

included all of the small intestine. With the small dose the result appears to depend on the complete precipitation, as hydroxide, of the iron of the salt unabsorbed in the thoroughly mixed bile, chyme, and pancreatic juice. With one large dose the alkalinity of those fluids is first destroyed by the iron salt, the great excess of which is unaffected, and remaining in solution undergoes absorption. When the amount absorbed is small, the intestinal epithelial cells transfer the absorbed iron at once to the underlying elements, but with a large amount absorbed the epithelial cells are found to contain some of it. A part of the absorbed iron is carried into the general blood circulation by the sub-epithelial leucocytes of the villi, but it is probable that the blood plasma is the more important agent in the transference of the inorganic iron to other parts of the body. The administration of the albuminate or of the peptonate of iron to guinea-pigs seemed to stimulate the leucocytes to invade the epithelial layer of the intestinal villi. The mode of absorption of the organic compound of iron present in egg-yolk was obscure, but the process

seemed to be connected with the fat which is so closely associated with the iron compound formed in egg-yolk. The liver and the kidney, in man, are the most active organs in the excretion of any excess of iron thus absorbed by the lining cells of the small intestine to help form the hæmoglobin of the red blood-cell.—*Medical Record.*

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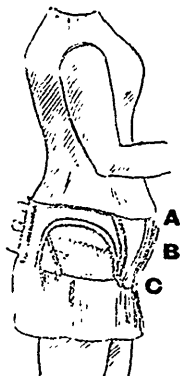
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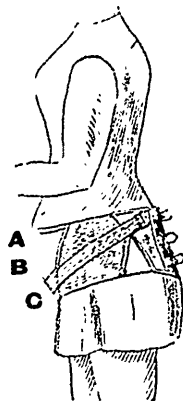
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