

mas time. No one can dawdle with impunity under the present requirements. Every moment lost at the beginning will have to be paid for later on, a fact that the beginners are apt to ignore in the happy excitement of their new surroundings.—*Hosp. Gazette.*

PROFESSIONAL EUPHEMISM.

"What would you advise, doctor?" groaned the young man the next morning after the banquet.

"My advice, sir," replied the physician, after feeling the caller's pulse, examining his tongue, and pondering deeply a few moments, "is that you give up all thoughts of business for the day, return to your residence, retire to your own apartment, have some water heated to the boiling point, procure a number of clean cotton bandages, dip them carefully in the water, apply them to the head as hot as you can bear them, and keep them constantly moistened, replacing each bandage by a fresh one as soon as it becomes noticeably reduced in temperature. Maintain this method of treatment for six hours and you will be relieved."

"Christopher Columbus!" ejaculated the young man, an hour or two later, while carrying out these instructions, "I paid that doctor \$5 for telling me to go home and soak my head."—*Chicago Tribune.*

HYPODERMIC MEDICATIONS.

The following precautions, which are issued with Messrs. Burroughs, Welcome & Co.'s hypodermic tabloids, are worth remembering:—

Solutions of the alkaloids soon decompose and should therefore be freshly prepared.

The smallest size of each tabloid given is the one generally preferred.

The dose, hypodermically, is always less (the proportion varies) than by the stomach.

Great care should be taken not to throw a medicament into the vein, and so produce a sudden overwhelming effect.

Fatal collapse might ensue from injecting air into a vein.

Absorption of an injection over the temple or chest is twice as rapid as elsewhere.

The prick of the hypodermic needle in the chest has been followed by instant death.

Syncope may follow an injection, if patient do not remain quiet and lying down.

For safety and freedom from pain, an injection should be made in the outside of the arms or thighs, or in the abdomen or back.

Injections should not be made over bony prominences, or into inflamed or tense tissues. Mercury, ergot, &c., are best injected into the muscles, as in the nates.

It is not usually considered safe to repeat an injection (as of morphine) for 20 or 30 minutes.

SWALLOWED THE THERMOMETER.

The patient, a German, who understood but little English, was admitted to the hospital for a fever not yet diagnosed, says, Dr. M. Singer, of Galveston, Tex., in the *Medical Record*. As soon as he was seated by his bedside I introduced the thermometer into his mouth, enjoining him at the same time not to bite or swallow it. Standing in front of my patient I saw the thermometer disappear in his mouth, while at the same time a motion as of deglutition was performed by the man. When I recovered from the shock such a sight gave, I requested my patient to open his mouth. Sure enough the instrument was there no longer, and when I asked the man in German what he had done with the thermometer, he answered that he had understood me to say that he should swallow it, and of course he had obeyed orders.

I snatched a blanket from the bed and spread it on the floor, then making the man lie flat on his stomach on the bed, with the head hanging down over the edge of it, I told him that unless he wished to die he should introduce his fingers as far down the throat as possible and make one supreme effort to return that thermometer. This was quickly and efficiently done, for in less time than it takes me to relate it, the thermometer was regurgitated, and fell safe and sound on the blanket. I took the precaution of tying a thread to my instrument whenever it afterward became necessary to take the temperature of this or any other bright-minded patient.

THE VALUE OF BELLADONNA AND HYOSCYAMUS IN DYSMENORRHOEA.

Writing to the *Lancet* of September 22nd, Dr. James Shaw reports:—During the last year he has had occasion to treat several cases of that form of dysmenorrhœa vaguely and variously designated neuralgic or spasmodic, and occurring in young girls, whom it was of course very undesirable to examine. One of these cases was of marked severity, and as it had continued for about a year there was considerable nervous