

ceded as sufficiently established by observation to give them weight against the proved safety and efficacy of the treatment when judiciously applied. It has been said that the perchloride acts so powerfully on the walls of the uterus as to leave a layer of dead tissue of some thickness, which is liable to give rise to septicemia. I am not aware that this has been proved by actual observation; it appears to me improbable when the antiseptic property of the solution is considered.

The few reported cases in which the injection had been employed, are not to my mind conclusive evidence of its supposed ill effects.

Deaths from septicemia and other puerperal complications following profuse flooding were sufficiently frequent before the treatment in question was adopted to render it at least doubtful whether the mortality has not been due to other causes than the use of the injection. Granting, however, that in this as in some other powerful remedies employed in circumstances of great and immediate danger to life, there may be a certain possible contingent risk of subsequent mischief, it then becomes a question whether we shall allow a patient to bleed to death before our eyes rather than employ means which we feel confident will rescue her from impending death, although they may subject her to possible future risk.

The mode of applying the remedy has been so fully and accurately described by Dr. Barnes as to render it unnecessary to add anything on that point. It may be well, however, to repeat one condition insisted upon by him, which if neglected will probably cause failure. Before injecting the fluid into the uterus, all coagula or remaining portions of placenta structure must be carefully removed.

A woman was brought into the hospital literally bleeding to death after an abortion at the fourth month. I opened up the cervix with tents and freely swabbed (I never inject the non-pregnant or immature parturient uterus) out the cavity with the undiluted liq. ferri perchloride; but the bleeding, so far from ceasing, appeared to flow more freely than ever. As a last resource I introduced a finger up to the fundus and with infinite difficulty scraped off a minute particle of placenta structure, after which the hemorrhage ceased and the patient slowly but completely recovered.

MEDICAL NEWS.

A first case of Asiatic cholera was observed at Posen on May 24th.

The Royal and Imperial Society of Medical Men of Vienna has decided to open its library and hall to medical men visiting Vienna during the Exhibition.

The first operation for ovariectomy ever performed in Spain took place in Madrid last February. The operation was performed by Dr. Manrique amidst a numerous attendance. The woman died fifty-six hours after.

The new drainage arrangements for Windsor Castle are now complete. The total cost of the works and engines is over 40,000 pounds. The Windsor Local Board was summoned last week by the Thames Conservators for passing the sewage of the borough into the river, but in consequence of the difficulty experienced in procuring the necessary land for the reception of the sewage, the case was adjourned for a month.

Mr. Marshall, F.R.S., and Mr. T. Holmes have been elected Examiners at the Royal College of Surgeons, London, in Anatomy and Surgery respectively.

A parliamentary return has just been issued on the various methods employed in the disposal of sewage. Fifty-four local bodies have adopted filtration, thirty precipitate sewage, and in forty-two cases it is dealt with by the sewage farms.

At a meeting of the Council of Queen's College, Birmingham, held on Friday last (27th ult.) to consider a memorial from the Ladies' Association for the Promotion of the Medical Education of Women, a resolution was unanimously agreed to sustaining the previous adverse decision of the Council in reference to the admission of lady students to Queen's College.

The Imparziale of Florence mentions that the embalming of the illustrious poet Manzoni was performed by the municipal doctors by means of injections and washes with a hydro-alcoholic solution of chloride of zinc, and was eminently successful, thus affording the seventy thousand people who visited the remains of the poet the satisfaction of witnessing again his sympathetic countenance.

Dr. Bottini, a physician of considerable repute practicing near Mentone, lately met his death under singular circumstances. He was being driven over one of the passes of a mountain on his way to see a patient, when the horse slipped, and the carriage was precipitated into the ravine below. Dr. Bottini was killed; but a friend who travelled with him and the driver of the vehicle, although greatly injured, are expected to recover.

Cinchona cultivation in Darjeeling is progressing favourably. Last year the Pomong garden, which is described as a commercial enterprise, yielded 36,000 lb. of dry bark, and this season it will produce 50,000 lb. A moderate estimate gives the produce of dry bark in the next three years at 200,000 lb., calculated to yield 6000 lb. of quinine, and 6000 lb. of other valuable alkaloids. "Fever-stricken Bengal," says the Times correspondent, "with its swamps and malaria, will hail the boon."

