

THE TREATMENT OF SARCOMA BY THE TOXIC PRODUCTS OF Erysipelas.—Dr. W. B. Coley (in *Post-Graduate* for August, 1893), gives the results of his observations on Carcinoma and Sarcoma treated by Erysipelas. Of twenty cases of carcinoma, three were cured and one greatly benefited. The remaining cases were improved, and the duration of life prolonged. One case died from the inoculation. With regard to sarcoma, eight cases out of nineteen were well at periods varying from one year to seven years after the attack of erysipelas. Two died as the result of the erysipelas. Repeated injections of living cultures of the streptococcus of erysipelas are made. These injections have more or less effect in reducing the size of the tumor. A true attack of erysipelas is not always induced by the injections. In one case while the tumor was not entirely removed it ceased to grow. In another case it returned in a few months, but disappeared under a second attack of erysipelas, and has never returned. The active principle of the germ seems to give equally good results.

THE THERAPEUTIC USES OF COCILLANA.—Dr. R. W. Wilcox (in the *Medical Age* for August), states that he has found this drug of very great value in acute bronchitis, in subacute and chronic dry bronchitis, and in chronic diseases of the pulmonary tissue. The writer much prefers cocillana to ipecacuanha. In the case of cocillana, the expectorant effect of the drug is obtained by a dosage far short of what is needed for emesis. With ipecac the expectorant dose is often emetic as well. Of the fluid extract, from five to twenty-five minims may be given. It is less depressing than apomorphia, and equally certain as an expectorant. In chronic bronchitis of the dry variety it is specially valuable. Its action in these cases is very certain in liquefying the bronchial mucus. It has also the good effect

of increasing the appetite. In chronic disease of the lung tissue, where an expectorant is required, this drug should be chosen on account of its action on the appetite.

SALOPHEN.—Dr. Edmund Koch, in (*Deutsche Med. Woch.*, No. 18, 1893,) speaks highly of the use of salophen in rheumatism and neuralgia. It is a derivative of salicylic acid and acetyl paramidophenol. It is a white and tasteless powder. As much as six grammes per day may be given. In neuralgia, sciatica, hemicrania, etc., usually doses of gr. x are generally effective. In quantities of 3 to 5 grammes it is devoid of any unpleasant after effects.

NEW METHOD OF DIRECT FIXATION OF FRAGMENTS IN COMPOUND AND UNUNITED FRACTURES.—Senn, in *Annals of Surgery*, makes an earnest plea in favour of a more frequent recourse to direct means of fixation in the treatment of compound and ununited fractures. In preference to suturing, metallic spikes and screws, or ivory cylinders and clamps, Senn prefers, as absorbable interosseous splints, hollow perforated cylinders of bone introduced into the medullary canal; these do not interfere with production of callus, and are more quickly absorbed than ivory or metal. But the safest and most efficient means of direct fixation of oblique fractures is by a bone ferrule, applied in such a way as to surround both fragments. Such a circular absorbable direct splint prevents to perfection lateral and longitudinal displacement, and rotation of the limb below and angularity at the seat of fracture must be prevented by plaster-of-paris splint. Senn has employed this method in three cases with excellent results.

THE THERAPEUTICS OF BROMIDE OF STRONTIUM.—William Murrell (in the *Medical Week* for 25th August, 1893), details at