

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful in a wineglassful of water, one hour after each meal-time.

After about two weeks, sometimes from the beginning, an iron tonic is given; and if the patients are weakening rapidly, strychnine combined with calisaya and iron, the iodine being discontinued for a week or two at a time. After three weeks there is usually a perceptible difference in the size of the goitre. In six months many of the goitres disappear, others are reduced to from one-half to one-eighth their original size.—Frederick G. Schaefer, in *Four. Am. Med. Asso.*

### PROTARGOL AND ITS USES.

The salts of silver, both in solution, powder and ointment have become very popular as antiseptics during the last few years and are now very extensively used in all branches of surgery. The most generally used and the most valuable of these preparations is protargol.

Having passed the experimental stage it may now be safely asserted, that protargol is one of the most important additions to the materia medica of recent years. Aside from its general use in the treatment of gonorrhoeal affections it has to a great extent displaced nitrate of silver in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. To obtain uniformly good results attention has been lately drawn to the importance of exercising proper care in making the solutions, a point which has, quite recently, been especially emphasized by Professor Neisser. A clear and satisfactory solution can be secured in any one of the following ways: Stir the protargol powder into a thick and smooth paste with a little cold water and then add the bulk of the fluid. This should be done in a glass or china vessel, using a glass rod; if in a mortar, the latter as well as the pestle should be slightly moistened with a few drops of glycerine. Protargol may also be readily dissolved by dusting the powder evenly upon the surface of the water and allowing the fluid to stand without stirring for about ten minutes. It is very essential that only cold water should be used in making the solutions, as with warm water the drug is to some extent decomposed, and then becomes less active and may cause irritation; for the same reason the solutions should be preserved in dark colored yellow bottles. In acute gonorrhoea the average strength of the solutions ranges from 0.5 to 2 p. c.; in chronic urethritis, up to 5 p. c.; in diseases of the eyes, ears, nose and throat, 2 to 10 p. c.; as an application to wounds and ulcers, 1 to 2 p. c.