

at the same time prevent infection, iodoform or creolin powder is dusted freely over the wound, more being added as fast any discharge comes through. A crust is thus formed, which, when picked off at the end of a week, exposes a healed or healing wound. When the opening is in a dependent position, a quantity of powder is dusted on a wad of cotton and thus applied to the wound.

Eighty per cent. of these cases healed without suppuration, eleven suppurated, and five required secondary amputation.—*Annals of Surgery*.

**Treatment of Burns.**—The most exquisitely painful burns are assuaged in a few moments by an application of cocainized campho-phenique, after the following formula: R. Cocaine Hydrochlorate, grs. v.; Campho-Phenique, Olive Oil, aa ʒss. M. Rub up the cocaine and campho-phenique and add the olive oil. A man whose hand had been torn and badly burned by an electrical discharge, the pain of which was so severe that he fainted twice before the dressing could be applied, expressed himself as absolutely without pain in less than one minute after the application.—*Med. Review*.

**Infantile Constipation.**—When the stools are hard and clay-coloured, the following has been recommended by Ringer:

R.—Resinæ podophylli..... gr. i.  
Alcoholis..... ʒ i.

M.—Sig. One or two drops on sugar t.i.d. to infant one or two months old.—*Medical World*.

**Trephining for Cerebral Softening.**—Lanphear (*Univ. Med. Mag.*, July, 1893) advocates trephining in cases of softening after cerebral hæmorrhage, in which evidence is presented of profound irritation or disturbance in those convolutions which preside over the intellect, long after the subsidence of immediate pressure symptoms. In such cases, it is thought, surgical treatment may be fairly applied; not with the object of improving paralysis or any other manifestation of destruction of the cortex or communicating fibres, but of clearing out a quantity of irritating material, and substituting some other, as blood-serum or cerebro-spinal fluid, which will, within a brief period, fill

the cavity and not give rise to symptoms of irritation. A case is reported in which trephining was practised on a man aged 56, who, after an attack of cerebral hæmorrhage six years previously, remained totally aphasic and paralyzed in the right arm. The memory was good, and the intellect not persistently affected; but the patient at times was very irritable, and had frequently threatened the life of his wife. He often suffered intensely from headache. The skull was trephined over the region of the lower part of the left Rolandic fissure, and exit given to a large quantity of broken-down brain matter and other *débris* of a creamy consistence. The operation was followed by a speedy recovery, and since June 27th, 1892, the date on which it was performed, the patient had had no recurrence of the headache or mental irritability, though, of course, there was no improvement with regard to the aphasia and the paralysis of the right arm.—*British Medical Journal*.

**Chancres of the Hands and Fingers.**—Prof. Fournier (*Hospitals-Tidende*, No. 10, 1893) finds chancres of the hands and fingers to be chiefly observed in physicians, medical students, and midwives, in following their profession. It rarely resembles the usual chancre. At the ends of the fingers they do not present induration, around the nail they are horse-shoe shaped at the lower border, or bean-shaped at the side of the nail. It may resemble a simple felon. Chancres of the fingers are usually followed by severe symptoms, for in fourteen out of forty-nine cases there were grave tertiary symptoms, and six with cerebral syphilis. In grave cases he has the arm carried in a sling, lukewarm local baths twice a day for twenty minutes at a time, and dresses it with iodoform salve and cotton. In chancre of the nail, it is better to remove the nail-sooner or later. As soon as the diagnosis is made, begin anti-syphilitic treatment, and as energetically as the patient can bear it.—*Lancet-Clinic*.

**The Toxin of Tetanus.**—Courmont and Doyen (*Province Médicale*, March 18), as the result of a study of the pathogeny of tetanus, arrive at the conclusion that the bacillus of Nicolaïer gives rise to the symptoms of tetanus through the intermediation of a soluble ferment which it generates.