

BENZONAPHTHOL.—Huchard (*Rev. de Pharm., Am. Jour. of Pharm.*) prefers benzonaphthol as an intestinal antiseptic to salol or betol, because it is scarcely toxic and because he thereby avoids the possible dangerous effects of salicylic acid. Three hundred grains of benzonaphthol and seventy-five grains of powdered charcoal are mixed and divided into thirty capsules, of which from six to eight are given in a day.—*N. Y. Med. Jour.*

USE OF ICHTHYOL IN DISEASES OF THE SKIN.—Dr. Chatelain continues his clinical observations on the use of ichthyol in diseases of the skin (*Journal des Maladies Cutanées et Syphilitiques*, April, May, 1893). Apparently every dermatologist who has used the drug, no matter what the nature of the disease, has found it useful. It has been used hypodermically in zona and straightway considered a powerful analgesic (Unna, Dr. A. Damiens). Dr. T. Cranstown Charles finds Ichthyol, used internally and externally, to have been of value in cutting short an attack of zona. In eczema it has been extolled by Brocq, etc., who uses it in combination with sulphur, either in the form of a lotion or an ointment.

The illustrious Kaposi uses it for favus, and Dr. Chaletain states he has cured favus by stencilling the eruptions with pure ichthyol alone.

In short the whole gamut of dermatology has apparently derived great benefit from the introduction of this evil-smelling body. Oleum gaultheriæ (oil of winter-green) or essentia coumarini, or oleum sassafras, may be used to cover the odour. *Provincial Medical Journal.*

MASSAGE OF THE PROSTATE GLAND.—Thure Brandt, the famous Scandinavian masseur, and the originator of pelvic massage as a means of relieving certain disorders of women, has made an application

of the same principles of treatment to certain forms of genito-urinary diseases in men, particularly enlargement of the prostate gland. It is evident that by means of the application of massage to the gland the absorption of pathological products may be stimulated, and by an improvement of the nutritive condition of the tissues it is possible that the hypertrophy may be relieved. The application is simple: the patient having emptied the bladder, the index finger lubricated with vaselin is introduced into the rectum of the patient, and with the top of the finger gentle pressures and frictions should be made upon the gland. Brandt directs that the pressure should be made from within upward—that is toward the pubic arch. Volianski directs that the movement should be in the direction of the bladder, or with the lymphatic current. The application should continue for from one to three minutes. A number of cases have been published illustrating the benefits to be derived from this application.—*Modern Medicine.*

RESEARCHES ON CHOLERA.—Metschnikoff (*Ann. de l'Inst. Pasteur*, July, 1893), concludes that the comma bacillus is without doubt the specific microbe of Asiatic cholera. He finds Deneke's and Finkler-Prior's spirilla to be but slightly pathogenic in man, although he suggests that some cases of poisoning by cheese may be due to the growth of Deneke's spirillum. *Vibrio Metschnikovi* or *Gamaleia* he found to be also devoid of effect on man. A considerable number of experiments with *B. virgula* obtained from different sources showed that large quantities might be consumed by man without producing the disease, a certain predisposition being necessary for its development. A tendency to indigestion does not, he states, predispose to cholera. In one person a mild attack of cholera followed the consumption of a third of a culture of *B. virgula*, and