

by fats of all kinds, by glycerine, saliva, and by vaseline, the last, however, being perhaps the least hurtful of all. The following directions are given for the preparation of a non-injurious lubricant: Pour *two fluid-ounces of water* into a tarred capsule, heat the water to boiling and add *360 grains of white castile soap* (powdered). Continue the heat and stir until a homogeneous jelly is produced, then add enough hot water to make the contents of the capsule weigh two troy ounces and a half (1,200 grains), after which strain the mixture through cotton gauze. After this pour in *half a fluid-ounce of tincture of quillaja* (1 in 5). The mixture, when cool, has the consistence of thick honey. (6) When instruments show signs of hardening, they should be discarded.

American web-bougies are of the same grades, for they are made of the same material as catheters. A cotton olivary bougie, made by the Lee Company, is recommended as the best for general use. It is solid, slender in the first three inches of its shaft, and consists of a number of layers braided one upon another, and coated with the same varnishes as the catheters, but it is distinguished from other bougies by its vermilion color. It has no ivory tip, is completely coated, and therefore rendered easily aseptic.

In conclusion, a few remarks may be made upon whalebone bougies: They are of two kinds, the one, olivary pointed and elbowed, about one millimetre in diameter, to serve as conductors for larger instruments; the other also olivary pointed and not over a millimetre in diameter for the first three inches, but increasing gradually so that at five inches they are equal to Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 English scale. These bougies should be preserved in metal tubes, and coated with carbolized vaseline.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The general health of the city of Toronto must be a matter of great congratulation to the inhabitants. Only an odd case of infectious fever, such as measles and scarlatina; practically no diphtheria and no typhoid. Something certainly has turned a scale here, and if sanitation has any force, great thanks should be given to the City Engineer for improving our water system, and to the Medical Health Officer for his work in all other particulars.

The stock formerly held by the Johnston & Johnston Co., of King Street west, has been purchased by S. B. Chandler & Son. They are henceforth going to carry on a trade in Druggists' Sundries and Specialties, and will, we presume, be able to supply the profession with any lines needed. This will be found a boon to all, as a line of this kind is often of great use, especially when carried on in conjunction with their large surgical supply.

The time-table for the examinations of the College of Physicians and Surgeons is out, and will naturally be anxiously scanned by eyes of would be practitioners. In the list we notice the change of two examiners: Dr. R. W. Garrett having replaced Dr. Saunders in Theory and Practice of Medicine, and Dr. Ogden Jones, of this city, Dr. Hearn. The written examinations continue from September 12th to 19th inclusive, and the orals start on the latter date.

Our warning in a couple of issues ago with regard to cholera has been amply justified by the occurrence of quite a number of cases in quarantine in New York. It has been well kept under, and the actions of Dr. Jenkins, the medical officer, are to be admired. The almost panic of last year, over a condition of affairs not a bit more serious, compares very unfavourably with the quietness and even-handedness with which things are being carried out now.

Electricity is being carried to a very high pitch in these modern days, and has in many ways become of great advantage in the realms of medicine. We have the easy and seemingly satisfactory method of examination of the bladder and any cavities of the body that can be got at from the outside by the endoscope, the use of the cautery, and many like appliances, and now there seems some probability of a very strong advance. Prominent electricians claim that in a short time an apparatus will be perfected by which the internal parts of the body can be examined. Truly we are rising in the scale, and by the beginning of the twentieth century it will be very hard to say where we will be.