

rheumatism he gave a full dose at the commencement. In syphilis, he gave a course of mercury, and in this way it was stated to be a means of warding off megrim. He relied upon the drug principally for occasional use, but was loth to practice the continued use of a medicine which was not a natural constituent of the blood.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

HYPODERMIC INJECTIONS OF NITRATE OF SILVER IN NEURALGIA.

M. Le Dentu (*L'Union Médicale*) has employed with success these injections, not only in cases of obstinate neuralgia and sciatica, but for the purpose of allaying pain, no matter to what cause it may be due, and especially in cases of arthritis. Two or three drops of a strong solution (one in five) are injected into the cellular tissue; sharp pain at once follows, and at the end of three or four days a small abscess is formed, while the painful symptoms of the original malady have either diminished or disappeared. The abscess he has never found to be attended with any serious consequence, and if opened on the fourth or fifth day it will speedily heal. He believes that in cases where Vienna paste, red hot iron, or other caustics are used, the nitrate of silver injections would be found much superior in efficacy.—*Lon. Med. Record.*

THE FORCEPS IN MIDWIFERY.

Mr. Rigden read a report, in the Southeastern Branch Medical Society, of the last two hundred obstetric forceps cases that had occurred in his practice during the last eighteen years—the proportion being about seven per cent. of the total number of labors. The forceps cases had been generally those in which there was either considerable inertia or marked disproportion, and yet there had been no maternal death and but nine still-births. He advocated the more frequent use of the forceps than was generally taught, the object being to assist, and not, as some practitioners imagined, to interfere with nature. His experience had taught him that the dangers of the forceps were not in its early use where there were no contraindicating circumstances, but in the delay in its application, as the operation certainly prevented much additional suffering and anxiety to the mother, and was a preservative of the life of the infant. His practice was to make as little ceremony as possible about its application, generally to have the forceps with him if likely to require it, and to inform the patient that there was no danger in its careful employment. He deprecated the delay as well as the alarm caused to the patient and her friends by calling in further advice, or by making much ceremony about the application. He believed that obstetric practitioners are now much more than formerly in the practice of using the forceps; and his object in bringing the subject before the meeting was to instil more confidence in its employment.

Dr. Lewis thought that the use of the forceps once in fifteen cases was unnecessary, and that the interference was excessive.

Dr. Bowles was of opinion that the forceps was more frequently used at the present day than it was a few years ago; and that this earlier and increased use of the forceps was justified by experience.

The general feeling of the meeting coincided with this view.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

ANOTHER ECTROTIC IN SMALL-POX.

The powder consisting of four parts sulphur and precipitate, employed by Semaria with such success in eczema and acne, will, he now claims, prevent the unsightly cicatrization after variola. The suppurating pustules are to be first penciled with glycerine and the powder afterward thickly strewed over them. The crust thus formed is cast off without leaving behind any cicatrices.—*Gaz. Med. ital. Lomb.*

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THE WESTERN AND ST. CLAIR MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, the 13th of February, this Association met at Chatham, Ont., there being a good attendance of members. Dr. McGraw, of Detroit, and Dr. Bates, of Washington, were present. Dr. Beemer, of Wyoming, in the absence of the President, was elected to the chair. The following were elected officers of the Association: Dr. Tye, President; Dr. McAlpine, Vice-President for Middlesex; Dr. Longheed, Vice-President for Lambton; Dr. Lambert, Vice-President for Essex; Dr. Sampson, Vice-President for Kent; Dr. Fraser, Treasurer; Dr. Beemer, Secretary; Drs. Bucke and Richardson, Auditors. Dr. Heaming, of Chatham, read a paper "On the Causation and Pathology of Typhoid Fever;" and Dr. Bucke, Superintendent of the Insane Asylum at London, also read a paper, the subject being, "The Moral Nature and the Great Sympathetic." We trust to see this paper in print, for anything emanating from this gentleman is not only well worth being read but well worthy of deep reflection. The meeting adjourned to meet in May or June in Detroit.