

GALVANO-PUNCTURE IN PELVIC HEMATOCELE.

M. Apostoli strongly recommends the use of the galvano-puncture in peri-uterine hematocoele (*Lancet*). The instrument he uses is a trocar of medium size connected with the negative pole of a battery, the other electrode being of considerable size and applied to the back or thigh. Care must, of course, be taken to avoid wounding the uterus, intestine, or any important blood vessel. A large dose, even as much as 100 milliampères, should be given, the resulting slough and fistula being proportioned to the current employed. As to the duration of the galvano-puncture, five or six minutes is usually sufficient, but should be regulated by the loss of substance and chemical action which it seems desirable to produce. M. Apostoli thinks that all peri-uterine hematocoeles should be treated in this way, and that the earlier the operation is performed the better. Antiseptics should be carried out as far as possible, first by heating the trocar prior to puncturing, and afterwards by carbolic acid injections into the sac twice a day. —*Medical Review*.

BELLADONNA AND IODIDE OF POTASSIUM. The fact that belladonna produces dryness of the throat, nose and mouth has induced Dr. Aubut to try it rather empirically to combat certain disagreeable effects of iodide of potash, and he has published his results in the *Lyon Medical*. In three cases of naso-pharyngeal intolerance of the iodide, a mixture of belladonna with iodide of potassium has given good results. He had also the same success in a young man suffering from acute iodism, in whom he made this symptom disappear by preceding the administration of iodide of potassium by the extract of belladonna. The dose was two pills of five centigrams each, of the extract per day, one in the morning and the other at night. In one of the cases he was able to suspend the use of belladonna after some days, continuing the administration of iodide of potassium alone, without producing any intolerance. —*Cin. Lancet and Clinic*.

HYPODERMIC USE OF OILS.—In cases of obstinate constipation, Dr. J. V. Shoemaker frequently uses castor oil hypodermically. A drachm or two of castor-oil, mixed with an equal quantity of oil of sweet almonds, in order to obtain the required fluidity, is injected, and produces a satisfactory evacuation in about an hour. But the most useful application of oil hypodermically is in diseases of the digestive organs, when nourishment cannot be taken in the natural way, and in tuberculosis, scrofula, and all forms of defective nutrition cod-liver or olive oil should be used in doses of about two drachms, two or three times a day. The nutrition and general tone of the system will improve wonderfully. When the oil is given every two hours it will sustain the system without other

food. The treatment of many obstinate skin affections is greatly aided by the hypodermic use of cod-liver oil. No abscesses follow the injections. A large hypodermic syringe, with a capacity of from two to eight drachms should be used, and portions of the body well supplied with cellular tissue, as the superior and inferior scapular and sacral regions, should be selected. Injections can also be made in the arms, thighs, back, or abdomen. Doses of one-half ounce have been administered without causing inflammation of the skin or producing any unfavorable effects. —*Med. World*, Sept.

SUSPENSION OF THE CARBOLIC SPRAY IN GENERAL SURGERY.—Professor Chiene, the pillar of the carbolic "spray" system among Edinburgh surgeons, has formally announced his intention of tentatively relinquishing the use of that instrument in his wards in the Royal Infirmary, for a term of six months. Irrigation with corrosive sublimate solution is to replace the older method. Many reasons have doubtless led to the abandonment of Mr. Chiene's long-prized vantage ground, but that which appears most present to the mind of this distinguished teacher of surgery is the curious fact that, though in season and out of season he has been the bold apostle of the spray, comparatively few of his students have seen their way to adopt it in the practice of their profession outside the hospital walls. This admission suggests interesting and curious comment, both on the quality of the seed and the character of the ground on which it has been sown, but from this we forbear. Edinburgh graduates are not likely to allow that the sower is to blame. —*Cin. Lancet and Gazette*.

ACUTE CORYZA.—Dr. S. S. Cohen recommends, as a specific against acute coryza, the 1-120th of a grain of atropia, to be repeated every four hours until there is dryness of the throat. He says that this remedy will cure nine out of ten cases of coryza if taken at the incipency of the disease. Afterwards to relieve the unpleasant symptoms of dryness he has given 1-16th of a grain of pilocarpine with good results. When cases are seen too late to use atropine with advantage, he has obtained good results from ammonium salicylate in doses of ten to fifteen grains repeated every two hours until *tinnitus aurium* is produced. If the patient does not object to the expense, cocaine can be used to allay the local symptoms until the medicine has had time to act. —*Phila. Med. Times*, Aug. 8th.

CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.—In the *Brit. Med. Journal* August 22, Dr. J. Vose Solomen says that he is sometimes consulted by females of nervous temperament, on account of chronic diarrhœa, of