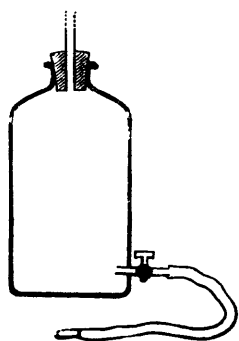


THE STOMACH-PUMP SUPERSEDED.

Dr. D. Yellowlees writes as follows to the LANCET:—The recent correspondence as to the use of covered funnels in feeding by the stomach tube, leads me to give greater publicity to a far better contrivance, which I devised many years ago, and constantly use here. An ordinary twenty ounce bottle, perforated near the bottom by a small tap for the admission of air, and a long stomach tube bearing a cork which fits the mouth of the bottle, constitute the whole apparatus. The food being mixed in the bottle, the tube is introduced, the cork placed in the mouth of the bottle, the bottle



inverted and raised, and the air-tap opened, when the food passes quickly into the stomach in a continuous stream. Great injecting force can be at once applied, if required, by *blowing* through the air-tap, to which a small rubber tube is attached for this purpose. For simplicity, cleanliness, efficiency, and perfect in-

spection, this plan leaves nothing to be desired, and solid nourishment can be thus given in many forms, as there is no tap to obstruct its passage, and as the food can be kept in agitation within the bottle during administration. No one who has used this contrivance will wish for any other. It is equally available for emptying the stomach, by lowering the bottle and establishing a syphon action by suction.

SULPHONAL.—It would appear that experience confirms the first statements regarding the therapeutic effects of this drug. Dr. Rosin, says the *Br. Med. Jour.*, concludes as follows:—"On the whole, sulphonal in doses of two grammes is as certain in its effects as morphine or chloral, and in cases of simple insomnia may be recommended in doses of double that strength, on account of its freedom from after-effects." The same authority says that Dr. Oestreicher, having observed the effects of sulphonal on fifty patients, some nervous and some phthisical, concludes—"that in moderate doses—that is, two grammes—this drug is a non-injurious hypnotic. Respiration, pulse, and kidney-secretion were unaffected; the effects of persistent

use are, of course, unknown at present. It is best given in capsules or tabloids, from its insolubility in water. Oestreicher finds it without smell or taste; Rosin states that it has a slight bitter taste. Sleep sets in more slowly than after chloral or morphine in corresponding doses, but lasts longer."

ANOTHER DANGER FROM ETHERIZATION.—Dr. Hare, of the University of Pennsylvania, has drawn attention (*Therap. Gaz.*) to the fact that the temperature of patients subjected to tolerably prolonged etherization for operation varies as much as three degrees. This was not due, he believed, so much to the shock of the operation as to the anæsthetic. It is quite common to find it necessary to apply artificial aids to patients who have been removed from the operating table to restore heat to the chilled surface, especially when ether has been used. Experiments made on dogs shows that the rectal temperature may be reduced from 8° to 10° F. by giving five drachms of ether every five minutes for an hour. It is suggested that surgeons would do well to combat this action of ether by heat giving appliances while the patient is undergoing the operation.

A SANITARY Convention and meeting of the Executive Association of Health Officers, under the presidency of Dr. P. Palmer Burrows, will be held by invitation of the Mayor and Council of Lindsay, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the 14th, 15th and 16th of August, 1888. As subjects of general interest to every city, town, village and hamlet will be discussed, and papers presented by eminent scientists, it is hoped that every place will be represented. Reduced fares have been arranged on Canada Pacific and Grand Trunk Roads (fare and a third). Those wishing a pleasant outing should visit Lindsay during the Convention.

ANTIPIRYN IN LABOR.—The effect of antipyrin enemata was found by Laget, (*Therap. Monat.*) to be the rendering of the contractions of the uterus in very severe labor, entirely painless. Steinthal succeeded by an enemata of two grammes in a cupful of water, in rendering painless the unbearable "pains" of a primipara who had been suffering twenty hours. The force of the uterine contractions seems to be in no degree lessened. Other observers have noted the same results.