

you at once to see where the discharge has been, if the quantity was ever so small and had dried up before the dressing was removed. There is one precaution in using this dressing, and that is this: the dressing being dry and frequently handled might have some septic matter from bed clothes, hands etc., so he always dips it in 1-2000 perchloride just before applying it. He is making a Sal Alembroth protective, which will be surcharged with the antiseptic so that as a discharge comes through a dressing it will come in contact with this protective and can be kept aseptic. I do not know of any place in Canada where this can be procured. Martindale & Co., 10 New Cavendish Street, London, Eng., prepare it for Lister.

Selections.

DYSENTERY CURED BY ERGOT.

BY DR. BOISSEAU DU ROCHER.

M. D., a robust man, aged 44, previously healthy, was attacked with colliquative diarrhoea, October 9th. He tried to check it with bismuth and laudanum. In the evening the stools were more abundant. He fainted four times, one attack lasting 15 to 20 minutes. His countenance was drawn and pale, and the body covered with a cold, clammy sweat. The stools very numerous and accompanied by severe abdominal pains and tenesmus continued, and contained viscid whitish mucosities, streaked with blood. One gr. of calomel and stimulants were given. Oct. 11th: pulse 120, calomel 2 grammes in the packets; stimulants. In the evening: pulse 110, general condition less alarming, stools less numerous, less painful, but still muco-sanguinolent. Oct. 12th, (morning) pulse 120, calomel and alcohol continued, general state the same, intense salivation, calomel omitted. Oct. 13th: pulse 110, general condition a little better, but the stools still slimy and muco-sanguinolent, ergot, 3 grammes in 6 doses; during the day two stools markedly diarrhoeic, containing some mucous debris, but no blood, pulse 100. Oct. 14th: pulse 82, no stools during the night. In the morning a stool entirely diarrhoea and small in quantity,

general state good, ergot continued. Evening: pulse 80, no stool during the day. Oct. 15th: cured. This rapid result made us regret not having resorted to this treatment earlier. It authorizes us to believe that in ergot we have a valuable remedy for dysentery worthy of further trial, if not a specific.—*Progrès Medical*.
R. Z.

ON PHIMOSIS IN INFANCY.

My excuse for submitting the following observations on this subject to the consideration of the profession is that my experience leads me to think that phimosis is a morbid condition which is not infrequently overlooked. Its persistence is the cause of much unnecessary suffering among children, and a neurotic habit is often induced which, in some instances, is never shaken off, but continues to exercise a prejudicial effect upon the usefulness and happiness of a considerable number of men during the whole of their lives. It would be advantageous if the following rule were adopted by all those taking charge of midwifery cases; to examine every male child within a few days after birth, and, if the prepuce cannot be retracted by the exertion of a moderate amount of force, to perform circumcision on or about the eighth day of life. The advocacy of such a rule will appear superfluous to many members of the profession, particularly to those who have had special opportunities of observing the diseases of children. That it is, however, not accepted, or, if theoretically accepted, not acted upon by numerous practitioners of midwifery, is sufficiently proved by the frequency with which it is necessary to perform the operation in later life. Complete retraction of the prepuce is necessary in order to prevent the retention under it of the secretion of the numerous sebaceous glands in the mucous membrane of the cervix and glans penis (glandulae Tysonii). The accumulation of this sebaceous matter acting as a peripheral irritant through the internal pudic nerves, may and often does cause central mischief more or less grave according to the constitution of the child and the amount of local irritation. If the preputial opening be so small as to inter-