

cholera bacillus and the streptococcus of pus and of erysipelas within two minutes, the bacillus of anthrax in five minutes, but the typhoid bacillus and the staphylococcus of pus were alive after an hour. It is much more effective than carbolic acid, a 3% solution killing anthrax spores in two days, while an 8% of carbolic had no effect in seven days. It is not poisonous, and may be given in large doses to dogs without injury. Eisenberg recommends it in place of corrosive sublimate, carbolic acid, and iodoform in surgery.

*Hydrastis Canadensis* and *Viburnum Prunifolii*.

In the *Internationale Klinische Rundschau*, Nov. 26, 1888, Prof. Schatz speaks in the highest terms of the use of *Hydrastis Canadensis* in controlling hyperæmia and conditions of chronic inflammation of the internal genitals. He explains the occasional failure which has followed its employment by German physicians from the fact that the preparation that they have used was not manufactured from the fresh plant. The latter preparations, he claims, are perfectly astonishing in the marked results there produced. In uterine myomata the menstrual hæmorrhages are reduced and regulated, but he states he has even seen a case where the myoma extended to the umbilicus, and which, after the regular use of about three pounds of the fluid extract, in two years almost entirely disappeared. He further confirms his early statement that hydrastis does not produce uterine contractions, but only leads to reduction in the calibre of the blood-vessels.

Cardiac Tonics.

Prof. Eichhorst, of Zurich, having made comparative observations on strophanthus, digitalis, caffeine, spartein, adonis vernalis and convallaria majalis, has arrived at the following conclusions :

1. Digitalis and strophanthus both control the heart in the same manner, slowing, regulating and toning up its activity, and thus under certain circumstances increasing diuresis.
2. Digitalis acts more rapidly, and on the whole with more certainty than strophanthus.
3. Strophanthus is superior to digitalis in that it does not develop cumulative effects. After six weeks use its favorable effect upon cardiac contraction was shown by sphygmographic tracings. In some cases it acted more favorably than digitalis.

4. Spartein sulphate has only a weak and unimportant action on the heart, and exerts no influence upon the renal functions.

5. Caffein has still less action on the heart than spartein, but is an excellent diuretic.

6. Adonis and convallaria are unreliable in their effect upon the heart and kidneys, and in addition often cause nausea and vomiting.

In connection with these clinical observations, reference may be made to the pharmacological and chemical researches of MM. Catillon, Blondel, Bardet and Adrian, who have shown that the strophanthus found in the markets differs very widely in the proportion of strophanthus contained in different specimens. In ten varieties examined by Catillon the proportion of strophanthus varied from two to fifty per mille. It is very probable that the divergent results obtained by different clinicians are due to the uncertainty of composition as shown by the researches mentioned.

Use of Terebene.

D. M. Camann, of New York, referring to this subject, spoke of the well-known effects of the terebinthines and the benefits, to consumptives from inhaling the air of pine forests. This air, probably both aseptic and antiseptic, owes its purity to peroxide of hydrogen. It is stated that each molecule of turpentine gives rise in the presence of air and moisture to a molecule of peroxide of hydrogen. This property of turpentine is possessed by terebene, benzene, eucalyptol, and many other essential oils. Peroxide of hydrogen thus has an atom of oxygen readily given off in presence of such substances as pus and blood. Terebene due to this cause has high deodorizing powers, quickly destroying the odor of most offensive wounds. Given internally it is antiseptic, expectorant, and diuretic, relieves flatulence and is readily borne by the stomach. It hastens the absorption of adhesions in pleuritis. Its value in winter coughs has been recognized by Murrell of London; and in forty cases, records of which have been kept by Camann, of various forms of lung trouble.

Lanolin in Cuts and Burns.

A recent article in the *Pharmaceutische Rundschau*, No. 3, March, 1888, states that experience has shown that lanolin is an excellent dressing for cuts and burns. Professor R. Frankel finds that it prevents the formation of scabs, and that burns.