

Selections.

Hereditary Syphilis.

R. Matzenauer (*Wiener klin. Wochenschrift*) treats in an exhaustive article the question as to whether a paternal inheritance may be demonstrated, and comes to the conclusion that it cannot. He believes that Colles's law has no exceptions, and that cases of this kind cited in current literature which would demonstrate such exceptions are due to errors. Every apparently healthy though immune mother of a hereditary luetic child has latent syphilis. There is no hereditary syphilis without syphilis of the mother; it therefore follows that the mother of the syphilitic infant, even though she shows no symptoms, should be treated specifically. He advises that a syphilitic man in order to prevent the infection of the woman should not marry before the lapse of a number of years, nor until receiving a number of specific treatments.—*Medical Age*.

The Operative Treatment of Puerperal Pyemia.

Sippel (*Centralbl. f. Gyn.*) is induced by Trendelenburg's success in curing a case of puerperal pyemia by ligation of the hypogastric and spermatic veins to draw attention to the fact that in 1894, in a case of purulent phlebitis of the uterus which took the form of an acute pyemia, he proposed to remove the uterus and resect the internal spermatic and uterine veins, though he did not actually carry out this proceeding. Of four cases of puerperal pyemia, two recovered spontaneously; the other two could not for independent reasons be operated on, and both died. Sippel is not inclined to the extraperitoneal method suggested by Trendelenburg, and would only proceed by laparotomy, and having done so would remove the uterus as well as the veins; but many a case of pyemia recovers spontaneously, and operation is not indicated unless life is endangered.—*Medical Age*.

Concerning Sea-Sickness.

Binz (*Centralblatt fuer Innere Medicin*), concludes that sea-sickness is due to anemia of the brain, and that the shaking of the vessel causes a contraction of the arteries of the head, which brings about this anemia. Acute local anemia has here, as in other cases, a tendency to produce nausea and vomiting. He would explain the periods of rest and ease by the fact that the act of vomiting, and the violent action of the abdominal muscles forces more blood to the brain. This overcomes for a time the anemia and its consequences. The stomach plays only