

"TAKE YOUR MEDICINE."—As is only too well known, children and infants frequently refuse to take medicines, however palatable they may have been made. A great deal of trouble may be saved, I find, by fixing the cheeks firmly with the finger and thumb of the left hand, whilst the spoon is inserted with the right. By this method, which I first observed practised by a young married lady recently, the first essential in the act of deglutition is provided for, namely, a fixed point for the pharyngeal muscles. Ordinarily this provision is effected by closing the mouth, and there cannot, I think, be any doubt that the prevention of the natural process by the presence of the spoon leads in great part to the struggle to avoid taking medicine. When the approximation of the lips is prevented by the firm forward pressure of the finger and thumb, medicine may be poured into the pharynx without fear of it being spat out, and the most refractory child will, as a rule, discreetly swallow it. The practice of nipping the nose, should, I am sure, be strongly condemned, because of the risk incurred of forcing the medicine along the Eustachian tube.—Dr. Illingworth in *Br. Med. Jour.*

NAPIER (A.) ON THE TREATMENT OF ALOPECIA AREATA.—The patient, a young woman of twenty-six years, had suffered from the disease for sixteen years. For four years there was not a single hair on the head, and the eyelashes and eyebrows had been absent for ten years. The treatment consisted of tonics (chiefly iron and strychnine) internally, while locally a stimulating lotion, consisting of equal parts of carbolic acid, rectified spirit, glycerine and water, was rubbed in twice daily. Within the last few months nitrate of pilocarpine ($\frac{1}{4}$ grain in pill at bedtime) has been given, with good effect. The hair is now growing fairly well over nearly the whole head; it is glossy, strong, and deeply pigmented, and remains in when it does grow. The eyebrows and eyelashes have re-appeared.—*Glasgow Med. Jour.*, April, 1889.

AN Exchange gives the following:—The Doctor's daughter: "I declare you're a dreadful fanatic, Mrs. McCizzom. I do believe you think nobody will be saved but you and your minister."

Old lady: "Aweel, my dear; ah whiles hae my doots about the meenister!"

It is said that (*Ex.*) persons rendered insensible by the inhalation of illuminating gas, may be quickly restored by the administration of a few drops of acetic ether on a lump of sugar.

DEATH FROM ETHER.—A patient named Fero died (*Times and Reg.*), on the operating table at Philadelphia City Hospital, from the effects of ether. The operation was for hip-joint disease.

Reports of Societies.

THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Ninth Annual Meeting of this body was held, June 5th and 6th, in the theatre of the Normal School, Toronto, the President, Dr. Henderson, of Kingston, in the chair; Dr. D. J. Gibb Wishart, Secretary. The attendance was the largest of any previous meeting, quite a number of American delegates and representatives being present, as also gentlemen from the sister province of Quebec.

The routine business being finished, Drs. Gibson, of Belleville, and Campbell, of Seaforth, read reports of some interesting cases, which was followed by the usual amount of discussion. In the afternoon, the President's address was the first on the programme. It was listened to with marked attention and interest. It appears in another place of this issue.

The discussion in Surgery was opened by Dr. W. T. Aikins, of Toronto, who took as a subject the "General Management of the Patient and Sick Room in Surgical Cases."

The Dr. dealt with the question of pure air in the sick room, and maintained that this branch of treatment was frequently neglected. He believed that the men and women of Ontario were not possessed of the same quality of bone and sinew, or for that part of height, as their forefathers of the old lands. The speaker laid a great deal of stress upon the filtration of air for the sick room especially in cities. He recommended the placing in the window of the sick room of two sheets of mosquito netting with cotton batting between. In cases of consumption he had seen great benefits result from the use of filtered air. Pure air as the greatest single remedy for consumption he thoroughly believed in.

The discussion was continued by Drs. Cameron and Britton, of Toronto, and Ruttan, of Napanee.

Dr. Roswell Park, of Buffalo then read a paper on the "Radical Cure of Hernia," which also appears in this number. The paper was well received and induced much profitable discussion. At four p.m. the Association divided into sections when Dr. Holmes, of Chatham took the chair in the

MEDICAL SECTION.

Here Dr. Smith, of Seaforth, read a very interesting and thoughtful paper on "Reflex Nervous Phenomena due to Preputial Contractions." The Dr. related the history of three cases, bearing out his ideas on this subject, which must be looked upon as orthodox and worthy of most careful attention, at the hands of the profession. He referred to Mr. Owen's teaching, that a small preputial or urethral orifice are perhaps the most common causes of hernia in children.

Dr. McKinnon's paper on "Venesection in Puer-