

aste, freely soluble in water, and, in the dose of one grain, three times a day, is an efficient medicament, in the same pathologic conditions wherein nitro-glycerine and nitrite of amyl find indications.

Cerebral phenomena and others referable to the nervous system, when induced by this agent, are of a mild and transitory character, and the benefits derived from it are lasting and manifested a few hours after the initial dose, if it meets with a favorable response from the organism.

THE TREATMENT OF SICK-HEADACHE.

Dr. W. Gill Wylie (*N. Y. Med. Jour.*), of New York, has produced excellent results with the following method of treatment: So soon as the first pain is felt, the patient is to take a pill, or capsule, containing one grain of inspissated ox-gall and one drop of oil of gaultheria, every hour until relief is felt, or until six have been taken.

Dr. Wylie states that sick-headache, as such, is almost invariably cut short by this plan, although some pain of a neuralgic character remains in a few cases.—*Detroit Lancet.*

TREATMENT OF ECZEMA.

Henry J. Reynolds, M.D., Prof. of Dermatology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Chicago, read a paper on this subject at the Illinois State Medical Society.

Therapeutically speaking, he regards the disease as always either acute, sub-acute, or chronic, regardless of its clinical name or location, and arranges the treatment accordingly. In the acute, as in all other acute inflammations, the great principle necessarily involved is *rest*, which implies not only quietude of the member or part, but *rest from all irritating influences*. Soothing and protecting measures, therefore, are indicated in this stage, among which may be mentioned carron oil, poultices, etc. In the sub-acute as in all other stages and forms, scratching must be strictly prohibited, as it is the most fruitful of all sources of aggravation.

He uses in this and the chronic condition (either of which may at any time develop acute symptoms and require the treatment changed accordingly) pure, impalpably fine boracic acid as a dusting powder; having first gotten rid of crusts and scales by soaking with oil and washing with soap and warm water. In the chronic, however, he uses greater stimulating measures, in the way of green soap frequently rubbed in during washing. He thinks bandaging and strapping advisable whenever practicable, prefers the cotton roller to the rubber, where there is much exudation or maceration of the skin. He has but little faith in the popular skin remedy, arsenic, in this or any other disease; all he knows *positively* of the remedy is that you *can* do harm with it. Chrysarobin, internally, as recommended by Stocquart, he has tried without any benefit.—*St. Louis Med. Jour.*

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MONTREAL, DECEMBER, 1885.

THE LATE DR. MARSDEN, QUEBEC.

The sudden and unexpected death of Dr. Marsden, of Quebec, which took place on the morning of the 16th of December, has cast a deep gloom over the city where he has so long resided, and among the profession of the two older Provinces of the Dominion, by whom he was well known and appreciated. Although advanced in years, it seemed to his friends that he preserved the keenness of intellect and activity of body of a man twenty years his junior. For the two months preceding his death Dr. Marsden, once every week, travelled to Montreal to take part in the deliberations of the Provincial Board of Health, of which he was a member. The writer of these lines sat with him on this Board, and when, at the meeting held on the 15th of December he complained to him of feeling so unwell as to be obliged to leave before the sitting was closed, he little thought, as he shook hands with him, that his end was so near. Accompanied by one of his colleagues on the Board, Dr. C. E. Lemieux of Quebec, he took the night train home. During the night he grew rapidly worse, and, had it not been for the constant attention of Dr. Lemieux, he would have died before reaching Quebec. He was alive, however, when the train reached there, and very gently removed to his home, where, in the presence of his aged wife, he quietly passed to his rest. The death of Dr. Marsden was a typical close to an active life, and to a certain extent he fell a victim to a cause—that of the public health—to which he devoted a large part of his life. To a person of his years a weekly journey at this season of the year to Montreal was no small undertaking, and it was in consequence of a cold caught in the sleeping car that pulmonic congestion came on and terminated a valuable life.

Dr. Marsden was born at Bolton, Lancashire, England, on February 18th, 1807, and came to