

softening antiseptic ointment as the ointment of oxide of zinc.

If operation be imperative, anesthetize completely by ether or chloroform; do not depend on any local anesthetic, for they are all more or less dangerous or disagreeable. Slit the nail through the middle well up into the matrix, and tear each half off with forceps. Cauterise the depths of the matrix thoroughly with caustic potash stick, making certain that no portion of the nail remains, and that every part of the root has been touched. Dress antiseptically. The operation does not take five minutes after anesthesia is complete, and is invariably successful when properly performed.

X-LIGHT IN THERAPEUTICS.

C. E. Skinner, New Haven, from his experience with the x-ray as a therapeutic agent in cases of malignant growths, draws the following conclusions: (1) The pain of deeply seated cancer is removed by x-light to an extent ranging from slight amelioration to entire disappearance, in a large proportion of cases. (2) In many cases x-light is capable of exercising an influence upon deeply seated cancer of sufficient intensity to retard markedly the progress of the disease, whereby life may be prolonged even in cases in which it cannot ultimately be preserved. (3) In a proportion of cases, the figure representing which has not yet been ascertained, x-light possesses the power entirely to overcome deeply seated malignant processes, restoring the patient to apparently perfect health. (4) A small number of deeply seated malignant growths exhibit absolutely no indications that they are susceptible of influence by x-light, and continue their ravages apparently unimpeded, ultimately compassing the destruction of the patient. (5) Phenomena consisting of chills, rise of temperature, etc., indicating systemic toxemia, not infrequently accompany the treatment of malignant disease by x-radiance. This condition is probably due to the development or liberation of a toxin, the formation of which is also probably dependent upon retrogressive metamorphosis occurring in masses of tissue which have become too deeply involved in the malignant change to be susceptible of regeneration. This auto-infection is capable of reaching a degree of profundity sufficient to overwhelm the nervous system and destroy the patient; therefore it is wise to interrupt the