

and severe cases. Ransome has found a spray of nitrate of silver very soothing after the first irritation has passed off, a film being formed which protects the loss of tissue from further injury. Anti pyrin is said to last longer than cocaine, but, in the writer's experience it acts best mixed with cocaine, when he has observed fairly complete anæsthesia to result, lasting in some cases up to 5 hours. It is well known that food in a semi-solid condition is swallowed with greater facility when there is dysphagia than either liquids or solids.

In more distressing conditions of suffering, consuming the food in the position recommended by Wolfenden may be of value; it also tends to prevent coughing on the ingestion of nourishment. A 5 to 10 per cent. solution of cocaine may here again be useful; but sometimes the application itself causes distress, then a sticky mixture of hydrochlorate of morphine, mucilage of tragacanth, glycerine and water, taken in sips before meals, has proved extremely soothing. Iodoform and morphine are very old remedies, and, in certain cases, of value.

As to the recently introduced local anæsthetics. Holocain does not contract the blood vessels or produce cerebral excitement, the taste is less unpleasant than that of cocaine, and given in moderate doses it has not produced any toxic symptoms; its anæsthetic qualities are well marked. Orthoform appears to be the most valuable remedy for the dysphagia of laryngeal tuberculosis. It is strongly anæsthetic, is non-toxic, its effects are lasting, and it is appreciably antiseptic.

Arytenoidectomy and epiglottidectomy have been proposed for the relief of dysphagia when the pain and difficulty in swallowing are such as to bring the patient to the brink of starvation; the writer would prefer to use the œsophageal tube or feed by the rectum.

Hot Water Treatment of Gonorrhœa.—Dr. C. S. Murrell (*Med. Jour.*) advises prolonged hot water irrigations in both acute and chronic gonorrhœa. A soft catheter is passed to within an inch of the prostatic urethra. It is then connected with a "gravity apparatus" containing warm water, and in which the water is gradually heated. The stream flows through the catheter, and then back between the catheter and mucous membrane. Several quarts of hot water are used at a time; some patients having a "tolerance point" as high as 180° to 190° F. The advantages claimed for this method of treatment are;—The course of the disease is shortened by at least two-thirds, making the average of the stoppage of the discharge nearer one week than three. The discharge immediately becomes non-purulent and reduced to a very small quantity. There is absence of chordee and pain on micturating. Stricture as a sequel is improbable. The usual inconveniences of the disease are done away with.

Gastric Troubles in Early Phthisis.—Croner (*Deutsch. Med. Woch.*, December 1, 1898, p. 757).—Dyspeptic symptoms may occur not only in advanced stages of tuberculosis of the lungs, but also among the early manifestations of the disease; indeed, occasionally gastric trouble is the first thing complained of. Observers have arrived at very different