

that—calomel, given at the commencement of the disease, will go far toward keeping the digestion in good condition. The demand for a free administration of nourishing food in these cases is imperative, and next to milk, a liberal supply of beef juice will best fill this want. Whether papoid be a solvent of membrane or not, I believe it to have two good effects when applied to the throat in a case of diphtheria: 1. It relieves pain, seeming to act more or less as a local anæsthetic. 2. It prevents or destroys the offensive odor so common in these cases."

ETIOLOGY OF CHOREA.

Rheumatism has much to do with it. In 100 cases of chorea in children, analyzed with reference to the etiology, by Dr. Sturges (*Lancet*), rheumatism has occurred in 60 cases, either in the individual or the parent. Chorea has two distinct phases. It is first a disorder of the mind, and afterwards a disorder of the body. In its earlier stage it needs moral correction. Chorea is the most preventable of all diseases, and the most directly due to ignorance and neglect. The early symptoms of altered temper, disturbed sleep, inattention, impatience, are obvious enough. This early stage is often aggravated by undeserved punishment. The system of school work, which pushes children forward at a uniform rate, is a fruitful source of chorea.—*Archives of Pediatrics*.

THE BROMIDES IN EPILEPSY.

Dr. Moritz Gauster, whose extensive experience in the treatment of this disease enables him to speak authoritatively, concludes as follows: (1) The bromide treatment in epilepsy is the most successful, particularly in idiopathic cases. (2) As a rule, the bromides must be administered for years, the dose in each individual case being regulated by observation. (3) By careful observation of the condition of patients, as much as 20 grammes can be given daily without manifest injury. (4) The bromides must be suspended or supplanted by other agents. (a) When digestive disturbances supervene; when slight they are of no consequence, and generally disappear, notwithstanding their continued use; (b) when catarrh of the pulmonary apices can be detected; (c) when ulceration of the skin or any cutaneous complication exists. (5) Involvement of the intelligence does not indicate a discontinuance of the bromides. (6) Pulmonary tuberculosis, severe cutaneous lesions and grave nutritive disturbances alone forbid the bromide therapy. When combating the attacks of epilepsy this is not of such vital importance as preventing the supervention of severe psychoses. (7) Emaciation is no contra-indication, as the weight may increase when sufficient nutritive elements are ingested. (8)

During the treatment attention must be directed to the nutrition, and at intervals to the lungs and skin.—*Wiener medicin Presse*.

TURPENTINE IN POST-PARTUM HEMORRHAGE.

"For some years," writes a correspondent, "I have used spirits of turpentine in post-partum hemorrhage, and, in every case, with the best results. When the ordinary means, *i. e.*, friction over the uterus, irritation of the uterus by introduction of the fingers, cold, hypodermic injection of ergotine, etc., failed, by saturating a piece of lint with the turpentine, and introducing it with my hand into the uterus and holding it against the walls, rapid contraction took place, and all hemorrhage instantly ceased. In one or two cases, when the patient was almost pulseless, it seemed to act as a stimulant. On no occasion did its action fail, nor did it cause the slightest inconvenience, except in one, when the side of the patient's thigh was slightly blistered by some that came in contact with it, but it gave very little annoyance. I consider it to be much quicker and safer in its action than any other remedy; it does not cause any injurious result, and besides, it is much more easily applied. In country practice, getting hot water, or using injections often entails loss of valuable time.—*Lancet*.

A SIMPLE INHALER.

Dr. Ernest E. Maddox gives the following useful suggestion for making a simple inhaler, in the *Practitioner*, May, 1889. In it such remedies as compound tincture of benzoin, menthol, and oil of eucalyptus may be used:

"Coil a piece of paper into the shape of a cigarette, and fix it with gum. Then insert into one end a small uncompressed piece of absorbent cotton-wool, upon which a drop or two of the desired medicament has been poured. Air is now drawn through the tube by the patient, who holds the other end between his lips. This plan is by many patients, especially by men, preferred to the use of any form of respirator, or to inhalations mingled with steam. These last, moreover, have a relaxing effect in some atonic conditions of the throat."

Of a number of remedies, including menthol, inhaled in this way by a patient suffering from pulmonary phthisis, he found that oil of peppermint gave most satisfaction. A small tube of vulcanite flattened like a cigarette-holder at one end, with a raised flange or border to be held within the lips, would doubtless, he says, answer still better; but an inhaler, which when needed can be made on the spot, has advantages of its own.