THE ENGLISH ADULTERATION ACT.

The want of some specific and legal definition of the word adulteration—i. e., what constitutes adulteration—threatens to render the Act in the majority of cases a dead letter. A great deal of money has been or will be spent in legal proceedings for the purpose of deciding whether the abstraction of cream from milk constitutes an adulteration, and whether a milk merchant who sells milk avowedly as skim-milk can be brought within the clutches of the law. In fact, it has yet to be settled whether an addition to or an abstraction from any article constitutes an adulteration within the meaning of the Act, and until this is finally determined, very little practical good can be derived from its operation. Again, it appears that Dr. Stevenson, analyst for the parish of Clerkenwell, has presented a report on bread and tea to the authorities, and out of a total of forty-seven samples, twelve were more or less adulterated. As regards the tea, the analyst did not recommend a prosecution, because "he did not feel clear that the adulterations had been executed in this country." As regards the bread, Dr. Stevenson also did not recommend any prosecution, "but trusted that those who had adulterated might be warned by samples having been procured for analysis." It is pleasing, but not profitable, to know that a belief in bakers forms part of the faith of a metropolitan analyst.

It would appear, too, analysts, as well as doctors, are prone to differ. Dr. Whitmore, analyst for Marylebone, records in his first report "that of the modes by which the quality of milk is tested the specific gravity is, altogether untrustworthy." But Parkes tells us "the comparison of the specific gravity, and the amount of cream which rises, of fat, will be found to give, in conjunction with the physical characters, a very good idea of the quality of the milk." All these published differences of opinion in practical questions of this sort are not likely to increase the faith of the buying or selling public in the prospective efficiency of the Act.—[Lancet.

PROSPECTUS.

THE CANADIAN

MEDICAL TIMES.

A NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL.

DEVOTED TO PRACTICAL MEDICINE.

SURGERY, OBSTETRICS, THERAPEUTICS, AND THE COL-
LATERAL SCIENCES, MEDICAL POLITICS, ETHICS,
NEWS, AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Undersigned being about to enter on the publication of a new Medical Journal in Canada, earnestly solicits the co-operation and support of the profession in his undertaking.

The want of a more frequent means of communication between the members of this well-educated and literary body has been long felt; since monthly publications such as alone have been hitherto attempted in this country, do not at times fully serve the requirements of the controversies and pieces of correspondence which spring up. It necessarily diminishes the interest of a correspondence to have to wait a month for a reply and another month for a rejoinder; and it is in consequence of this drawback, no doubt, that many important or interesting points are not more fully debated in the monthly medical journals.

THE CANADIAN MEDICAL TIMES, appearing weekly, will serve as a vehicle for correspondence or all points of purely professional interest. It is also intended to furnish domestic and foreign medical news: the domestic intelligence having reference more particularly to the proceedings of city and county Medical Societies, College and University past-lists, public and professional appointments, the outbreak and spread of epidemics, the introduction of sanitary improvements, etc. Many interesting items of this nature, it is hoped, will be contributed by gentlemen in their respective localities.

If the interest of a correspondence can be maintained and its freshness preserved by a weekly publication, it must be yet more valuable to have weekly notices instead of monthly ones of the advances which are continuously being made in the medical art. Obviously the sooner a medical practitioner hears of an improvement the sooner he can put it in practice, and the sooner will his patients reap the benefit. In this manner, the value of a weekly over a monthly or semi-annual medical journal may sometimes prove incalculable. Medical papers and clinical lectures, in abstract form or in extenso, will regularly appear and constitute a considerable portion of the new journal. In this way it is intended to furnish the cream of medical literature in all departments, so that a subscriber may depend upon its pages as including almost every notice of practical value contained in other journals.

Original articles on medical subjects will appear in its pages. The growth of medical literature in Canada of late years encourages the hope that this department will be copiously supplied. Notices of cases have been kindly promised, and an invitation to contribute is hereby extended to others who may have papers for publication. If the profession would encourage the establishment of a worthy representative medical journalism in Canada, its members should feel that upon themselves rests the onus of aiding in the growth of a national professional literature.

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