

NOTES ON SPECIALTIES.

SURPRISED AND GRATIFIED.

In relating his experience in the treatment of gouty conditions, Dr. Arthur Bailey Francis, (Queen's College), Belfast, Ireland, reports the case of J. W., a gentleman in advanced life and of marked gouty diathesis, who came under treatment complaining of severe pains in the lumbar region and extending down one leg to far below the knee. Dr. Francis says: "I found that he had received a chill and was also suffering from catarrhal bronchitis. I diagnosed lumbago and sciatica, and put in force the orthodox methods of treatment one after the other, but with little benefit to the patient. Insomnia now became a cause of anxiety, bromides had little or no effect, and I was revolving in my mind the safety and advisability of morphia, hypodermically, when it occurred to me to first try the effect of antikamnia and codeine tablets. This I did, ordering one tablet at bed-hour, to be followed in fifteen minutes by a similar dose, and that also by a third at the expiration of half an hour from the administration of the last. On seeing the patient the following morning I was surprised and gratified to find that he had passed a quiet night, slept well, and that the pain in back and legs was greatly modified. I continued the administration of antikamnia and codeine tablets after this, and before the end of the week the patient was quite free from pain, slept well, and was, in fact, convalescent. I should mention that this patient is seventy years of age, but notwithstanding this I could detect no depressing effect on heart or nervous system consequent on the administration of these tablets."

"Since treating the above case I have prescribed antikamnia and codeine

tablets for insomnia, lumbago, sciatica, neuralgia in all its forms, including tic-douloureux, hemicrania, and that due to dental caries, and always with the most satisfactory results."

AFTERWARDS.

During the acute stages of any serious illness, such as typhoid, pneumonia, la grippe, etc., the attention of the physician is, of course, centered upon the ways and means of conducting the patient through the stress and storm of the disease, into the peaceful harbor of convalescence. In many instances, when this point is reached, the physician is inclined to relax his efforts and, perhaps, fails to appreciate the extent of the general devitalization that has followed the severe systemic infection from which the patient has just recovered. Unless the reparative and restorative forces of nature are fortified and stimulated, a slow and tardy convalescence is apt to supervene. The devitalizing influence of the infectious diseases is exerted principally upon the blood itself, the vital tissue of the organism, and an easily tolerable, readily absorbable and promptly efficient hematinic is therefore always in order. Pepto-Mangan (Gude) is peculiarly adapted to the needs of the convalescent invalid, because, being palatable and non-irritant, it does not impair the appetite or disturb the digestion. Its freedom from constipating effect is another distinct point in its favor.

THE DOSE OF CODEINE.

Fraenkel (*Munch. med. Woch.*) claims that codeine must be given in larger doses than is generally used in order that the full effect may be ob-