

My observations with this method of comparative sensibility do not coincide with those of Dr. Blake, who finds that the areas of the membrane from below upwards and from the umbo backwards increase in movement vascularity and pain. I have sometimes found a trifle of sensibility at the lower margin of the membrane, and at the region of the stapes entire absence of any but tactile sensation.

These facts and observations on atrophic drums have shown me that the dermal layer need not be considered in local anesthesia of the membrane, and does not play so great a part in sensation as the mucous layer, since palpitation of the skin surface does not elicit pain, although it reaches only the mucous membrane. (2) That the pain in palpitation does not result from the local impact, but from the excitation of the whole sensory apparatus of the tympanic cavity, induced, no doubt, by the sudden abnormal inward movement of the drum contents. (3) That the pain of incision depends on the impression made upon the drum membrane by the knife as much as on the cutting. (4) That the incision should consequently be made with the minimum of inward pressure and with as sharp and as thin a knife as practicable. This explains why incision in the membrane is made so much easier by the use of the Graefe knife than by the poor knives made especially for the work—knives whose smallness of blade precludes sharpness of edge. (5) That in order to produce the best results in this method of anesthesia, isotonic or iso-osmotic solutions of cocaine should be used in order to avoid edematization of the tube and subsequent transient otitis media.—*New England Medical Monthly*.

THE VALUE OF GUDE'S PEPTO-MANGAN IN ANEMIA.

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Anemia is a very common disease in this country (Cuba), and consequently one against which the physician is often obliged to contend in the practice of his art. While the use of the ordinary iron preparations often give all the effects that could be desired, yet it usually produces a condition which may be regarded as a secondary disease—constipation. In looking about for a preparation which would not present this very serious disadvantage, which cannot always be counteracted by the coincident administration of laxatives, we came across