

April 11, 14, 18—Saw the patient at my office and applied a strong solution of argent. nitrat, gr. xl.— $\frac{3}{4}$ j., instead of the solid stick. Micturition is almost painless.

April 20—Treated her for an attack of neuralgia affecting the brachial plexus on the left side.

April 22—Relieved of the neuralgia.

April 27—The urethra is almost well; the uterus healthy. Decided to give up topical treatment.

May 11—She called to say that micturition is painless. She is much improved in appearance. Ordered cascara sagrada cordial to be taken occasionally, and Bland's pill three times a day.

November 27—The patient called to inform me that her menses had not appeared since August 5, although the last two menses previous to that date had been small in quantity and of short duration, that of August 5 having lasted for only an hour. As the sequel will show, she must have become pregnant shortly after June 5, 1885.

March 14, 1886, 5 a.m.—The patient was taken with labor.

March 15, 3 p.m.—I gave the patient chloroform and delivered her, by the forceps, of a female child weighing about four pounds. The infant did not, at first, give any signs of life, but subsequently recovered.

It is a feeble child, evidently affected with syphilis, exhibiting mucous patches on the hard palate, and looking like a little old woman. I am treating it by mercurial-inunction, and up to the time of the present writing it appears to be doing well. The syphilis was probably communicated to the child by the father, as I had treated him for that disease in 1878. He was at the time of his marriage in good condition, and is now a strong, healthy-looking man.

It is quite likely that the restoration of the urethra to a healthy condition, thus permitting painless coitus to take place, was the principal factor in removing sterility. The removal of the endocervicitis and the wide dilatation of the cervix uteri also contributed to the result. The mother continues to enjoy good health and nurses her child. I cannot say whether or not

she received specific treatment from any of her previous medical attendants.

I am under obligations in the treatment of this case to Drs. W. H. B. Aikins, and M. Wallace.

SAL ALEMBROTH.

SIR JOSEPH LISTER'S LATEST ANTISEPTIC.

BY EDMUND E. KING, L.R.C.P., LONDON.

It may be news to a great many to learn that Lister has discarded the use of the spray almost entirely, the only cases he has used it in during the past fifteen months being operations involving the peritoneum. I have heard him say that of late he has become convinced that it was by no means to the antiseptic properties of the spray that the good results have followed. After careful examination and study he believes that the germicide properties in a solution of 1-40 carbolic, thrown by the spray into the air three or four feet, to be *nil*, or nearly so, and the sole benefit derived was due to the irrigation and absolute cleanliness induced. Carbolic acid was superseded by perchloride of mercury: this, when used for dressing, was, from its forming an insoluble albuminate of mercury, irritating and thus an unsatisfactory dressing. He now uses Sal Alembroth exclusively in his wards for dressings, and it has so far given very fine results. It is a double mercurial salt formed by the sublimation of a mixture of perchloride of mercury and chloride of ammonium, exceedingly soluble. The salt was known to the Alchemists, it has not been used in medicine in modern times. Lister prepares all his dressing now with a 1-100 solution of this, gauze cotton wool, lint, bandages, draw sheets, and where the wound is covered by the shirt, it is rendered septic by dipping it in the solution and drying before the fire. To make any of these dressings, all that is necessary is to soak them in this solution and dry. It not being volatile does not require to be kept sealed in tin cases. He also colors these dressings with aniline blue 1-10000, the benefit to be derived from this is that wherever an alkaline discharge comes in contact with the dressing, the blue is removed and turned reddish, enabling