

tongue. It seldom or never produces any gastric disturbance or headache, and very rarely constipation. It is exceedingly reliable and rapid as a tonic. The spurious forms of this drug are without the characteristics of taste and efficacy above enumerated, and chemical analysis readily detects their deficiencies. Only a single specimen out of nine analysed possessed the peculiarities of the true article. My attention was first directed to this matter through the failure or misbehaviour of this Dialysed Iron in practice. It is but just to say that the good specimen is from Wyeth and Brother, the original manufacturers of the medicine in America. Wyeth's Dialysed Iron sells at about a dollar a pound. Other makes may be bought at fifty cents.

LECTURES, BOOKS, AND PRACTICAL TEACHING.

—Prof. Gardner, of Glasgow, took those three topics as the theme of his address at the opening of the University. We quote, for the benefit of teachers as well as the taught, a paragraph which strikes at one serious evil in the present system of medical education: "The great fault of almost all books and of many lectures to the student, is that they attempt too much. They lose sight of the fact that a very little real knowledge is all that can profitably enter the human, and still more, the average human mind, in a limited period of time. All that is over and above this is mere learning by rote; or, in other words, what is commonly, though inelegantly, called *cram*. And out of *cram* though you may make a book-worm or a prodigy of learning, you cannot possibly evolve a physician, or even a reasonably safe practitioner of the healing art. For you may take it as quite established by experience that you—students, let us say, of the third year—cannot in one or two sessions learn the whole art and mystery of the practice of medicine. All that you can possibly do is to learn well a few of the better known and more clearly established facts and principles; and, what is most important of all in mastering these thoroughly, you can so inform your minds as to render them a fitting soil for the further, derived from experience, from reading, and from social and professional intercourse. In other words, in learning a few things well you can teach yourselves, or be taught, how to learn many other things well by-and-bye."

MURIATE OF PILOCARPINE IN DISEASES OF CHILDREN.—Prof. R. Demme (*Central Zeitung für Kinderheilkunde*) has employed this medicine in thirty-three cases in diseases requiring diaphoretic and sialogogue action. The ages of the patients ranged from nine months to twelve years, the larger number being under seven years of age. The remedy was used sub-cutaneously in a two per cent. solution. The dose employed was, for infants under two years, about one-thirteenth of a grain; between two and six years, one-tenth to one-seventh of a grain; between seven and twelve years, for first injection one-seventh of a grain, and later, according to circumstances, from one-fifth to one-third of a grain. As a rule but one injection was given daily. In exceptionally urgent cases, with, for instance, suppression of urine for twenty-four hours, with symptoms of uræmia, two to four injections of one-sixth of a grain each were given in twenty-four hours. Disagreeable symptoms, as vomiting, hiccup, faintness, repeated yawnings, and trembling of the extremities occurred only in two cases. A small quantity of cognac given before the injection greatly diminished these symptoms. In children over four years the diaphoretic action predominated over the sialogogue; between one and two years the reverse was the case. The action of the medicine commenced in about five minutes after an injection, reached its greatest intensity within ten to fifteen minutes, remaining stationary during twenty to forty minutes and then gradually decreased. The diaphoretic action outlasted the sialogogue in the majority of instances. It was particularly in cases of desquamative inflammation of the kidneys, with dropsy, following scarlatina, diphtheria, etc., that the value of this remedy as a diaphoretic was made manifest. In the majority of cases diuresis was also excited; while at the same time the amount of albumen and blood was not increased, but rather diminished.—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

On the 24th of May, the wife of Dr. D. C. MacCallum, of Montreal, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

At 168 Jarvis Street, Toronto, R. Barrington Nevitt, Surgeon North-west Mounted Police, to Elizabeth E., daughter of Robert Beaty.

DEATHS.

At Norwich, Conn., U.S., on the 18th of May, Allen E. Gay, M.D.