

hours, as the exigencies of the case demand. In every instance I was well pleased with the progress of cases subject to this treatment, several of which had been ineffectually treated by other methods.

The advantages which I claim for this application are (1) its freedom from odour, (2) its soothing properties and antiseptic action, (3) its superior healing powers, and lastly, its cheapness and the ease with which it can be procured (in most houses, on the shortest notice. This latter advantage is of no small importance, taking into consideration the sudden and frequent occurrence of injuries of this nature in everyday domestic life.

—G. GREENE, L. K. Q. C. P.

OVERFEEDING AS A RUSSIAN POPULAR TREATMENT OF PHTHISIS.—

There is dedicatedly nothing new under the sun. Luckily for Professor Debove, there cannot exist any reasonable suspicion that he is acquainted with the Russian tongue, otherwise it might be thought that he had derived the idea of his method of forced feeding from the Tchernigov peasantry, who treat pulmonary consumption in this way. A strong-linen bag is filled as tightly as possible with twenty pounds of barley flour, then well stitched and put into a kettle with water, and boiled for twenty-four hours. By the end of that time the flour is found to be converted into a very hard mass. The latter, after the outer moist layer has been removed by means of a knife, is thoroughly pounded and mixed with milk. To this two pounds of best butter and the yolks of ten eggs, triturated with a glassful of sugar and two teaspoonfuls of salt, are added, and the whole is baked. When cooled down, the compound is cut into thin slices, which are then well dried and converted into a very fine powder. This powder is given to the patient in whole milk, one tablespoonful to a

glassful, at first once a day, on the next day twice, and so on until the daily dose of twelve glassfuls is reached. Afterwards the dose is gradually diminished.

DR DANDGRAF describes the case of a man who applied at Professor Gerhardt's clinic, suffering from symptoms of left-sided bronchial stenosis. He had attacks of coughing followed by dyspnoea of a severe character, and physical indications of interruption to the passage of air into the left lung. It was decided to catheterize the trachea, and, if possible, the bronchus. The larynx was anesthetized by pencilling it with a twenty per cent. solution of cocaine, and a ten per cent. solution of the same drug was sprayed into the trachea. A catheter was then passed into the windpipe with the greatest ease, for a distance of about twelve inches, where it met with resistance. At a subsequent trial it passed the obstruction, and was introduced a considerable distance farther than at first, affording immense relief. The procedure was repeated several times weekly, and suggests the wider extension of the practice of direct medication of the sub-laryngeal air-passages, preceded by local anesthesia.

ACTION OF BITTERS.—From experiments performed recently in St. Petersburg, Prof. Botkin asserts:

1. That bitters diminish the digestive power, and retard digestion; they diminish the quantity of peptones.

2. That bitters diminish the secretion of the gastric juice. If they produce a feeling of hunger, it is only by irritating the gastric mucous membrane.

3. Bitters have no influence upon the secretion of the pancreatic juice or the bile.

4. Bitters not only do not diminish but actually promote fermentation in the contents of the stomach.