

to hear of the experience of Dr. J. Cropper, of Chepstow, England, who communicates to the *British Medical Journal* for May 2, 1914, the good news that he has found two trustworthy remedies for the condition. After having tried in vain to heal the tiny circumanal cracks which are apparently the cause of the itching, with conium ointment, the ointment of galls and opium of the British Pharmacopœia, boric acid and starch powder, carbolic acid, mercury bichloride, zinc sulphate, and three well-known proprietary preparations, Dr. Cropper found that the British tincture of iodine did the work. This is not irritating, it appears, to the mucous membranes, and slight pain, if it occurs, is quickly over; it should be used about three times a week with a little care so as not to excoriate the skin. Even better, however, is the compound tincture of benzoin; whether it acts merely as a mild styptic and antiseptic or has a mechanical action, giving rest to the parts, its effect is described as little less than marvelous. Within two minutes the alcohol evaporates and all temptation to scratch is over. Dr. Cropper has found that samples of Friar's balsam vary in appearance from light to dark brown; the dark ointment is the best. Where the water is hard, the balsam should be used before bathing, as prolonged hot baths in hard water are particularly injurious in cases of pruritus ani. It is not necessary either to cauterize or excise small fissures, as the balsam will cause them to close up; as to large fissures, remarks Dr. Cropper, they are another matter.—*New York Med. Jour.*

THE MANAGEMENT OF MUCOUS COLIC.

W. A. Edwards notes that Mummery uses belladonna to prevent spasm of the colon, in the following:

℞ Tincture of hyoscyamus	1/2 dram
Tincture of belladonna	6 minims
Sodium bicarbonate	20 grains
Tincture of ginger	15 minims
Spirit of chloroform	20 minims
Peppermint water	ad 1 ounce

This dose should be given three times daily. A laxative should be administered at the same time.

TREATMENT OF DEPILATING FOLLICULITIS.

G. T. Jackson and C. W. McMurtry state that Brocq advises epilation of all loose hair and the application of either mercury or sulphur,