

On examination of the heart I discovered well-marked pericarditis, more or less pain and swelling in the joints, especially in the knee and ankle, pulse 112. temp. 102°. I prescribed salicylate of soda, and bicarbonate of potash, with a mercurial pill at bed-time. Again saw him on the 3rd, but as he was no better I at once suggested that bleeding might help him. Took a pint of blood from his arm; immediately the pyrexia abated somewhat, and the pain was greatly relieved. I also gave him two mercurial pills. On the 5th he was able to walk without crutches, and on the 7th the pulse and temperature were normal, the pain entirely abated and from that time he recovered rapidly, and is now apparently as well as ever, and says he thinks he could outrun me on a hundred yards race.

Correspondence.

RÖTHELN OR GERMAN MEASLES.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—In a recent issue I read with much pleasure, "Cases in Practice," by Dr. Alexander, but I am of opinion that his conception of Rötheln which he terms German measles, is not quite correct. Measles are measles no matter if contracted by a German or a Turk.

So far as I have been instructed, Rötheln is a hybrid, and I had a marked case of it about three years ago, under the following circumstances:—I attended a lady in her first confinement, and after having finished my duties, was desired to look at an adopted daughter of the family, whom I found suffering from scarlet fever. I at once enjoined isolation. A neighboring lady whose entire family was down with measles, desiring to be of service to the young mother, visited her with her infant child in her arms, upon whom the eruption was still out. In the course of a week I was again summoned and found the infant highly fevered, (I did not enter the temperatures in particular) with an eruption of a duplicate character; as regards diffusion it was general like scarlet fever, but of a coppery hue with here and there a few crescentic spots slightly elevated, but not the well marked characteristic eruption of measles. There was coryza together with strawberry tongue, and

slight inflammation of the fauces. The infant being but a week old the treatment was of necessity of the mildest character—sponging and keeping up the action of the skin with liquor ammoniæ acetatis, and recovery was complete with desquamation. This, according to my view, is the only case of Rötheln I have seen where I could actually and clearly trace the source to double infection.

Fenwick, Tanner, and many German authorities confirm this view, and I am sure it would be highly interesting if Dr. Alexander could inform us if there was any chance of the double infection, remembering always that we may have scarlet fever *without* eruption, only having the tongue and throat symptoms with desquamation subsequently as a confirmatory point in the diagnosis.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES SKIRVING.

Tavistock, Ont., Nov. 1st, 1882.

NASO-ORAL RESPIRATORS.

To the Editor of THE CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me a short space in reply to a communication which appeared in the last number of the CANADA LANCET, signed *Medicus*, who complains that he was charged four dollars by his Kingston druggist for one of the G. Hunter McKenzie Naso-oral Respirators. Whilst admitting that the instruments are well adapted for the purpose for which they were intended, he says they are so simple in construction that they might be sold for a much less sum, etc. You kindly explained in a foot note that the retail price of the instrument is \$3, or \$2.50 by the half dozen, but *Medicus* forgets, or does not know perhaps that we have to pay a duty of 25 % upon goods of this description coming into the country from Great Britain. This added to the original cost, together with the expense of advertising, sending circulars to each physician in the Dominion (introducing the instrument), forwarding the Respirators *free* by mail, etc., leaves but a small margin of profit to myself; and it is not for me to say how much the manufacturer makes, but he should be well paid for inventing so simple an instrument, which, with ordinary care, is not likely to get out of order even with years of use. The very sim-