

dence of the failures in chancre excision, go to show that beyond the chancre there is sufficient syphilitic poison to infect the whole economy, and that the initial lesion, though the visible and exuberant evidence of syphilitic infection, may be removed without in any way altering or modifying the course of the disease. It is rather too early to inquire into the *modus operandi* of the maturing syphilitic infection, but it seems probable that this vessel cell-growth goes on and on until the whole economy is involved, and that then the explosion occurs which we call the evolution of the secondary period of the disease.

"I am as yet unsettled in my mind as to whether or not these observations will lead to the definite opinion that anti-syphilitic treatment should be instituted just as soon as we positively see the first appearance of the chancre."

CANTHARIDES IN CANCER.—More than twenty years ago (*Lancet*) it was reported that the Russian peasants were in the habit of using some kind of beetle as a remedy for cancer. since that time some observations have been made which would appear to point to the possibility of cantharides being of some use for this purpose. In 1860 Dr. Wilms excised the left breast for a tumor of the size of a small walnut, which was shown by the microscope to be a reticular carcinoma. It returned, and was again excised a year after the first operation. A mixture of tincture of cantharides and camphorated wine in mucilage was now prescribed, and was continued for three months. The patient, who was a widow at the time, afterwards married again, and gave birth to two children. She is still alive, and there has been no recurrence. Again, in 1880, a somewhat extensive cancer of the breast was operated on in the Augusta Hospital, after which the patient was treated with cantharides, and was known to have had no return of the tumor six years later; indeed, she is believed to be alive and well at the present time. Once more, in 1879, a stricture of the œsophagus, evidently of a carcinomatous nature, developed somewhat rapidly in a female patient; she was treated with cantharides, and a decided improvement took place, so that she was able to swallow pieces of food if they were well masticated. She is alive still, but feels, however, some incon-

venience from the stricture, and at times is obliged to have recourse to the cantharides. The above interesting facts are published by Dr. Wolfert in the *Berlin Klin. Wochenschrift*.

SUMMER DIARRHŒA.—Carharrer gives the following in bad cases (*Medical Standard*):

R—Acid salicylic, gr. ss.
Cretæ precip., gr. x.
Glycerin, 3 ij.
Aq. rosæ, 3 xiv.—M.

Sig.—3j. every hour for a child one year old.

The following are useful in intractable cases:

Loomis' diarrhœa mixture—

R—Tr. opii, 3 ss.
Tr. Rhei, 3 ss.
Tr. catechu co. (U.S.P.), . . . 3 j.
Ol. sassafras, m xx.
Tr. lavandulæ co., ad. . . . 3 iv.—M.
Sig.—3j. every four hours for adults.

Squibb's diarrhœa mixture—

R—Tr. opii, 3 j.
Tr. capsici, 3 j.
Spts. camphori, 3 j.
Chloroformi (pure), 3 iij.
Alcohol, ad. 3 v.—M.
Sig.—3j. every five hours for adults.

Velpeau's diarrhœa mixture—

R—Tr. opii,
Tr. catechu co. (U.S.P.),
Spts. camphor, each equal parts.—M.

HYPNOTIC EFFECT OF WARM BANDAGES.—

Warm baths, as is well known, produce a calming effect, and tend to bring on sleep, and Alldorfer has attempted to apply such a method in patients where a sedative effect is desired and yet where a bath is inapplicable (*Jour. de Mèd. de Paris*) His method consists in wrapping the lumbar region and belly with linen cloths soaked in warm water, and then covering them with oiled silk or rubber cloth, so as to prevent evaporation, while the whole is kept in place and loss of heat prevented by a flannel cloth. This procedure is of ready performance, and the author says that by this simple means he has obtained the most astonishing results in the treatment of insomnia. By dilating the large vessels of the intestinal tract, by the warmth applied, a condition of anæmia of the brain is produced, favoring sleep. These large intestinal