

carried through the latter, its force being regulated according to the patient's strength. To ascertain whether sufficient electricity has been administered, the patient exposes the burn for an instant to the air, and if he does not feel the intense pain any more, the operation may be suspended—in the contrary case it must be resumed until that effect is produced. So long as the part affected remains immersed in water, under the influence of electricity, the patient feels no pain. In mild cases, an hour's exposure to electricity is sufficient for complete relief; in more serious cases it must be continued for three or four hours, but the cure is stated to be both prompt and certain. When the whole person has been injured by the flames, the patient must be put into a bath with the negative pole in the direction of the feet, and the positive one placed in contact with the nape of the neck. Part of the water must be changed every quarter of an hour, to prevent the bath from getting warm.—*Correspondence of the Philadelphia Med. and Surg. Reporter.*

**OXALIC ACID AND BARYTA.**—Dr. Onsmum remarks, that in cases of poisoning by salts of baryta, or by oxalic acid, insoluble precipitates of sulphate of baryta, or oxalate of lime, may be discovered obstructing the branches of the pulmonary arteries; the soluble salts of baryta becoming decomposed by the sulphates of the blood, and the oxalic acid forming the oxalate with its salts of lime. He says that chemical analysis has in all instances proved their presence in the lungs, even when they could not be discovered either in the brain, the spinal cord, the kidneys, or the muscles.—*Virchow's Archiv.*

**ARSENIC IN PEMPHIGUS.**—Mr. Hutchinson of the Metropolitan Free Hospital, gives a very interesting case in proof of the wonderful effect of arsenic in the cure of pemphigus. He says that it renders relapses less likely, and that an improvement may be noticed immediately on its employment, not a single fresh bulla showing itself after the first few days of the treatment.—*Medical Times.*

**SULPHUR IN ASTHMA.**—Dr. Duclos of Tours recommends washed sulphur in doses from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  grains three times a day for several months. And the Boston Medical Journal mentions three very bad cases of asthma which it says were completely cured by this treatment. It is simple, and may be readily tried.

### To Correspondents.

**Coating for Pills.**—To coat pills similar to those of Blanchard, Mr. Baildon, in the Pharmaceutical Journal, directs one drachm of balsam of tolu to be dissolved in three drachms of chloroform. A few drops of the solution is put with the pills into a suitable box and shaken; the pills are afterwards turned upon a slab, and so placed that each shall be separate. They will become quite hard in a few minutes.

**Eau Sédative de Raspail.**—Spts. hartshorn (aqua ammonia) 2 oz.; spts. camphor, 1 oz.; common salt,  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.; water, 2 pints. Mix the camphor and hartshorn together, and dissolve the salt in the water, adding a few drops of ammonia, having stood until clear, pour it off and add to it the first mixture. Always keep the bottle stopped and in a cool situation, and shake before using. The parts are directed to be bathed with it, but when a more powerful action is required, wet compresses may be substituted. We publish the above as it is a remedy much inquired after at present for the cure of inflammations, pains, stings of insects, and a thousand and one other ailments. It must not be applied to scoriated surfaces.

**A Good Linctum.**—Gum, camphor, castile soap, and the oils of origanum and rosemary, of each 2 oz.; strongest liquor of ammonia,  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.; tincture of opium,  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.; alcohol, 2 pints. Soften the soap with 4 oz. of water by means of heat; dissolve the essential oils and camphor in the alcohol;

mix in the soap and laudanum, and lastly the ammonia; let it stand for 24 hours and filter for use. Other oils may be substituted for the ones mentioned if desired. Oil of castor put with a little benzoin makes a very agreeable linctum but is somewhat more expensive.

**Whitlow and Felon.**—Any collection of pus in the finger is termed by authors a whitlow, but when it forms beneath the periosteum it is denominated a felon; the latter produces the destruction of the bone if not timely prevented by deep incision. In America we find that Mr. Luke has been very successful with arsenical ointment ( $\frac{1}{2}$  gr. to the oz. of simple cerate) in obstinate cases of whitlow; it may therefore be well to try it in the one you mention.

**Medical Works published in Great Britain from the 1st December, '63, to the 15th January, '64, with their sizes, numbers of pages, publishers' names, and prices in sterling.**

Churchill (Flowerwood)—On the Diseases of Women, 6th ed. revised and enlarged, post 8vo., pp. 915, 12s. 6d. (Simpkin.)

Gray (Henry)—Anatomy, Descriptive and Surgical, 3d ed. by T. Holmes. Royal 8vo., pp. 800, 2s. (Longman.)  
Thomas (Evans)—Remarks on Skin Eruptions after Vaccination, and on other Matters connected with the practice being selections from notes of 3,500 Cases. 8vo., pp. 112, sewed, 1s. (Simpkin.)

### Periodicals received since 15th January.

The Madras Quarterly Journal, July '63. Australasian Medical and Surgical Review, Melbourne, Nov. '63. London Medical Times to January 30th. American Medical Times to Feb. 8th. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal to Feb. 11th. Ohio Medical and Surgical Journal, Columbus, January. Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal, San Francisco, December. Cincinnati Lancet and Observer, January. Chicago Medical Journal, February. Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Reporter to Feb. 6th. Philadelphia Dental Cosmos, February. American Druggists' Circular, February. London Publishers' Circular to 1st Feb. London Chemist and Druggist, January. The Bookseller, London, Dec. 24th. Buffalo Med. and Surg. Journal, Feb.

### Books and Pamphlets received during the Month.

Lectures on Orthopædic Surgery, delivered at the Brooklyn Medical and Surgical Institute. By Louis Bann M.D., M.R.C.S. Eng., Professor of Anatomy and Clinical Surgery, &c. &c. With numerous illustrations, 8vo., pp. 104. Lindsay & Blackiston, 1864. From the author.

Retrospect of Medicine by W. & J. Braithwaite, M.D. Vol. 44, July to December, 1863. 12mo. pp. 448. Simpkin.

A Practical Treatise upon Eczema, including its Localities, Impetiginous, and Pruriginous varieties. By T. M. Anderson, M.D., Physician to the Dispensary for Skin Diseases, Glasgow, &c. 8vo., pp. 143. Churchill & Sons, 1863. From the author.

Special Therapeutics. An investigation into the treatment of Acute and Chronic diseases by the application of the Hot Air Bath and Inhalation. By J. C. Lory Mand M.D., M.R.C.P., London, &c. Post 8vo., pp. 132. Haselwick. From the author.

The Nervous and Vascular Connection between the Mother and Fœtus in Utero. By John O'Reilly, M.D. F.R.C.S.I., New York, 8vo., pp. 76. From the author.

Phenomena of Life from Two Antagonistic Principles: Inervation. A pamphlet by J. G. Freel, M.D., of Salem, C. V. From the author.

Medical Logic. An introductory Lecture by S. G. Armstrong, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica, University of Michigan. From the author.

### First Year's Subscriptions paid since 15th January

Dr. H. A. Mienault, St. Denis; Dr. James O'Reilly, New York; Dr. L. Boudriès, Worcester, Mass.; Dr. E. H. Todd, Dr. J. Reddy, Dr. W. P. Smith, E. Spriggins, J. Gould, and A. Christie, Esqs., all of Montreal.

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