

Treatment.—In group 1, nitrite of amyl, and still more nitro-glycerine, are of great value, and may require to be combined with nervine tonics or sedatives, iron, zinc, valerian, bromides, etc. In groups 2 and 3, carminative stimulants, or digitalis with nitro-glycerin, are recommended; and of all tonics arsenic, as a rule, is the best.—*Am. Jour. of Med. Sciences.*

AN EPIDEMIC OF PUERPERAL FEVER.—This unusual occurrence in a well-conducted clinic forms the subject of an interesting narration by Döderlein, of Leipzig (*Archiv. für Gynäkologie*, Band xl. Heft 1), whose contributions on the bacteriology of sepsis are familiar. Three cases of lymphatic infection by the staphylococcus pyogenes aureus and streptococcus pyogenes occurred, the focus of infection being suppurating beneath an ill-fitting glass eye in a patient's orbit. In some manner the midwife who examined her infected her genital tract and that of two others, one of whom died. By control experiments upon animals it was observed that the union of the two microorganisms produced an especially virulent infection. From the standpoint of treatment the intra-uterine douche is of value as soon as high fever announces the infection; if delayed, the microorganisms are beyond the reach of the antiseptic and the douche is harmful. It is given by Döderlein by inserting a Cusco's speculum, washing out the vagina with sterile water and inserting a glass douche-tube into the uterus, through which sterile water is allowed to run until it is seen that the flow is uninterrupted. A two per cent. creolin solution is then used to thoroughly douche the uterus. For the treatment of puerperal peritonitis, he advises absolute rest, ice to the abdomen, antipyretics, and opium. He believes that internal examination for diagnosis should be as infrequent as possible.—*Ibid.*

COMPLETE PROLAPSE OF THE PREGNANT UTERUS.—A case of complete prolapse of the pregnant uterus at six months is reported by Berne (*Lyon Medical*, Nos. 14 and 15, 1891). The patient was pregnant for the fourth time, and had suffered for several weeks from the presence of the prolapsed uterus between her thighs. Difficult micturition and leucorrhœa had resulted. Replacement was easily effected and maintained by a tampon; pregnancy continued to a successful termination. We recently had occasion to note the remarkable tolerance exhibited by the pregnant uterus in a case of total prolapse at the fourth month in a working woman, who sought treatment at an out-patient clinic. Reduction was easily effected and a fairly good position maintained by a tampon, the mass of which was carded jute covered by cotton, the whole smeared with a lanolin-iodoform paste.—*Ibid.*

TREATMENT OF URTICARIA BY IODIDE OF POTASSIUM.—Stern (*La Semaine Médical* 1890) has treated five cases successfully, four of them being more or less chronic and rebellious to all previous treatment. None of the patients were either syphilitic or asthmatic. In one case, of four months' duration, the itching disappeared on the second day of treatment, and the cure was completed after two and a half drachms of the remedy had been taken. In two cases (one acute, the other chronic) the itching was at first increased, but a successful result was obtained in each case after the administration of seventy-five grains of the drug.—*Ibid.*

PROCTANIN.—Dr. Willy Pohl (Berlin), says that pyoctanin: 1. Is positively non-poisonous. 2. Does not coagulate albumen. 3. Is very diffusible. 4. Has no smell. 5. Does not pain on application, but apparently stops pain. He further speaks of its use in surgery, especially in bruises of the skin, contusions, slight burns, wounds, fistulas, and suppuration of bone. In skin diseases, such as herpes, acne, lupus and erysipelas, it has an excellent curative effect. In diseases of the mucous membranes (nose, throat and ear), it also shows its therapeutic value. Diseases of the eye, as conjunctivitis, iritis, keratitis, choroiditis, etc., may also be effectually treated with pyoctanin. Dr. Schubart (Reinsoz) says that if 1-2 per cent. solutions are ineffective, 5-10 per cent. solutions may be used. Regarding the treatment of the mucous membrane, he cannot state in what per cent. solution to use it.—*Deutsche Med. Zeit.*—*Times and Reg.*

THE TREATMENT OF AMENORRHOEA AND DYSMENORRHOEA BY APIOL.—According to Dr. Delmis, apiol is the active principle of the seeds of parsley. It is an oily fluid of an amber color, heavier than water, having a special odor resembling that of the seed from which it is obtained; has a piquant acrid flavor; insoluble in water, soluble in alcohol and ether, and in chloroform. It was at first supposed to be succedaneum for quinine, but observation has not confirmed this. The experiments of Joret and Homelle have pronounced it to be a valuable emmenagogue. These observations have been confirmed by many other authorities, which are enumerated. In a physiological point of view apiol is absolutely innocuous. In doses of from fifty centigrammes to one gramme it produces slight cerebral excitement, such as is caused by coffee. In doses of from two to four grammes it produces drunkenness. With reference to its therapeutic action it has an effect on the uterus analogous to that of digitalis on the heart. To produce its full effect it should be given shortly before each period.—*Le Progrès Médical.*