

been placed about an eighth of an inch apart and that the current was too strong to be borne upon the lips.

### Primary Cancer of the Liver.

Dr W. F. HAMILTON read the clinical notes and Dr. C. F. MARTIN the pathological report, which will be published next month.

### The Treatment of Inebriety as a Disease.

Dr. O. C. EDWARDS of Ottawa, read a paper on this subject in which he endeavoured to show that the hypodermic administration of gold was a specific. He gave the results of two years' experience, during which he had treated over fifty cases, and always with benefit at first. The treatment he considered, presented four principal indications as follows:

(1.) To subdue the overmastering appetite for liquor, whether constant or periodic. This was done by giving hypodermic injections of the chloride of gold and sodium three or four times a day, using Wyeth's tablets of  $\frac{1}{10}$  of a grain for the first two days and then diminishing the dose to  $\frac{1}{40}$  of a grain for the rest of the time the treatment was kept up. The injections were continued for a period of over three, but usually under four weeks, and in some cases it was thought advisable to substitute  $\frac{1}{40}$  of a grain of nitrate of strychnia for one of the daily hypodermics. The solution of gold used, could be made by dissolving three grains in an ounce of boiled water; ten minims constitute a dose, but the tablets had been found less irritating and more reliable.

(2.) To give a hearty appetite for nourishing food: This was accomplished in the usual manner with vegetable bitters, any preparations of which were suitable, provided they contained no alcohol. For this purpose Dr. Edwards had had prepared by Wyeth non-alcoholic tinctures of cinchona, calumba, gentian, etc., which he used in conjunction with some preparation of kola.

(3.) To procure healthy refreshing sleep: Bromide of soda and chloral hydrate were mainly relied upon; where these failed he had recourse to the hydrobromate of hyoscyne hypodermically; but hypnotics were never needed except for the first two or three nights. Sleep after that was calm and refreshing, and Dr. Edwards considered that the gold was mainly responsible for it.

(4.) Nervine tonics:—The following formula was recommended:

Quininæ sulp.....	gr. 1½
Strychninæ nitrat. ....	gr. ⅞
Olei resini Capsici ....	gr. 1
Zinci oxidi .....	gr. 2
Acidi arseniosi.....	gr. ⅓
Ferri reducti.....	gr. 1½