

hour after food. He has employed it in over 200 cases of insanity accompanied by insomnia, and concludes that it has a hypnotic action which is certain, rapid, intense, prolonged, and harmless. The sleep which it produces is deep, calm and restorative, and lasts generally from four to nine hours. Its use is not followed by any unpleasant phenomena, such as headache and malaise. The drug has no cumulative action. It may be safely used even when the patient's physical condition is weak. Like other hypnotics it has failed to act in certain cases, and in some in which at first it was successful it has after a time entirely lost its power. He considers that it is the hypnotic *par excellence* in the insomnia of the insane, accompanied by serious involvement of the physical health in any form.—*Brit. Med. Journ.*

#### Instrumental Perforation of the Uterus.

Dr. H. Queisner (*Centbl. f. Gynäk.*) reports the following interesting case. Under anesthesia an adherent retroflexed uterus was freed from its adhesions and replaced in its normal position by the aid of the finger introduced into the uterine cavity. With the object of determining the depth of the uterine cavity a sound was passed, and found to enter a distance of four inches. The irrigating catheter of Fritsch was next inserted, and was easily pushed in for nearly two-thirds of its length. With the hand applied over the abdomen externally the point of the catheter was readily felt. There was no question of the existence of a perforation in the uterine wall. All further manipulation was suspended, the uterine canal was packed with iodoformized gauze, an ice-bag applied to the hypogastrium, and opium suppositories ordered. On the fifth day the patient left her bed and on the eighth day she was discharged after the introduction of a Hodge pessary.—*The Post-Graduate.*

#### Ehrlich's Diazo Reaction in Urine.

Krokiewicz (*Wiener klinische Wochenschr.*), after an examination of eleven hundred and five different cases, in which he made sixteen thousand one hundred and sixty-seven tests for Ehrlich's diazo reaction, draws the following conclusions: In diseases of the kidneys, not due to toxic medicaments containing coloring matters, it is never found. In carcinoma of the stomach, liver, esophagus, rectum, pancreas, and uterus the reaction is negative; but in primary carcinoma of the ovaries it is positive. When found in pulmonary tuberculosis the disease runs a short and fatal course. This rule holds good also in the incipient stages. Albuminuria and intestinal ulcers in phthisis have no effect on the reaction. The test is negative in