

hæmoglobin, or even that of the red corpuscles, as the primary affection, he states that contraction of the vessels is always present in these cases, as indeed was observed by Bamberger, Rokitansky, and Virchow; and this, he contends, is not to be regarded as a complication due to an altered condition of the blood, but as the primary condition which is followed by the morbid change in the blood. As a matter of fact, the vessels are, he says, too full, or in the condition termed by the older physicians "plethora ad vasa," the blood being—or becoming—abnormally serous. Long ago his attention was struck by the cold and livid condition of the skin in anæmic subjects, and he was led by this to employ hot baths, together with gentle friction, in the treatment, with the view of acting directly upon the skin, so as to improve the vitality and nutrition generally. The success of his first attempts was so marked that he was encouraged to persevere in this line of treatment, and he has since had many opportunities of extending his experience with it. Hot baths diminish the plethora by relaxing the tension of the vascular system, which is high, quickening the circulation, and thus relieving the palpitation, dyspnœa, and other symptoms. In thirty cases where the distress of the patient was very great, Dr. Scholz has gone a step further and supplemented the hot bath by venesection. Paradoxical as this treatment may appear, it was followed by marked benefit, and if the theory of the pathology of chlorosis above mentioned be correct, there can be little doubt that the novel line of treatment practised by Dr. Scholz is justifiable.

INDUCTION OF PREMATURE LABOR.—This procedure being often necessary, the following by Dr. Balandin (*Annales de Gynéc.*) will be of interest to our readers. He gave the results of forty-three induced labors, the only assistance in each case being that rendered by an experienced midwife. Strict antiseptic precautions were enforced, and the two methods habitually employed for inducing labor where the introduction of the bougie and puncture of the membranes. As auxiliary measures, electricity and douching were practiced. Injections were thrown up between the uterus and the ovum, either 2 per cent. boric acid solutions being used, or sterilized water at a temperature of about 100° F. The bougie often acted but

slowly after several days or weeks, and sometimes not at all. Its efficacy appeared to diminish with the increase of the antiseptic precautions. But it never set up febrile reaction, or caused any other complications. After puncture of the membranes, uterine contractions did not invariably set in. This was mostly the case when the uterus was but slightly excitable, and had relaxed parietes. In one case, intermittent flow of the waters continued for eight days after puncture, without contractions setting in. In an instance of this kind, more radical courses were needed. Dr. Balandin usually dilated the cervix with his finger, turned by the combined external and internal method, drew down a foot, and slowly extracted the fœtus. Not a single mother was lost. No reaction even followed the turning cases. In the last series of twenty cases, nineteen children were saved.

ANOTHER TREATMENT OF ASTHMA.—Says Pearse in *The Practitioner*: There is one other method of treating asthma that is not, I think, regularly practiced, but to which I wish more particularly to draw attention. A person liable to attacks of asthma should be classed with those persons who have fits of epilepsy, and with those who suffer occasionally from "sick-headaches." By this I mean that all these patients have unstable nerve-centers, liable to explode their energies at any moment and exhibit the pathological phenomena peculiar to nerve-storms. Our treatment here should, I think, be an endeavor to break the habit morbidly acquired by the nerve-centers, and by regular prolonged medication to maintain the centers in a state of more stable equilibrium. This is done very successfully in the majority of cases of epilepsy, and I have applied the same principle with success in cases of severe migraine and asthma. In these cases I give chloral and belladonna night and morning, or every night at bed-time, and I have found the attacks not only lessened in frequency, but also considerably diminished in severity.

SAYS Morell Mackenzie: I believe that Koch's fluid is an agent of the highest possible value for the detection of tubercle, a remedy of great potency for certain of the slighter manifestations of tuberculosis, a palliative for some of the distressing symptoms of the severer forms of the disease, and