

ment are those of purely neurotic origin without local changes. Cocain answers very well in such cases, and also the application of dry cold.

Diabetes requires treatment directed to the general condition, after which the pruritus disappears of itself without local treatment. Diabetes, however, is rarely a cause of pruritus limited to the vulva alone, but enquiry should always be made with reference to it.—*Centralblatt für Therapie.*

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PATHOLOGY AND TREATMENT OF PERNICIOUS ANÆMIA.

BY DR. PAUL SANDAY.

The writer reported the case of a woman, aged 31 years, who presented the most marked symptoms of pernicious anæmia: intense paleness, intense weakness, irregular temperature, retinal hemorrhages, and disorders of the digestive and circulatory organs.

Bland's pills, pepsin and hydrochloric acid had no effect, and the condition of the patient became worse and worse. The appetite was entirely gone, and the exhaustion had reached an extreme degree, so that the patient could not sit up in bed; she was apathetic and indifferent; scarcely answered a question, and refused all nourishment. The odor from the mouth was most disagreeable, and the œdema at the malleoli had increased. Pulse 120 in the minute. Her condition led one to expect a fatal termination in the near future. Under these circumstances the writer determined to wash out the stomach. At first curdled milk only was removed, but the washing process was continued until the water returned quite clear. Immediately the patient felt easier, and during the day she was able to take a little milk and beef tea. After the first washing out the fever disappeared completely, and never returned. After several washings, the condition was very much improved, and the patient finally left the hospital in the best of health.

These observations led the writer to the following conclusions:—

1st. The disorders of the organs of digestion which are observed in the course of a case of

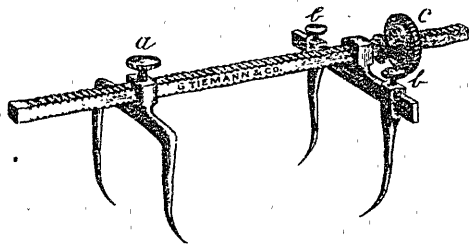
pernicious anæmia, and which have heretofore been regarded as symptoms, appear to be, at least in a certain number of cases, rather the cause of the disease.

2nd. These digestive derangements lead to decomposition and fermentation in the stomach and bowels, the chemical products of which becoming absorbed into the circulation, produce the symptoms of pernicious anæmia.

3rd. The washing out of the stomach, and to a certain extent of the bowels also, is the best treatment for this class of cases.

4th. For cases of pernicious anæmia in which these indications are marked, a more appropriate name would be "anæmia dyspeptica."—*Centralblatt für Therapie.*

A NEW FORM OF HOOKS FOR THE TREATMENT OF SIMPLE FRACTURE OF THE PATELLA—(MODIFIED FROM MALGAIGNE). BY WILLIAM K. OTIS, M.D.—This instrument consists of two light cross-bars, which carry the hooks, and slide easily upon the main or connecting bar, at right angles to it, by means of square slots raised somewhat from the top of each cross-bar. The main bar is a narrow, square rod, smooth



on the sides, but having a screw-thread cut on the corners. One of the cross-bars may be clamped firmly at any point on the main bar by means of a small set-screw (a). The other cross-bar is without a set-screw. Behind it is placed a thumb-screw (c), running on the screw-thread cut in the corners of the main bar, which serves to push the cross-bar powerfully forward along the main bar. In regard to the hooks themselves—to which a very different curve from those originally used has been given—one pair is solidly fixed to its cross-bar, the other pair being arranged to slide upon the cross-bar and clamp by means of small set-screws (b, b), so that the hooks may be brought