

A NEW PARASITIC AFFECTION OF THE LINGUAL NERVOUS MEMBRANE.—At a meeting of the *Societe Medicale des Hopitaux*, M. Raynaud read a note upon a new parasitic affection of the lingual nervous membrane. The affection is entirely local, and is not a serious one. M. Raynaud has met with it twice, and has found it characterized by an alteration of the epithelium of the lingual papillæ, and by the presence of a vegetable parasite consisting entirely of spores. The spores resemble those of the *Tricophyton* of Herpes circinatus, &c.—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*.

CARBOLIC ACID AND HOSPITAL MORTALITY.—M. D., in *London Medical Times and Gazette*, says:—"In answer to your correspondent who inquires as to the effect of carbolic acid on the statistics of Hospital mortality, I would beg to refer him to the annual reports of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, the last of which, for 1868, has just been published. If he will take the trouble to calculate the mortality from the primary and secondary amputations of the thigh, leg, arm, and forearm before and after the introduction of carbolic acid into that Hospital, he will find that the results are not in favor of the so-called antiseptic plan of treatment. In the years 1860, 1861, and 1862—before the introduction of carbolic acid—I find 126 of the amputations I have mentioned recorded. Of these 126 there died 41, which gives a mortality of 1 in 3. On the other hand, in the years 1867 and 1868—or since carbolic acid has been used so extensively in that Hospital—there were 73 amputations of the same kind. Of these 30 died, giving a mortality of 1 in 2½.

The results are even more unsatisfactory if we take the compound fractures, which are the cases reported to be the most benefited by the carbolic acid treatment. I find in the three years already mentioned that there were 114 compound fractures treated in the Infirmary, of which 26 died, or nearly 1 in 4½. In 1868—a year in which, as I have been told, all the surgeons to the Hospital used carbolic acid—there were 59 compound fractures treated with a mortality of 20, or more than 1 in 3. Your correspondent may digest these data at his leisure."—*Ibid*.

CLEANING FILES.—James F. Smith states, in the *Scientific American* "that he has tried a very effective way of cleaning files filled with work, by simply holding them in a jet of steam under forty pounds pressure. In one minute the files come out 'as good as new.'