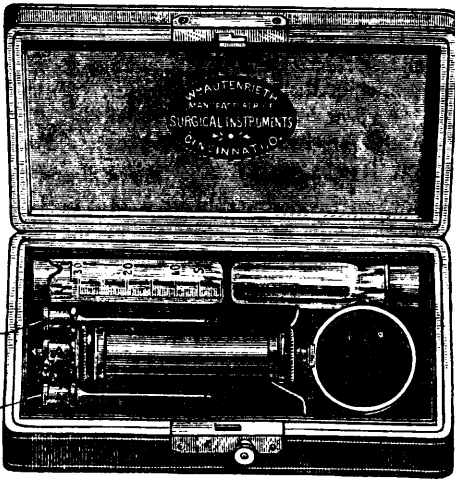


New Instruments.

IMPROVED HYPODERMIC SYRINGE.



In most hypodermic syringes the piston, unless in daily use, becomes dry and shrinks, so as to lose its suction power, and requires several minutes manipulation before it can be made to work. In order to avoid this defect, and render the instrument ready for use at any moment, Dr. Whittaker, of Cincinnati, had a cap (A) made, which can be screwed on the end of the syringe as soon as the needle is removed, and which prevents evaporation of the few drops of fluid between the piston and the orifice of the syringe. This appliance is made by Mr. Autenrieth, of Cincinnati, and is affixed to all his syringes. The piston should not be forced down too close to the end of the barrel, otherwise all the fluid may be entirely pressed out. Readiness for immediate use, ease and accuracy of operation, are essential in the hypodermic syringe, and these are secured in this instrument, which is always ready for use.

BROMINE IN LARYNGEAL CROUP.—Dr. W. Redbacker writes in the *Ärztliches Intelligens-Blatt*, of January 7th, (*British Med. Journal*) that he has obtained strikingly good effects in two cases of laryngeal croup from the internal administration of bromine (in the form of bromide of potassium). For some time bromine inhalations have been used in the following manner: From 0.2 to 0.3 *gramme* of bromine, with a similar or greater quantity of bromide of potassium, has been dissolved in 120 *gramme*s of water, and, a sponge or handkerchief dipped in it being tied before the nose and mouth,

the bromine-vapour has been inhaled for five or ten minutes at intervals varying from half an hour to an hour. From this method, however, Dr. Redenbacher has not been able to obtain any good result. Two little girls, aged respectively 5 and 7, having come under his care with severe croup of the larynx and air-tubes, he ordered a tablespoonful of the following mixture to be taken every hour: ℞ Decocti althææ 120 *grm.*; potassii bromidi 4 *grm.*; bromi 0.3 *grm.*; syrapi simplicis 30 *grm.* On again visiting the patients, whom he did not expect to find alive, he was most agreeably surprised. The harsh respiratory murmur, the difficult breathing, the dry characteristic cough, the loss of tone in the voice, had all disappeared; the breathing was free, the cough loose, and the hoarseness diminished. Several portions of croupal membrane had been coughed up. The improvement continued on the next day, and perfect recovery followed in a few days. No toxic symptoms of any kind were produced. For children under one year the quantity of bromine in the mixture should be reduced to 0.1 *gramme*; and for those from one to four years old, to 0.2 *gramme*.

IRON WHICH WILL NOT RUST.—Prof. Barff has discovered that if iron be subjected to the action of steam having a temperature of 1500° F., it is covered by an incorrodible coating of the magnetic oxide, giving the finished article a dull-black appearance, susceptible of a slight polish. Salt or fresh water, vegetable acids, and all other ordinary oxidizing agents have no effect on the iron prepared by Barff's process. It should be called "Barff's iron," after the inventor.—*Med. Record*.

Codeia in one grain doses so completely stopped the vomiting and pain in a case of cancer of the pylorus, under Dr. Austin Flint's care, that the patient thought the tumor was decreasing in size.—*Mich. Med. News*.

The University of St. Andrews has recently conferred the honorary degree of LL. D. on Dr. J. Crichton Browne.

CORONER.—R. C. Young, M.D., of Ridgetown, to be an Associate Coroner for the County of Kent.

Births, Marriages & Deaths.

On the 11th ult., Byron Field, Esq., M. D., to Emma, daughter of the late Jordon Post, Esq., all of Pickering.

On the 29th of January, 1879, at Tuscarora, Ontario, G. E. Bomberry, M.D., aged 30 years.

At Toledo, Ohio, on the 9th ult., Dr. Thomas Waddell, son of William Waddell, of Seneca, Ont., aged 35 years.