

contents of the stomach were quickly ejected, the usual depression not following, so that he was able to at once resume his debauch. Since then I have tried the remedy many times with great success. The drunkard can generally be roused and got to swallow half a drachm of ammon. carb. dissolved in a wineglass of water, and if drunk off this will prove immediately effective as an emetic and restorer. The reason is obvious. The stomach is cleared, and the stimulating effect of the salt prevents the excessive depression usually following excess. Never having seen nor heard of this treatment being adopted in this country is my excuse for troubling you with this letter.—*Med. Review.*

### ALCOHOL BATH FOR ERYSIPELAS.

Reasoning from the fact that a ninety per cent. spiritus vini is a sure germicide for the coccus of erysipelas, Behrend (*Rundschau*, 5 H. 1889), who was in charge of a large penal hospital, in which erysipelas occurred frequently, determined to try it as an application. He was fortunate in being able to begin the treatment of all the cases in their incipency before grave symptoms arose. All the patients were required to bathe the affected parts and extending one-half-inch beyond the border into the healthy skin, three times daily, with a 90 per cent. alcohol. The result was a complete arrest of the disease, without exception, and in three to five days a cure. This method gives very quick results, and is not as painful as that recommended by Hueter, of carbolic acid injection; or Ebstein's modification, namely, the external application of a 5 per cent. carbolic acid ointment; although the latter claims to have had first-rate results, and no carbolic acid intoxication from absorption, even when the acid was detected in the urine. Ebstein has treated by this method twenty-seven cases, involving the skin of the head, face, neck and lower extremities.—*Va. Med. Monthly.*

### TURPENTINE IN POST-PARTUM HEMORRHAGE.

"For some years," writes a correspondent, "I have used spirit of turpentine in post-partum hemorrhage, and, in every case, with the best results. When the ordinary means, *i. e.*, friction over the uterus, irritation of the uterus by introduction of the fingers, cold, hypodermic injection of ergotine, etc., failed, by saturating a piece of lint with the turpentine, and introducing it in my hand into the uterus and holding it against the walls, rapid contraction took place, and all hemorrhage instantly ceased. In one or two cases, when the patient was almost pulseless, it seemed to act as a stimulant. On no occasion did its action fail,

nor did it cause the slightest inconvenience, except in one, when the side of the patient's thigh was slightly blistered by some that came in contact with it, but it gave very little annoyance. I consider it to be much quicker and safer in its action than any other remedy; it does not cause any injurious result, and besides, it is much more easily applied. In country practice, getting hot water, or using injections often entails loss of valuable time."—*Lancet*

### INFLUENCE OF THE ELECTRIC LIGHT UPON THE EYES.

Lubinsky said that during the past ten years he had had under his observation thirty cases of ocular symptoms in young men whose occupation was that of taking charge of electric light apparatus. He has given the name photo-electric ophthalmia to the affection, the chief signs of which are as follows: The symptoms commence during sleep, the patient is awakened by a profuse flow of tears, accompanied with intense peri-orbital pain. There is also acute photophobia. Externally there are oedema of the lids and very marked peri-corneal injection. Ophthalmoscopically one finds hyperemia of the disc, and sometimes a venous pulse in the retinal veins. After a time, which varies between an hour and a half to three hours, these phenomena abate, the patient again falls asleep, and in the morning he awakes feeling nothing amiss, except a little fatigue in his eyes. Sleep is an indispensable condition for the development of the disease; this is so markedly the case that if the patients who have exposed their eyes in the morning to the electric light fall asleep after their midday meal it will be during the "siesta" and not during the night that the ocular trouble will show itself. The symptoms appear to be due for the most part to hyperemia of the optic nerve, and to lesions of the nerve filaments of the cornea. Maklakow (of Moscow) showed evidences on his hands of an erythema which had been caused by the action of a voltaic arc which proved the calorific effect of the electric light.—*Med. Press.*

### THE TREATMENT OF SPINAL CURVATURE.

Agnew, in discussing the treatment of spinal curvature, said: "Massage will be found beneficial in the early stages of lateral curvature from muscular disability. It is best applied before the patient goes to bed, so that a period of rest may succeed the fatigue consequent on the muscular exercise. As a substitute for massage I frequently use rubber 'muscle beaters' in the form of balls, or cylinders. A form of drill is also of service, the patient being instructed to walk up and down a room with something