

THE TREATMENT OF FALLING OF THE HAIR BY SIMPLE IRRITATION.

JAQUET (*La Presse Médicale*, Dec. 10, 1898 ; *The Therapeutic Gazette*), acknowledging that irritation must form the basis of all successful treatment directed toward making the hair grow, holds that this irritation should be intermittent rather than constant, and should not be carried to the stage of exudation—that is, it should stop at the point of producing simple hyperemia.

Personally afflicted with falling of the beard, he began treatment by making repeated firm pressure with the bristles of a stiff brush upon the bald area. In a few seconds the skin became red and warm, and this effect lasted from thirty to fifty minutes. Treatment was repeated night and morning until the part became distinctly tender. In four months the bald spot was entirely covered with hair.

Other patients on whom this treatment has been tried have experienced the same benefit, the treatment in their cases being repeated sometimes four to six times a day. The irritation should never be carried to the exudation stage. Together with this form of irritation the author suggests a vigorous friction with a dry brush over the whole area, and holds that by this treatment not only can baldness be prevented from appearing, but can be cured after it has developed.

The brush should be kept perfectly clean, since it produces many breaks in the epidermis, sometimes even causing slight bleeding.

THE TREATMENT OF INDIGESTION OF INFANTS.

Indigestion of infants is too frequently ignored by parents, especially young mothers, until at last is engrafted gastro-intestinal catarrh, when at once they become alarmed, and justly too, and seek advice, either from the tradition-burdened grandmother or the physician. It is the physician's luck to be called after all domestic means have failed. He is supposed to effect a cure forthwith, even though he first has to remove the trouble caused by the lotions, potions, etc., which have been administered by the mother. If the mother had as vigorously watched the cause of the disturbance (faulty feeding) as she applies home remedies, the chances are that the child would have had no trouble. Infant feeding, then, should receive careful study by the mother, and attention be paid to the details by hygienic care. These measures would do much toward preventing indigestion and gastro-intestinal catarrh.