

TREATMENT OF ERYSIPELAS.

Dr. W. Ebstein, of Breslau, details a method introduced by Prof. Rossenbach into the Allerheiligen Hospital of that city. The basis of this treatment consists in limiting the spread of the disease to as small an area as possible. To accomplish this the healthy skin surrounding the infected portion is thoroughly cleansed with soap and water; then a strip of healthy skin, bordering on the diseased portion, is, after being thoroughly dried, anointed with five per cent. carbolated vaseline; this done, the same ointment is applied to the diseased portion, but in order to avoid infecting any healthy tissue, *the application must be made from the healthy toward the diseased portion and never the reverse.*

The result of this treatment (which was applied to twenty-seven cases of erysipelas of the head, face, neck, and leg) were most satisfactory. All recovered; the duration of the disease was relatively a short one, and in but few instances did the affection overstep the boundary line; and when it did, only for a short distance, and for a brief period.—*Deutsche med. Wochenschrift*, February 7, 1889,

THYMOL IN THE TREATMENT OF TYPHOID FEVER.

At the Congress of medicine held in Rome last October, Dr. Testi related his experience of thymol in more than 150 cases of typhoid fever treated in the hospital of Faenza. The results were most satisfactory. The temperature was reduced not, he maintained, by the withdrawal of heat from the body, as is the case with ordinary antipyretics, but by moderating its production. The antiseptic action of the drug was also marked; it diminished tympanites, checked diarrhoea, and notably lessened the putrefactive products usually found in excreta. Dr. Testi also states that on microscopic examination he found a remarkable diminution in the number of mucous corpuscles, epithelial debris, and parasitic elements (especially granular) in the stools. The drug has also a marked effect in reducing the excretion of urea, and as it increases the blood pressure it has no injurious influence on the action of the heart. Dr. Testi strongly recommends thymol in typhoid fever as mitigating the severity of the disease and preventing complications.—*British Medical Journal*, February 23, 1889.

ON THE PERIOD FOR SURGICAL INTERFERENCE IN ACUTE INTESTINAL OBSTRUCTION.

Dr. B. W. Richardson recently read before the Medical Society of London a paper on this subject, confining his remarks to acute attacks. He summarized his conclusions as follows:

1. That in all cases of acute intestinal obstruction the use of milder measures, such as purgatives, enemata, massage, etc., might safely be carried out until the supervention of fecal vomiting.
2. That as soon as this was established an exploratory incision into the abdomen should be made without delay.
3. That obscurity of diagnosis, in the presence of this symptom, ought not to be allowed to stand in the way of an operation.
4. That clinical experience showed that there was very little chance of recovery when once stercoraceous vomiting had declared itself unless an operation was performed.
5. That fecal vomiting was a symptom of much more gravity than would attach to the mere mechanical effect of obstruction.
6. That symptoms of collapse were not a contra-indication to operative interference.—*British Medical Journal*, February 23, 1889.

TREATMENT OF OZÆNA.

Prof. Cozzolino, of Naples, recommends the following treatment for ozæna:

R.—Salol.	75 grs.
Boric acid	45 "
Salicylic acid	7½ grs.
Thymol acid	3 "
Powdered talc	2 drachms.

Or

R.—Bichlor. of mercury	1½ grs.
Resorcin	22½ "
Benzoic acid	30 "
Boric acid	3 drachms.

These powders are applied to the nasal passages, after having irrigated the same with carbolic or salt water, using, in so doing, a Weber's douche. At the same time the following preparation is to be applied to the nose morning and evening:

R.—Distilled water	5iv.
Alcohol	1½ ounces.
Chloride of zinc	30 grs.
Thymol acid	3 "
Menthol	4½ "

—*Wiener Med. Presse*, Nov. 4, 1888.

TREATMENT OF INGROWING TOE-NAIL.

Dr. Theodore Clemens, of Frankfort, strongly recommends the employment of tinfoil in the treatment of in-growing toe-nail. He first has the toe thoroughly washed with soap and carefully dried. He then envelopes the whole nail with tinfoil, putting a strip between the portion that grows in and the raw surface caused by it. The tinfoil is fixed by means of a very thin layer of common wax and the patient told not to wash the part, but to use dry bran for rubbing off the dirt. Of course the toe has to be repeatedly dressed with tinfoil; but if