexistence of certain form of suppurative gingivitis and gouty diathesis has long been known. Dr. Peirce, of Philadelphia, has shown that the calcareous deposits taken from the roots of teeth lost from pyorrhœa alveolaris contain, besides the usual calcium carbonate, considerable uric acid and urates of calcium and sodium. He concludes that the deposits upon the roots of such teeth are not salivary, but hemic in origin, and that pyorrhœa alveolaris is simply a local manifestation of gout. As further evidence of the correctness of these conclusions, the author has found that after thorough local treatment the gingivitis will disappear and have no tendency to return. He has found a marked acidity of the secretions of the mucous glands of the mouth in such cases, which brings about local decalcification of the enamel. He first used cream of tartar to correct this acidity. He afterward had a lithium tartrate prepared, which gave much more satisfactory results than any other alkali used. The promptness with which it acts is sometimes astonishing. After three doses of five grains each all symptoms sometimes subside.

MORPHINOMANIA IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.—Dr. Jules Rochard, in the *Union Medicale*, draws a gloomy picture of the increase of the morphine habit in France and elsewhere. The habit, he finds, becomes incurable at the end of six months of indulgence. The fair sex and the doctors are, in his opinion, the most deeply addicted to morphine. He

draws an unpleasant comparison between the behavior of each kind of delinquent. Women, he says, delight in declaring how they indulge in this vice, and show ornamental hypodermic syringes to their friends. Dr. Notet states that a lady, having broken the needle of her syringe in a remote country village, wounded her skin with scissors and thrust the stump of the needle into the wound, injecting herself in this manner till a new syringe arrived from Paris. Men, Dr. Rochard declares, and especially medical men, the bulk of male morphine injectors, take the greatest pains to hide their vice. Hence the precise number cannot be estimated. He believes, however, that doctors and persons associated with them form nearly half the total of men addicted to morphine.—*Med. Rec.*

SUGAR IN THE TREATMENT OF UTERINE INERTIA DURING LABOR.—It remained for Mr. Bossi, of Genes (*Rev. Illustr. Polytechnique Medicale*), to make practical application of a theory propounded by Drs. Paoletti and Mosso, that sugar taken internally might be found to exhibit as stimulating an effect upon the group of uterine muscles, as it has on voluntary muscles. Bossi administered a dose corresponding to an ounce of sugar in about eight ounces of water. A most excellent effect was observed after the first dose in all but one of the cases, the ecboic action showing itself in from twenty to forty minutes, and nearly always lasting till the birth of the child. In the other case, a second dose had to be given. The contractions were always quite regular and free from any tetanic tendency.