

The Inexorable Facts of Heredity.—"I have drunk whiskey every day for thirty-five years," remarked a gentleman of sixty, rather proudly, "and I don't see but I have as good a constitution as the average man of my age; I never was drunk in my life." He was telling the truth, but to learn the whole truth you would have to study his children. The oldest, a young lady, had perfect health; the second, a young man, was of a remarkably nervous and excitable temperament, as different from his phlegmatic father as possible; the third, a young lady of seventeen, was epileptic and always had very poor health. Did the father's whiskey-drinking have anything to do with these facts? The instance may be duplicated in almost every community. Think over the families of your acquaintance in which the father has long been a moderate drinker, and observe the facts as to the health of the children. The superintendent of a hospital for children at Berne, Switzerland, has found by careful observation, that only 45 per cent. of those whose parents used intoxicating liquors habitually had good constitutions, while 82 per cent. of the children of temperate parents had sound bodies. Of the children of inebriates, only 6 per cent. were healthy.—*The Quarterly Journal of Inebriety*.

Atropine.—The sulphate of atropine is dissolved in water, and used as eye-drops.

Weak solutions dilate the pupil; stronger solutions paralyze the accommodations as well.

Atropine sulphate (four grains to the ounce) is often used by the surgeon himself, but a solution of one or two grains to the ounce of water may be given to the patient.

Atropine is of great service in iritis, to relieve the ciliary neuralgia, and dilate the pupil, drawing the iris away from the lens that no attachment, or synechia, may take place.

It is of use in central corneal ulcer, and in corneal diseases in general.

It is much used in refraction to paralyze the accommodation.

In many cases of immature nuclear cataract a very weak solution of atropine is given to the patient as eye-drops (one grain or half-grain to four ounces of water). This dilates the pupil, and

the person is enabled to see around the opaque centre of the lens.

Atropine, as a rule, should never be used in persons over forty-five years of age, except in the latter named case, as it is said to provoke glaucoma.—*Med. Brief*.

Tr. Lobelia for Felon.—Tr. Lobelia is one of the remedies which have come down to us from the eclectics in the treatment of felon. Absorbent cotton, saturated with the tincture, and applied three or four times a day over the affected part before suppuration has commenced, will relieve the intense throbbing pain and active congestion, and frequently abort the felon better than any other remedy.—*Medical Times*.

Dr. Behren makes use of the following in fissured breasts :

Rx.—Ichthyol..... ʒ i.
 Lanolin }
 Glycerini } aa..... ʒ i¼.
 Olive oil or oil of sweet almonds..... ℥ xv.

—*Lancet Clinic*.

Antidote for Carbolic Acid.—An Italian tailor swallowed by mistake thirty grammes of carbolic acid. Dr. Moreit, of Ancona, using a rubber catheter, immediately introduced by slow degrees into the patient's stomach a strong solution of sulphate of soda, which forms with carbolic acid a harmless mixture. In an hour's time the patient, who had been in a most critical condition, began to revive. Inhalations of ammonia were then used to hasten up the process, and little by little the poisoned man rallied so that an emetic, followed by a dose of lime water, finished the cure.—*Medical Times*.

Iodide of Potassium in Pott's Paraplegia.—Dr. S. E. Milliken, of New York, recommends iodide of potassium in the paralysis following Pott's disease of the spine.

Dr. Milliken states that the paralysis is not due as generally supposed to the angular deformity, but, on the contrary, is caused by the pachymeningitis and infiltration of the surrounding structures which produce compression of the spinal cord.