

diphtheria, figures that have never been attained during any preceding year before the discovery of this celebrated so-called specific. Like the rest of serious maladies to-day treated by serum therapy, it is necessary to recognize the fact that such medication no longer keeps the promises made in its name. Besides, Drs. Sevestra, Gaucher and Legendre have been courageous enough to make known to the Société Médicale des Hopitaux the serious and frequent accidents to which the antidiphtheretic serum gives rise even when applied to very simple cases of angina. But all this does not discourage the Pasteur Institute and its purblind disciples.—*New York Medical Record*.

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ALBUMINURIA AND ACUTE UREMIA DUE TO A BLISTER.—(*La Progres Medical*.) At a meeting of the Therapeutical Society, M. Huchard said that in his opinion fly-blisters should be banished from therapeutics on account of the grave accidents which they may produce. He had recently observed the case of a young girl, 18 years of age, who came into his service on account of gastric difficulty. Examination of the urine was negative. In order to allay the severe gastric pain, a blister of six centimetres (about 2 1-3 inches) was applied to the pit of the stomach and left in place for 12 hours. Three days later, without vesical trouble, there supervened swelling of the face, lumbar pain, dyspnoea, nausea, headache, spasmodic attacks of amaurosis, an almost complete anuria, with intense albuminuria, in brief, all the manifestations of acute uremia. Energetic treatment (purgatives, bleeding, wet cups, theobromine, enteroclysis, cold applications), restored the patient.—*The Medical Bulletin*.

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THE EFFECT OF ETHER AND CHLOROFORM ON THE KIDNEYS.—Eisendrath (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Chirurgie*, Band XL, 1896) has examined the urine in 130 cases of anæsthesia,—sixty from ether and seventy from chloroform. No cases were included in which there was fever, or in which the urine contained an excess of urates. Albumen was detected by heat, nitric acid, acetic acid, potassium ferrocyanide, and Spigler's test. Sediments were precipitated by the centrifuge. In eight cases out of thirteen in which there was albumen in the urine before the anæsthesia there was an increase of the albuminuria, four times after ether and four times after chloroform. Of the patients whose urine was free from albumen before anæsthesia, 25 per cent. had albuminuria after the inhalation of ether, and 32 per