

The "blood plate" or "plaquette," described by Bizzozero, is considered by the French observer to be identical with the hematoblast. It will be remembered that Norris has postulated the identity of his invisible corpuscle with Bizzozero's "plaquette." By Hayem the invisible corpuscle is still looked upon as a red disc from which the hemoglobin has passed away. Each observer claims for his element an important rôle in the development and coagulation of the blood. Schmidt, of Dorpat, has assigned the chief agency in the process of coagulation of the blood to the leucocytes or white-blood corpuscles.—*Lancet*.

INHALATION OF IODOFORM IN PHTHISIS.—The general practitioner will be glad to make the acquaintance of any device to afford relief to consumptive cases. We have seen some very intelligent patients who persistently maintained that they obtained marked relief from the inhalation of the peroxide of hydrogen. De Renzi and Rummo (*Gazz. Medica Ital.*) claim good results in phthisis and other diseases of the respiratory organs from inhalations of iodoform dissolved in turpentine. The patients were made to inhale twice a day, for two hours, in a small room, the spray of iodoform and turpentine. The effects were more satisfactory than with any other mode of treatment. There was always prompt and considerable diminution of cough and expectoration; in bronchiectasis the fetid expectoration was completely deodorized. Physical signs diminish, the temperature falls, pulse and respiration are less frequent. The secretion of urea is lessened in proportion to the fall of temperature. Iodoform given by inhalation is much more prompt in action than when taken by the stomach; it is an anæsthetic to the pulmonary vagus, and has an alterative and drying local action, which is aided by turpentine. Its antiseptic action must also be taken into account.—*Med. Review*.

PROLONGED GESTATION.—Dr. E. M. Reid relates the case of a patient who bore a child after a gestation lasting two hundred and ninety-five days, at least. *Circumstances were such that the parents were separated during that period previous to the birth of the child.* Dr. Reid is of the opinion that the prolongation of the gestation was produced by the fact that in its course the patient had several copious hemorrhages, viz., on the 177th, 183rd, 189th, and on the 213th day another very profuse hemorrhage took place.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

[The italics in the above are ours. Dr. Daniel Drake, when Professor of Theory and Practice in the University of Louisville, used to tell the students of a striking example of the power of habit. A woman of his acquaintance in Ohio had for a long time borne a child to her husband every year. She continued this habit for two years after her

husband's death. This might be called an instance of parturient cachexia].—*Louisville Med. News*.

THE PROFESSION'S GREATEST NEED.—In the *N. Y. Medical Record* (July 21) is the following:—"If we were to ask the average practitioner in city or country what was the greatest single obstacle to his progress, he would doubtless say, a field too much occupied. It is the constant appearance of new men, young, eager, and hopeful, which cuts off here and there the extension of his practice, and which threatens to narrow down that which he already possesses. Protection against a horde of superfluous rivals is what the general practitioner, who is himself well equipped and competent, most needs. How can he secure this protection? There is but one way which is at all practicable, and that is by elevating the barriers, so-called, which now mark the entrance to the medical profession." A four years' course and an Examining Board is urged for.

FOR AMENORRHOEA.—Dr. H. C. Wood says the following formula, known as *Dewees' Emmenagogue Mixture*, he relies upon almost exclusively in the treatment of simple atonic amenorrhœa. The amount of iron should be as the anæmia, aloes as the state of the bowels, and cantharides as the susceptibility of the urinary organs.

R Tincturæ ferri chloridi.....f ʒiij
Tincturæ cantharidis.....f ʒj
Tincturæ aloes.....f ʒj
Tincturæ guaiaci ammoniatæ.....f ʒiiss
Syrupi.....q. s. ad. f ʒvj

S. Tablespoonful three times a day. *Columbus Med. Journal*.

TO CLEAN CATHETERS.—A correspondent of the *Lancet* suggests the following method of cleaning catheters: Take a cork of a more conical form than those commonly used, with a hole made through it longitudinally; pass the catheter through the hole, and fix the cork into the tap of an ordinary water-pipe (hot water one preferable), and turn on the water. By so doing the force of the water is greatly increased, and the catheter properly cleaned.

GRINDELIA ROBUSTA FOR ASTHMA.—Dr. Bombelon recommends the smoking of cigarettes, the tobacco of which has been saturated with the resin of grindelia robusta, to asthma patients, whether they are smokers or not. The tobacco must also be well impregnated with saltpetre, which will facilitate its combustion and the development of smoke. If the patient is unable to smoke, the fumes are blown towards him.—*The Med. Record*.