

use, and in three other cases very much lessened, with complete loss of foetus after three months use:

R. Acidi carbonici.....	3i.
Cupri sulph.....	3i.
Aqua.....	5lx.

To be syringed into the ear, warm, once a day.

[Ed. DOM. MED. JOUR.]

On the Alcoholic Compound termed Punch, by John T—nd—ll, LL.D., F. E. S.

The following extract from an article with the above title, in *Exeter Change*, is a capital imitation of Professor Tyndall's style:

Experiment has proved that the juice of three lemons, and three-quarters of a pound of loaf-sugar dissolved in about three pints of boiling water, give saporous waves which strike the palate at such intervals, that the thrilling acidity of the lemon-juice and the cloying sweetness of the sugar are no longer distinguishable. We have, in fact, a harmony of saporific notes. The pitch, however, is too low; and to heighten it we infuse in the boiling water the fragrant yellow rind of one lemon. Here we might pause, if the soul of man craved no higher result than lemonade. But, to obtain the dominating saporosity of punch, we must dash into the bowl at least a pint of rum, and nearly the same volume of brandy. The molecules of alcohol, sugar, and citric acid collide, and an entirely new series of vibrations is produced—tremors to which the dullest palate is attuned.

In punch, then, we have rhythm within rhythm, and all that philosophy can do is to take kindly to its subtle harmonies. It will depend, in some measure, upon previous habits, whether the punch when mixed will be taken in excess or in moderation. It may become a dangerous ally of gravity and bring a sentient being to the gutter. But, on the other hand, it may become the potent inner stimulus of a noble outward life.—*N. Y. Med. Jour.*

Discussion on Vaccination.

The Imperial Academy of Medicine has been engaged in a protracted and exhaustive discussion regarding vaccination. The editor of *L'Union Méd. vale* (Jeudi, 9 Sept. 1869), gives, in the following propositions, the practical results of this elaborate debate.

1. That the degeneration of the Jennerian vaccine has not been proved.
2. That there does not exist a single authentic case of vaccinal syphilis, properly so called.
3. That the rare—very rare cases of syphilis inoculated by vaccination are explained by conditions which completely exonerate the vaccine from all influence therein.
4. That a great number of cases of pretended syphilis occurring after vaccination are exceedingly doubtful.
5. That animal vaccination, as a source of vaccination, may be encouraged, although it does not possess any real and sensible advantage over vaccination from arm to arm.—*Am. Jour. Med. Science.*

Thoracic Puncture in Hydrothorax.

Professor Ziemssen remarks, that considering how commonly paracentesis of the abdomen is practised, it is remarkable how seldom the thorax is punctured, even in cases of double hydrothorax, though the effusion and distress experienced in the one case are incomparably greater than in the other. The reason of this is, probably, that the danger of evacuating fresh exudate is much exaggerated, and, according to the author, without any grounds. It is true that in incurable affections it only acts as a palliative, but the same may be said of paracentesis of the abdomen for cirrhosis of the liver; and he gives an instance in which he tapped the thorax sixteen times running, with good effect, each time prolonging life for several months. He considers the operation to be indicated in double hydrothorax, consequent on disturbances in the heart and lungs, or on tumors within the thoracic cavity, Bright's disease, etc., when the compression of the lungs has attained a sufficient degree to produce severe dyspnoea. The level of the fluid should reach that of the second or third rib in the standing posture. A grooved needle should first be introduced, the pain of which, as well as of the trocar, may be abolished by Richardson's ether spray apparatus; then the patient being seated, the trocar should be entered as usual, at about the sixth or seventh intercostal space in front of the axillary line, near the upper edge of the lower of the two ribs. The discharge of fluid takes place interruptedly during expiration only, especially towards the end of the operation, and air sometimes enters with a gurgling noise, but without producing any injurious effect. A piece of sticking-plaster should be placed over the wound.—*Practitioner.*

Experiments on Animals with the Inoculation and Ingestion of Different Organic Substances and Principally Tuberculous Products.

Dr. Dubuission read a note to the Acad. de Med. August 10th, on this subject. His experiments were performed with the assistance of M. M. Tillaux, Villemain, and Grancher. Dr. D. gave a summary of his experiments and drew from them the following conclusions:—

1. The inoculated matters are generally harmless; the nature of the matters employed do not influence the result.
2. They sometimes quickly produce derangements, and occasionally cause death by a sort of poisoning.
3. In some cases they produce lobular pneumonia, which is, perhaps, consecutive to the inoculation, and which may be confounded with tubercles.
4. Tubercular matters given as food produce sometimes the death of the animal as if poisoned by septic matters.
5. Generally animals fed with tubercular lungs experience some *malaise* from this unwholesome food, but they do not become tuberculous.

Our experiments show then that tuberculosis is in its nature neither virulent nor contagious as regards the animals experienced on.—*Archives Générales de Med.*, Sep. 1869.—*Am. Jour. Med. Science.*