

**CHANGES OF THE PUPILS IN CHLOROFORM NARCOSIS.**—In the surgical clinic in Göttingen during the past winter, the changes in the pupils during the administration of chloroform were carefully observed in 122 cases. Previous to and during the stage of excitement, the pupils were, in most of the cases, of the usual width; in a few cases, just before the stage of complete insensibility, they were quite wide and sensitive of light. During the stage of complete insensibility they were closely contracted in 120 of the cases, and were absolutely immovable in 119. An instantaneous dilatation of the pupils in this stage was found to be a threatening symptom of chloroform poisoning. This occurred in two of the cases, in one of which the trouble seemed to be located in the heart, and in the other in the lungs; in both, life was restored by pulling forward the jaw and resorting to artificial respiration.

The following practical lesson has been deduced from these observations: When, during the stage of tolerance the pupils begin to dilate slowly, it is a sign that the patient is recovering from the narcosis, and more chloroform must be given: when, on the other hand, the pupils become suddenly widely dilated, the administration of chloroform must be at once stopped, and further trouble guarded against.—*Centralblatt für Chirurgik*, June 23d. (*Medical Record*.)

**THE IMPORTANCE OF CINCHO-QUININE AS A REMEDY.**—The Supervising General of the Marine Hospital Service has issued a circular letter to the medical officers of that branch of the Treasury in which he calls their attention to the extraordinary increase in the market price of sulphate of quinia, and at the same time alludes to the success attending the employment of the other alkaloids of the bark.

In the year 1866 the Madras Government appointed a Medical Commission to test the respective efficacy in the treatment of fevers of quinine, quinidine, cinchonine, and cinchonidine, and the remedial value of these four alkaloids as deduced from their experiments is shown by the following statement:

Quinidine,	ratio of failure	pr	1000 cases,	6
Cinchonidine,	"	"	"	10
Quinine,	"	"	"	7
Cinchonine,	"	"	"	23

Cincho-quinine contains all these alkaloids, and the combination has proved more efficacious than any one alone; and the price of this article being less than one half the present price of sulphate of quinine, the physicians of this country are substituting it for the sulphate. The medical officers of the Government service should give this subject due consideration in preparing their requisitions for medical supplies.—*Washington, D. C., Daily Nation*, August 8, 1877.

**A NEW METHOD OF CURING POPLITEAL ANEURISMS.**—Dr. Martin Burke, of Bellevue Hospital, reports three cases of popliteal aneurism, that were cured by compression of the femoral artery by means of a conical bag filled with shot, which was suspended from a height in such a way that the apex of the cone pressed on the artery in Scarpa triangle. In the first case pulsation in the aneurism ceased in eight days; in the second, in sixteen days; and in the third, in six days. The cure was slow in the second case, on account of the patient's neglect to keep the apparatus in place. During the treatment little or no pain or uneasiness was complained of in any of the cases.

The shot-bag was made of canvas, in the form of a flattened cone, the apex measuring one inch in diameter. A rounded piece of cork or India rubber, one inch in thickness, was fitted accurately into the apex of the cone, and a long thin rod reaching down to and resting on the rubber or cork was then inserted and held in the middle of the cone while the shot was poured around it, until the bag weighed about twelve pounds. A piece of canvas, with a hole in the centre for the passage of the rod, was then stitched over the base of the bag, and a stout wire hook fastened to its centre. The bag was suspended to a pulley in the ceiling by means of a rope, with which it was connected by a piece of rubber tubing and a large-link chain. The tubing made the apparatus elastic, and the chain enabled the Doctor to regulate more easily the amount of pressure employed.—*New York Medical Journal*, June, 1877.

**GOUT SUCCESSFULLY TREATED BY SALICYLIC ACID.**—Dr. Ruhe contributes to the *Deutsche Zeitschr. f. pr. Med.* the account of an exceedingly obstinate case of gout, which had resisted all other forms of treatment, but which was promptly relieved by the free administration of salicylic acid. About two and one-half drachms were given during the first twenty-four hours. By the third day the patient was entirely free from pain, and was again able to walk about. His appetite was rapidly regained, and at the time of the report, several months after treatment, no relapse had taken place.—*Allg. Med. Cent. Ztg.*, No. 64, 1877.

**A PULSE OF TEN BEATS PER MINUTE** is reported in the *Paris Gaz. Medicale*. The case was a pernicious algid fever. After several hours at the stated rate, it rose to twenty-five, and continued from twenty to twenty-eight for three days. The patient died.

**ESMARCH'S BANDAGE** is already losing favor, amputation, owing to frequent excessive capillary hæmorrhage following its use. Surgeons are resuming the old tourniquet.

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