

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS OF CROUP AND DIPHTHERIA.—Dr. J. Solis-Cohen, Medical Record, presents the following differences between croup and diphtheria:

CROUP.	DIPHTHERIA.
Non-specific in origin.	Specific in origin.
Never contagious.	Often contagious.
Not inoculable.	Inoculable.
Not of adynamic type.	Of adynamic type.
Usually sporadic.	Usually endemic or epidemic.
Rarely attacks adults.	Often attack adults.
Always accompanied by exudation.	Sometimes unaccompanied by exudation.
Fatal only by physical obstruction to respiration, whether directly or indirectly.	Often fatal without any physical obstruction to respiration whatever.
No depression of heart.	Marked depression of heart.
Pulse often strong and hard.	Pulse never strong and hard, even though quick and full.
Respiration more accelerated in proportion to the pulse; ratio rarely, if ever, less than one to four.	Respiration not accelerated in proportion to the pulse; ratio usually less than one to four.
Albumen rarely in urine.	Albumen often in urine.
Not followed by paralysis.	Often followed by paralysis.
Would bear antiphlogistics.	Would not bear antiphlogistics.
Rarely attacks more than once.	Often attacks more than once.

In addition to this, it may be mentioned that diphtheria, unlike croup, has never been thought due to excessive plasticity of the blood.—*American Practitioner*.

RESEARCHES ON THE MILK OF WOMEN TREATED BY MERCURIAL INUNCTION.—Dr. O. Kahler ('Prag. Viertelj.' vol. iii., p. 39, 1875), has published three observations made on syphilitic women who were suckling, and who had been submitted to mercurial inunction. He could find no trace of mercury in the milk of any of them. He thinks that mercury does not escape with the milk until it is given in quantities sufficient to produce symptoms of poisoning; and he thus explains the positive results obtained by some writers who have experimented on animals. He therefore rejects the views of those who would give mercury to the nurse to cure syphilis in the child.—*British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*.

SUCCESSFUL CASE OF TRANSFUSION.—At a meeting of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium (reported in the *Gazette Hebdom.*, February 11, 1876), a paper was presented, reporting successful transfusion of a patient comatose from carbonic-oxide poisoning. The man, aged twenty-five, was in a severe state of collapse, the result of sleeping near a charcoal-brazier; heartsounds, imperceptible; pulse 130; temperature, 37.6°. Two hours later, respiration became slower, and tetanic convulsions set in. Microscopical examination of the blood showed that the red globules had lost their tendency to form rouleaux. Sixty-seven grammes of blood (no mention of the kind of blood used or the method) were transfused; the patient's heart became more active, a chill followed, and the convulsions ceased. In six hours the improvement was well established, and in eight days the patient left the Hospital.—*N. Y. Med. Journal*.

THE AUSTRIAN PHARMACOPEIA.—The Metric system has been introduced into Pharmaceutical use throughout Austria, since January 1, 1876, and for the future all physicians will be expected to prescribe according to it, and all druggists to dispense by it. Tables have been issued for reducing the old grain and ounce weights (the same as we still adopt in Great Britain) into that of the gramme and its fractions; and old prescriptions written prior to the new system, will, if redispensed, have to be so reduced. An excellent feature of the Austrian system seems to us to be, that for poisonous drugs there is not only a maximum single dose defined, but also a maximum collective dose *for the day of twenty-four hours*, which the chemist is forbidden to exceed, unless the prescriber has appended a note of admiration to show that he purposely ordered an unusual dose. We might with advantage take a hint from the Austrian regulations.—*Med. Times and Gazette*.

CANADIANS IN ENGLAND.—George Herbert Buchanan of the ——— School, and Donald B. Fraser, M.B., Trinity College and Toronto University, have passed the final examination for membership of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, England.