

SALICYLATE OF LITHIA IN ACUTE ARTICULAR RHEUMATISM.

Dr. Vulpian states that salicylate of lithia is more efficacious than salicylate of soda in cases of acute and progressive subacute articular rheumatism. It also has some effect in chronic cases when a certain number of the joints are still deformed, swollen, and painful. Four to four and a half grams, and even five grams, may be given in the day. If the improvement is not lasting, fifty centigrams may be added to the daily dose. Sometimes, when the dose is increased to five or five and a half grams, symptoms of intolerance begin to be shown. Salicylate of lithia may be given dissolved in water, in powder, or in unleavened bread, during or after meals, in doses of fifty centigrams. The physiological effects of the drug are headache, giddiness, and deafness.—*British Medical Journal*.

TREATMENT OF SCIATICA.

Dr. Metcalf, of New York, says that no prescription for sciatica has ever equalled in efficacy the following: Tinct. aconit rad., tinct. colchic. semr., tinct. belladonna, aa 3 j. M. Sig: Dose, six drops every six hours. He also uses triturate tablets, each containing three drops of the following:—Tincture of aconite root, tincture of actea racemosa—equal parts by volume. Dose, one every four or eight hours.—*Journal American Medical Association*.

HOW TO GIVE CASTOR OIL.

Dr. Field, in a recent book, "Evacuant Medication," gives the following formula as useful in administering castor oil, especially in dysentery and enteritis, when purgation and a healing and tonic influence is required:

Ol. terebinth.....gtt. lxxx;
Ol. cinnamon.....Mv;
Ol. ricini.....3 v;
Mucil. acac.....q.s;
Syr. simpl.....q.s;
Aq. puræ, q. s. ad..... $\frac{3}{4}$ ij.

M. Sig: Shake thoroughly. One teaspoonful, repeated *p. r. n.*

THE TREATMENT OF STYE.

Styes are such troublesome little ailments that the following remedy for their cure, recommended by M. Abadil, may be welcome:—

℞ Acidi boracic, 10 grammes
Aque dest., 300 grammes
Dissolve.

With a wetted piece of wadding, drop some of this solution on the styte several times a day. It is said not only to effect a cure, but to prevent a return of the annoyance.

ANTISEPTIC GAUZE.

Dr. A. G. Gerster, in the New York *Medical Journal*, describes a way to make antiseptic gauze easily and cheaply. Twenty-five yards of cheese cloth, which can be procured at any dry-goods store for a trifling sum of money, are divided into four equal parts. Each of these is folded eight times, rolled up loosely, and tied with a string. To make the gauze absorbent it is put into a common wash-boiler, covered with water, to which a pound of washing soda or saleratus has been added, and boiled for an hour. After this it is rinsed in cold water for ten minutes to free it from the soda, passed through a clothes-wringer, and placed in a stone or glass jar or an enamelled kettle, filled with a corrosive sublimate lotion of 1 to 1000 strength, to remain therein for twenty-four hours. It is then passed through the wringer again, and hung up to dry over night when the air is free from dust. The string put about each piece should not be removed until the time of drying, as it will keep the folds from getting disarranged. The dried pieces are ready for use, and will keep clean if wrapped in a towel or put away in a jar.

When the gauze is used, suitable sized pieces, each eight folds thick, can be cut out with a pair of stout scissors.

Iodoform gauze is made by sprinkling iodoform powder from a pepper-shaker uniformly over the moist compress, and rubbing it thoroughly into the meshes between the fingers.

An excellent substitute for gauze in an emergency is common cotton batting well soaked in solution of corrosive sublimate (1 to 1000). The package of batting is unrolled in an ordinary manner, and cut into square pieces of desired size. Each of these is refolded into a small square, and thoroughly kneaded in a wash-basin filled with the mercuric solution till completely saturated. When wrung out, and unfolded to its original shape, it is ready for use. Any clean fabric of cotton or linen, soaked in mercuric solution, makes a good antiseptic dressing.

CHEADLE: CONSTIPATION IN CHILD- HOOD AND ITS SEQUEL, ATONY, AND DILATATION OF THE COLON.

(*Lancet*, December 4 and 11, 1886.)

In these two lectures the author discusses this important subject in an interesting and profitable manner.

Among the causes existing in adults for constipation, he mentions dread of stool from the pain which accompanies the act as being an important factor in many cases among children. The continued and habitual use of coarse foods, such as oatmeal, etc., he thinks not advisable, as these, like too many purgatives, tend to produce atony of the muscular coat from continued over-stimulation.

The habitual use of enemata is productive only of harm. Cases are cited where this practice had