

TO PROCURE A DAILY STOOL.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Medical Reporter recommends the following novel procedure

"At a regular hour every day, all things being in readiness, tap gently and repeatedly on the anus with a bit of wood or any substance hard enough to produce irritation, and the sphincter will almost certainly relax after a while."

The Chicago Microscopical Society recently held a public meeting at which there was an attendance of fifteen hundred persons. One hundred instruments were exhibited, valued in the aggregate at \$30,000 dollars. There were in the hall twenty-two tables where the owners of the instruments stood ready to exhibit their preparations.

Medical Items and News.

NITRATE OF SILVER IN BED SORES.

Betz regards nitrate of silver as the best remedy for bed-sores. Instead of making use, however, of lint dipped in the solution of lunar caustic, he prescribes an ointment composed of five decigrammes of the nitrate of silver, fifteen grammes of lard, and thirty of wax, which he spreads on linen, and applies to the sores, taking care that the piece is rather larger than the sore. This is repeated morning and evening.—*The Doctor*.

BLOOD-LETTING.

Dr. Byrd, Professor of Obstetrics in Washington University, once more raises the banner of bleeding, and says the practice is more satisfactory than any other. Indeed, he asserts in the *Medical and Surgical Reporter*, that in all inflammatory diseases it is the most scientific and efficient agent, and that the necessity for it is as great at the present time as ever it was in the past.

In certain conditions of the brain found in most cerebral diseases it is, we think, not only indispensable, but the only remedy necessary.—*The Doctor*.

REMEDY FOR PAINFUL WOUNDS.

Take a pan or shovel with burning coals, and sprinkle upon them common brown sugar, and hold the wounded part in the smoke. In a few minutes the pain will be allayed and recovery proceeds rapidly.

CASTOR-OIL MADE PALATABLE.

The *Boston Medical Journal* says that castor oil may be rendered as "sweet as honey" to take by combining it with an equal amount of glycerine, in which a few drops of oil of cinnamon has been rubbed up.

THE BATH IN SMALL-POX.

DR. STOKES, Regius Professor, of Dublin, says:—"We cannot doubt that the mortality in small-pox hospitals would be greatly diminished by the use of the bath. After describing a very severe case of confluent small-pox in which the patient was kept alive only by stimulants, he says the trial of the

warm bath was suggested to him by Mr. Smyly. The effect was instantaneous and marvellous. The delirium ceased as if by magic. It was the delirium of pain; and the patient exclaimed, 'Thank God! thank God! I am in heaven! I am in heaven! Why didn't you do this before?' The fetor immediately and completely disappeared, so that, on entering the ward, no one could suppose that there was a case of small-pox in it. He was kept at least seven hours in the bath."

LOCAL APPLICATION OF HYDRATE OF CHLORAL.

Dr. Strother states that thus employed it is of excellent service in "neuralgia, pleurodynia, rheumatism, gastralgia, nausea, and vomiting." A saturated aqueous solution is applied over the seat of pain with slight friction, and glycerine, olive oil, or cream is used as a subsequent dressing. There will in most instances be enough of the chloral absorbed to produce a considerable anodyne effect, in addition to its rubefacient action.—*Boston Medical Journal*.

A VACCINATION MARTYR.

"EXAMPLE is better than precept." Acting upon this wholesome maxim, a Medical Practitioner stated during the progress of a case in the Court of Queen's Bench the other day, that he had been vaccinated 477 times. It was his practice to vaccinate himself when parents objected, to prove that there was no harm in it.

WASH FOR CHILBLAINS.—Sulphurous acid, three parts; glycerine, one part; and water, one part. The acid will be found particularly useful in the irritating stage of chilblains.—*Cincinnati Medical Reporter*.

CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.—Dr. E. L. Shurley, of Manistee, Michigan, has had good success in the use of the compound solution of iodine (Lugol's.) He gives five drops in half a tumblerful of water four times daily.—*Buffalo Med. and Surg. Jour.*

The external application of iodine, applied with sweet oil, has seemed to have a marked effect in many cases of chronic diarrhœa that had for a long time resisted internal treatment.

A case of fracture of the clavicle from muscular exertion is reported in the *Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal*. The man was attempting to raise himself up by his hands.

MARRIED.

In Montreal, the 18th July, at the residence of the bride's uncle, Alexander Hart, Berthelet street, by the Rev. Charles Chapman, M.A., Thomas A. Rodger, Esq., M.D., C.M., to Grace, daughter of the late Charles Dow, Esq., of Grangemouth, Scotland.

DIED.

FRASER.—On Wednesday morning, the 24th July, William Fraser, M.D., Professor of Institutes of Medicine, McGill University, aged 58 years.

BLANCHET.—At Quebec, on Sunday, 21st inst., Jean Baptiste Blanchet, M.D., aged 32 years.