

TREATMENT OF RINGWORM WITH CHLORIDE OF SODIUM.

This simple remedy is strongly recommended by Perkins, who claims to have used it in every case of ringworm that has come under his observation for the past sixteen years, and in no case did it fail to give relief. In one of these the disease had been of five years' standing and the cure only took three weeks. The chloride of sodium in fine powder is rubbed up with vaseline to make a moderately stiff ointment. The affected part if covered by hair is shaved and the ointment thoroughly rubbed in night and morning. In a few days the part becomes inflamed, after which a simple emolient is applied. Two daily applications of the ointment for three or four days is usually sufficient to destroy the parasite over the area to which it is applied. The simplicity of this method makes it particularly desirable, and it would be interesting to know if other observers reach similar results. There is a possibility that in our search for new and rare chemicals as antiseptics that we are overlooking some efficient and well-known older remedies.—*Medical Review.*

ON THE LOSS OF KNEE-JERK AND ON PERI- PHERAL NEURITIS IN DIABETES MELLITUS.

Karl Grube (*Lancet*, July 22, '99) found that, in 320 cases of diabetes mellitus, the knee-jerk was lost in 84, 25.3 per cent. The frequency of the absence of the knee-jerk was found to vary with age, increasing with advanced age. In those cases, regarded by the writer as slight diabetes, the loss was present in 49.1 per cent., while in the severe form only 23.9 per cent., which shows that the loss of knee-jerk cannot be regarded as a sign of bad prognosis. The writer concludes that three manifestations of nervous disturbances caused by the increase of sugar in the blood are met with: 1. Cramps or acute irritation of nerves, probably not accompanied by any material change in the nerves. 2. Neuritis. 3. A slow degenerative or nutritive change in the nerves which seems to have a preference for the crural, accompanied by loss of the knee-jerks, but also occurring in other nerves, as, for instance, in the optic; impotence, so frequently a symptom in male diabetic subjects, is also probably caused by nutritive changes in the corresponding nervous apparatus.—*Medical Review.*