

oil in this way is saponified, and becomes even agreeable to the taste, producing no feeling of nausea after swallowing.—*Lyon Médical*, 3 mars, 1889.

TRANSFUSION IN CARBONIC-OXIDE POISONING.

—A workman who had inhaled the vapor of burning coals was taken to the Charité lately. All efforts to restore consciousness having failed, Professor Leyden ordered the injection of two hundred and fifty cubic centimetres of blood, taken from another patient, into one of the veins of the right arm. The patient showed signs of life five hours after the transfusion, then slept for about ten hours, and awoke in excellent spirits. His further recovery was rapid, and he is now quite well.—*Lancet*.

TREATMENT OF GONORRHOEAL OPHTHALMIA.—

Dr. Grandclément, at a recent meeting of the Société des Sciences Médicales de Lyon, advocated the following: 1. Cauterize every twelve hours as completely as possible the ocular conjunctival mucous membrane with a brush dipped in a 2% solution of silver nitrate. 2. Every hour thoroughly irrigate and completely wash out the conjunctival sac with solution of corrosive sublimate in 1000.—*Lyon Médical*.

VERNEUIL ON MICROBISM AND ABSCESS.—

Verneuil proposes to no longer classify abscesses as hot and cold, idiopathic and symptomatic, but etiologically, according to the nature of the bacteria that produce them. For our modern knowledge of the process of suppuration we have to thank three methods—microscopic researches with staining re-agents, cultures, and inoculation experiments. We now know that every sample of pus contains bacteria, and the abscess contents may be monomicrobique or poly-microbique. The bacteria of pus may be divided into two groups: the first are constantly present in pus, and are characteristic of it (the different micrococci and diplococci, streptococci, zoogloea, staphylococcus pyog. aureus, citricus, albus, etc.); the second are only found occasionally (various micrococci, bacteria, vibrios, bacilli, etc.). This first Verneuil calls pyogenic microbes proper; the latter,

accidental pyogenic microbes ("pyocoles"). Verneuil divides abscesses into (1) simple abscess, containing only the "pyogenic microbes proper"; (2) infecting abscess, in which the accidental bacteria also occur. He already enumerates sixteen varieties of abscesses occurring with particular infectious diseases, and containing specific bacteria. Variola, syphilis and chancroid do not find places in the list, their bacteria not having as yet been isolated, though certainly they will yet be found.—(Verneuil, *France Méd.*), *Edinburgh Medical Journal*.

THE Canadian Practitioner.

A SEMI-MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS OF
THE MEDICAL SCIENCES.

Contributions of various descriptions are invited. We shall be glad to receive from our friends everywhere current medical news of general interest.

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MEDICAL EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE standard of medical education in the United States, if we leave out of consideration a few of the leading colleges, is marvellously low. During the last few years there has been much agitation for reform. It was hoped at one time that public opinion would compel the colleges to make changes for the better and support them in such attempts. When Bellevue Medical College, a few years ago, declared its decision to demand three years' attendance on lectures instead of two, the announcement was received with delight by all interested in higher medical education. But alas! Bellevue hadn't sufficient backbone to adhere to its wise decision: on the contrary, it went back to the old system. Why? Because the new didn't pay. A more disgraceful and contemptible procedure on the part of an institution pretending to some mea-