

Scarlatina and Measles Coexisting in the Same Person.—On June 29th last I saw a boy of nine who had sickened and complained of sore throat that morning; next day a scarlatinal rash was undoubted. By July 6th desquamation was distinct on neck, breast, abdomen and thighs. On the 9th he had severe coryza and a constant irritating cough. On the 10th I found him covered over with a most intense eruption of measles. Desquamation, as if accelerated by the second skin attack, proceeded with unusual rapidity. I was not able to trace the source of infection, but it is noteworthy that the two poisons must have found a lodgment in the child at much the same time. The boy made an excellent recovery. —JAMES FERGUSON, M.B., C.M., in *British Medical Journal*.

Menthol in Diphtheria. F. Kastorsky (*Vratch*) reports thirty-seven cases of diphtheria (in three adults and thirty four children) treated and cured by painting with a 10 per cent. alcoholic solution of menthol. The paintings (by means of a piece of cotton wool) were usually carried out three times daily. In some cases, however, a single free application was followed by complete disappearance of false membranes within two days. A marked improvement in the patient's general condition was invariably noticed from the beginning of the treatment. The same simple method was successfully practised by the author in numerous cases of anginas of various forms, and by Trutovsky in a group of cases of scarlatinal diphtheria. The paintings are said to be painless and quite harmless. —*British Medical Journal*.

Guaiacol Externally in Tuberculosis.—In the *Medical News* of September 30, 1893, I published a "Preliminary Note on the Pronounced Effect of the Endermatic Use of Guaiacol in Controlling High Temperature in Tuberculosis." After more than a year of continuance of the treatment, it is worth while to add my present satisfactory impressions of the remedy, the result of its use in something under fifty cases, some thirty of them in the Home for Consumptives at Chestnut Hill, and therefore under peculiarly favorable surroundings. We began in that institution with a dose of ℥ xlv, as had been recom-

mended in the French journals. This dose was far too great in the climate at Chestnut Hill, and sometimes produced positive collapse. So rapidly did the temperature fall that the lips and finger-tips of the patient soon became blanched, the cardiac impulse weak, and the perspiration profuse. We then diminished the dose. We found ℥ xxv a good average. Some patients did equally well with doses of ℥ xx, ℥ xv, and even of but ℥ x. Free perspiration is a good indication of satisfactory action of the remedy; the temperature falling more rapidly the more free the perspiration. When perspiration is slow, hot milk or other hot drink given just before the remedy is applied, or hot water-bags placed along the surface of the body, will favor the perspiration. Temperature reduced with ℥ xv of guaiacol does not remain reduced for so long a period as when reduced with larger doses. It will generally rise again on the following day. If a dose of ℥ xx or ℥ xxv is then rubbed into the same patient there will probably be a prompt reduction of three or more degrees, perhaps even a degree or so below the normal standard, with return to normal in a few hours, and continuous maintenance of the normal temperature for three or four days a week or longer. This normal temperature was maintained for six weeks in one of our hospital patients. Should the temperature fall very rapidly from 103.5° or 104° to below normal, with profuse perspiration, the patient will feel cool and comfortable, the cardiac impulse will remain unimpaired, and the lips and finger-tips will continue rosy until the temperature has dropped to about 99°. Then, if the temperature continues to fall, as it sometimes does, to 97°, or even to 96°, the sensations of comfort are replaced by sensations of chilliness, and the rose tint of the lips and the finger-tips becomes empurpled. A hot drink, and a hot water-bag at the side, will send the temperature back to normal in a few minutes, and the patient may fall into a refreshing sleep. The method of using guaiacol at the Home for Consumptives is as follows: The skin where the guaiacol is to be rubbed in is well washed with soap and water and then thoroughly dried. The place selected is a matter of indifference, but we have usually chosen a spot over the seat of greatest lesion of the lung. Ten or more minims of guaiacol, as may be wanted, are poured