

substances, such as phosphorous, or to that met with in some infectious diseases. In support of this view, he points out that Schule has found parenchymatous degeneration in the persons dead from acute delirium, and that Zenker found hæmorrhages in the pancreas in persons who had died suddenly; he refers also to some well known facts concerning negroes in a state of slavery, and to the occasional occurrence of jaundice after fright.—*Lancet*.

**THE TREATMENT OF SPRAINS.**—Dr. N. W. Cady, of Logansport, Ind., writes: "A recent number of the *Medical Record* promises fame to the man who gives an unfailing remedy for sprains. Here it is, in two words: A half hour's douching with water at a temperature of 120°F., and the fixation of the joint by a splint on the flexor side of the joint, or upon the extensor side, if that be more convenient. For example, in case of ankle sprain, after a half-hour's steady douching with hot water at 120°F., I prepare an anterior splint of ten to sixteen layers of mosquito-bar, which is thoroughly filled by immersion in wet plaster of Paris. This is trimmed by spreading it on a board and cutting to shape with a knife. The length may be from thirteen to sixteen inches, breadth four to six inches. Where the splint passes over the instep the edges on each side are folded over to make the splint narrower and thicker. A layer of cotton is then spread over the face of the splint, and the splint is applied from the base of the toes to a point about half-way up the leg and carefully secured and moulded by a narrow roller bandage. While the plaster hardens hold the foot in whatever position is easiest to the patient. There is rarely any further complaint of pain if the splint fits neatly. This, with perfect rest, constitutes the whole treatment, which should continue at least a week, or until all extravasation is absorbed. Fourteen years' experience and observation of results obtained by other methods satisfies me that it is the best and most rational treatment.—*New York Medical Record*.

**THE TREATMENT OF FIBROID TUMORS OF THE WOMB BY THE INJECTION OF ERGOT INTO THEIR SUBSTANCE.**—J. Schenck (*Journal of the American Medical Association*, June 27, 1891) has been unable to find record of ergot having been injected directly into the morbid growth itself in the treatment of fibroid tumors of the womb. He has administered it several times in this manner with satisfactory effects. The first case was 52 years old. She had a tumor of about the size of a goose-egg. Half a drachm of fluid extract of ergot was injected, by means of a hypodermic syringe, into the substance of the tumor, once a week for two months. At the end of this time the tumor suppurated and was expelled. The patient recovered. The se-

cond case was a well-defined intra-mural tumor, the size of an orange. Half-drachm doses of ergot were injected daily for eighteen days. At the end of that time the metrorrhagia had ceased. No mention is made as to the reduction in size of the tumor. The third case had a hard tumor, the size of a child's head, in the lateral wall of the womb. Half a drachm of ergot was injected once a week for five months; this controlled the hæmorrhage during that time. At the end of this time the tumor was found to have pushed itself into the uterus, and become pedunculated. It was removed by an écraseur. The substance of the tumor was soft and friable, and would probably soon have broken down in suppuration. Schenck has not observed any serious effects resulting from these injections (?); in a few instances a slight chill, accompanied by moderate fever, followed by the use of the syringe; but these symptoms subsided in the course of a few hours. He has several other cases under observation.—*Union Medical Magazine*.

**A NOBLE PROJECT.**—Rich people, people in moderate circumstances, or people who have at times some difficulty in making "both ends meet," could not make a better use of their money, if they are moved to spend any of it, however small the amount, for benevolent purposes, than to contribute toward the endowment fund of \$60,000 for the Habitues' Home, which Dr. Mattison is about to establish in this city. The project is a noble one, indeed. Some of our most distinguished citizens—distinguished for their public spirit and high standing in the community—are interested in the great work which Dr. Mattison proposes to undertake. A splendid building, to cost \$100,000, is to be erected for the treatment of victims of the the opium, chloral, and cocaine habits. The friends of those who are able to pay for their treatment will do so, and the endowment fund of \$60,000 is to provide for the treatment of patients who cannot afford to pay. Between the private patients, however, and those who will be paid for out of the endowment fund, no distinction will be made. The fact that they are public patients will be known only to the Director of the Home and the friends of the patients.

In the hurry, rush, and nervous strain that is the outcome of the complex civilization of to-day, many nervous systems are shattered to an extent that makes treatment by the use of the drugs named a necessity.—*Brooklyn Standard-Union*.

**A FATAL RESULT OF BAPTISM BY IMMERSION.**—A distressing occurrence is reported in a German medical journal. A young woman who was a candidate for immersion amongst the Baptists, after undressing to her chemise and stockings in the vestry, put on a cotton wrapper and came into