

gargle is much more efficient than chlorate of potash, borax, etc., and if used early may prevent suppuration. Ulcers of the mouth, nose, pharynx and larynx, of tubercular or non-tubercular character are healed rapidly by applications of 2 to 6 per cent. solutions, and small wounds, ulcers and eruptions of the skin are also benefited by this treatment.—*Med. Review.*

HYDRONAPHTHOL AS AN ANTISEPTIC.

Dr. Roswell Park, of Buffalo, has prepared culture media with various antiseptics in different proportions, including corbolic acid, iodoform, iodine, naphthaline, hydronaphthol, resorcin, trichlorphenol, creolin, sulphocarbonate of sodium, boric acid, perchloride of iron antipyrin, antifebrin and quinine. Almost the only one of these antiseptic jellies as thus prepared which has prevented all growths was hydronaphthol, 1:100. This shows that hydronaphthol can be relied upon as an antiseptic. Many of the bacteria grow freely on iodoform jelly, 1:100. Oxide of zinc is a better solid antiseptic than iodoform. The author thought that our present knowledge permitted us to associate certain bacterial forms with definite pathological lesions.—*Med. Review.*

THE CUMULATIVE PROPERTY OF BROMIDE OF POTASSIUM.

M. M. Doyon has published, in the *Lyon Medical*, a note relative to the cumulative property of bromide of potassium. His inquiries in this regard were made upon a young epileptic child—age not stated—to whom the drug had been extensively administered for a year. The child succumbed during an attack of scarlet fever. Nothing special was found at the autopsy, but the brain and liver were submitted to chemical analysis. The result showed that the former contained two grammes of the drug, and the latter 0.72 centigrammes. Thus, as might be expected, the central nervous system was more largely charged with the drug than any other part.—*Medical Press.*

TOBACCO SMOKING.

Tobacco smoking, Dr. A. G. Auld of Glasgow thinks, is responsible for a variety of functional derangements which there is no reason to aver cannot terminate in organic disease. He is convinced that the slightest trace of albumen in the urine is pathological, and that it is frequently induced by preventable causes, and one of these is chronic poisoning by nicotine. He thinks he has certainly traced the disorder in a few cases entirely, and in others partially, to the habit in question. Another derangement consists in localized fibrillary twitchings, something similar to what is observed in progressive

muscular atrophy, and perfectly distinct from tremor. The twitchings are often excessive, and occur most frequently about the trunk and upper arms.—*Lancet, April 20th, 1889.*

THE NORMAL MAN.

Professor Huxley asserts that the proper weight of man is 154 pounds, made up as follows: Muscles and their appurtenances, 68 pounds; skeleton, 24 pounds; skin, 10½ pounds; fat, 28 pounds; brain, 3 pounds; thoracic viscera, 3½ pounds; abdominal viscera, 11 pounds; blood which would drain from the body, 7 pounds. The heart of such a man should beat 75 times a minute, and he should breathe 15 times a minute. In 24 hours he should vitiate 1750 cubic feet of pure air to the extent of 1 per cent. A man, therefore, of the weight mentioned should have 800 cubic feet of well ventilated space. He would throw off, by the skin, 18 ounces of water, 300 grains of solid matter, and 300 grains of carbonic acid, every 24 hours; and his total loss, during that period, would be 6 pounds of water and a little more than 2 pounds of other matter.—*Sanitarian.*

DIPHTHERIA TREATED BY CHLORAL HYDRATE.

Dr. Mercier reports very good results in the *Rev. de Therap.* Before giving chloral, if the tongue be much furred, he administers an emetic—preferably ipecacuanha in powder. He then gives from one and a half to five grains of chloral, in the form of a syrup, every half hour, taking care to give food and drink beforehand, so as to leave the syrup in contact with the throat. The administration of liquids before the chloral prevents the latter giving rise to gastric pain. The drug generally stopped the further progress of the disease, and within forty-eight hours the false membranes disappeared, and the raw surface left was gargled with an astringent lotion. The treatment is of use only in the early stages of the disease, and is without benefit when the larynx is involved. This is the treatment advocated by the late Dr. Galentin, of Cleveland.—*Cleveland Med. Gaz.*

NITRATE OF SILVER IN PURPURA.

The ordinary hæmorrhagic remedies often fail to bring about a change in the obscure conditions which underlie the occurrence of purpura. The treatment under any circumstances is purely empirical and symptomatic, and one is therefore disposed to welcome any suggestion based on clinical experience which offers the means of intervening with a prospect of success. Dr. Poulet, of Planchet-les-Mines, has for many years made use of nitrate of silver in severe