

friend of mine, as I put it, who was making a Fourth of July speech in this country. During the progress of it he was annoyed a great many times by a man who persisted in asking him questions or making remarks, and the gentlemen finally called him down something after this fashion: He stopped abruptly in the midst of his speech, and said, "My friend, I want to speak to you. Are you a Christian?"—"Yes, sir."—"And do you go to church regularly!"—"I do." said he, "And do you believe in the efficacy of prayer?"—"I do; I say my prayers every night."—"Good. Do you believe in the doctrine of regeneration?"—"I do; I believe in it literally." He said, "Better yet. Now, my friend, I want to give you a piece of advice; when you go home to-night and retire to the privacy of your bedroom, get down on your knees and pray very earnestly and faithfully, pray as you never prayed before that you may be born again, and still-born." Now, they saw it, if they were English.

#### MESSAGE IN SPRAINS, BRUISES AND DISLOCATIONS.

—We have for some years looked upon absolute rest—as nearly absolute as possible—as being the best treatment for dislocations and sprains. Common sense points that way; much experience points that way; a knowledge of the process involved in the recovery of the damage points that way; and yet we see from time to time good authorities taking the opposite view as, for instance, Dr. Graham of Boston, who in the *Ed. Med. Jour.* states his belief in massage. He says that in beginning the rubbing, in a recent case, the injured parts should be approached gradually, after first rubbing at some distance on the healthy tissues. The first step consists of gentle stroking or effleurage. The second step consists in kneading the part. At the end of fifteen or twenty minutes' rubbing, gentle, firm pressure can be made over the swollen and recently tender parts, when the rubbing may be given a circular motion, with the greatest push upward. If this be done with sufficient tact, it will probably be agreeable to the patient rather than painful. At the conclusion of the rubbing a well-fitting bandage is applied. This should be repeated twice daily. It is claimed that such injuries treated in this way get well in one-third of the time that similar cases do under the usual method of rest and fix-

tion, and with less tendency to subsequent weakness, pain and stiffness. The author says, "Experience teaches that the sooner after a sprain massage is begun the quicker is the recovery."

STRYCHNINE IN NERVOUS COUGH.—Dr. L. Lichtwitz *Sem. Med; Med. and Surg. Rep.*, according to author, the best treatment of nervous cough of central origin (in choreic, tabetic and hysteric patients)—which differs from ordinary cough by the nearly complete absence of expectoration and by habitually disappearing at night—consists in the administration of strychnine in large doses. He begins with 6 milligrammes of strychnine sulphate per day, increasing by 1 milligramme every second day, until a daily dose of 8 to 9 milligrammes has been reached. The medication is suspended at the end of two weeks, to be resumed a week later. If no result is obtained after the second week of treatment, Dr. L. resorts to electricity, massage, or hydrotherapy; or prescribes a change of climate (sojourn in the mountains.)

A TREATMENT FOR ACNE OF THE FACE.—In an abstract from the *Bul. Gen. Therap.*, which appears in *Lyon Med.*, the writer gives the following formula, which, he says, has often been employed at St. Louis with success: Fresh lard, 750 grains; betanaphthol and styrax ointment, each, 30 grains. Application of this mixture should be made by strong friction every night for a week, then interrupted for six days, when they may be repeated if necessary, although it is often useless to do so. It there is an appearance of small acute clusters, which generally show themselves toward the second day, the acne is ordinarily cured or very much ameliorated at the end of a week.

THE LAY PRESS AS ADVERTISING MEDIUMS.—From a sister city we have received a newspaper containing details as to the *raison d'être* of a wonderful (*sic*) operation performed by a surgeon of that city. The paragraph is rendered more conspicuous by a woodcut representing a beautiful young lady in bed. This is awful, and we hope the surgeon has ere this publicly set forth how his name happens to appear in such wise. We note that his assistants were not of the city where the operation was performed, but of a neighboring