

Selections.

TREATMENT OF CHRONIC BRIGHT'S DISEASE.—The following is the treatment recommended by M. Huchard. (*Med. Press and Circular*) for the interstitial nephritis so frequently met with in gouty subjects, and characterized by slight edema, dyspnea, cardiac weakness, and a copious discharge of urine with an insignificant amount of albumen: (1.) For at least fifteen days the patient is given an exclusively milk diet. Two quarts of milk should be taken in the day, at the rate of ten ounces every two hours. (2.) At the same time, a teaspoonful of a mixture of 2½ fluid ounces of liquid extract of kola, and 4 fluid ounces of extract of coca is taken twice a day in milk—at eight in the morning and at noon, the object of which is to counteract the weakness of the patient produced by milk. (3.) If the milk disagree, a little Vichy water may be added, and five or six of the following wafers taken during the day: benzonaphthol, one ounce; pancreatin, 2½ drachms; divided into 40 wafers. If the patient manifests a repugnance for the milk, a little rum, cognac, cherry laurel water, etc., may be mixed with each glass of milk. (4.) Every month the patient should be submitted to this milk diet for five or six days, in order to produce a diuresis, which is the salvation of the case—to effect so to speak, a washing out of the kidneys. (5.) For three days every month a pill should be taken consisting of 1 grain of each powdered digitalis, powdered squill, and scammony. (6.) After the first fortnight of the milk diet solid food may be allowed, provided that a good deal of milk be employed in its preparation. During the first few months the patient should eat no meat, which is the cause frequently of the dyspnea. (7.) For twenty days each month small doses of iodide of sodium (6 to 10 grs. daily) should be

ordered as a heart tonic. (8.) The state of the skin should be attended to; dry friction, or the application of some stimulating liniment daily is of great advantage.—*St. Louis, Med. and Surg. Journal.*

A SURGEON'S NERVE.—The *Medical Record* quotes the following from a magazine: "It is the common belief that a surgeon must possess what is spoken of as an extraordinary good nerve, and you may perhaps doubt if you possess this. At the same time you must bear in mind that in the case of a surgeon the coolness or calmness which is so admirable and necessary in an operation does not imply the possession of any remarkable personal qualities, but it is the simplest result of a complete knowledge of what he is doing. It is rather the natural outcome of his accurate familiarity with anatomy and his daily habit. A trooper would require a very fine nerve to go to a masthead, or a sailor to ride an unmanageable horse across a country; but a sailor's confidence aloft is due more to a matter of habit than to any particular amount of courage. In saying this, I do not wish to depreciate the calmness of the surgeon in the face of difficulties, but I may tell you quite plainly that if you haven't enough courage to be a surgeon I should be very much ashamed of you, and you would turn out to be a very poor creature, whatever occupation you might follow. Still this fact remains. And you may perhaps be interested to hear that I, who have known many good surgeons, have never seen one who has not possessed a very fine courage. In short, a very good surgeon is, in my humble opinion, a very fine fellow, and when I see (as I do see) the extraordinary achievements of modern surgery, I am very proud of belonging to a profession which has made life so much more endurable and prolonged to the human race. So, possibly, the great