

FOR CONSTIPATION and the resulting fermentation and abdominal bloating, the following mass is recommended in the *Philadelphia Policlinic*:

- R—Creasote (beech-wood), ℥ lxxii.
 Purified ox-gall, gr. lxxii.
 Pancreatin, gr. xxxvi.
 Ext. nux vomica, gr. xii.
 Phenyl-salicylate, gr. xxxvi.

M. Sig.—Make a mass. Divide into 36 equal parts and dispense in capsules. Dose:—One capsule immediately after each meal.

Four grains of aloin may be added to the mass if not sufficiently laxative.

TREATMENT OF CANCER BY SEROTHERAPY.—Our French correspondent, *Med. Pres.*, reports that at the last meeting of the Paris Academie des Sciences, Drs. Hericourt and Richet presented a paper in which they recorded the results of their investigations into the treatment of cancer by serum. They injected an animal with extract from a sarcomatous tumour, and subsequently used the serum of the animal for injections into the human subject. They state that, short of actual cure, which they do not claim, the greatest benefit followed the injection. Pain was decidedly relieved, the ulceration healed up, and the tumours reduced in size, and they are encouraged to hope eventually for complete cure.

SURGICAL USES OF KEROSENE.—Schirman, *N. Y. Med. Jour.*, reports the satisfactory employment of kerosene as a local application to wounds and ulcers of the trunk and extremities. Ulcers, especially indolent and atonic ulcers, were smeared with commercial kerosene, either pure or diluted (from 35 to 50 per cent.) with alcohol, by means of a small camel's-hair brush or with a piece of gauze soaked in the solution. The appearance and character of the ulcers soon changed for the better, the discharge gradually diminished, and in from two to four weeks the rapidly granulating surface formed a scar without any contraction in the surrounding parts. The advantages claimed for kerosene are rapidity of action, economy of cost, and freedom from complications and toxic effects.

BAILEY & FAIRCHILD Co., of New York, take pleasure in announcing to the Medical Profession the establishment of the Doctor's Story Series, to be issued quarterly at \$2 a year, 50 cents a num-

ber. Each number will consist of a complete work of fiction by medical authors. Only such works as are of established value will be reproduced in this popular form. King's "Stories of a Country Doctor," will be issued January, 1896, to be followed in March by Dr. Phillips' wonderful novel "Miskel," and later by a new novel now in preparation by the same author.

THE Anatomy Law of Wisconsin has been changed, making it obligatory upon public officials to deliver to the secretary of any local or State medical school, any unclaimed body that is to be buried at public expense.

SEPTICÆMIA.—The latest treatment for general septicæmia is hypodermic injections of creosote. The creosote is mixed with equal parts of camphorated oil, and twenty minims of the solution are injected three times a day.

Books and Pamphlets.

CONSUMPTION: ITS NATURE, CAUSE, AND PREVENTION; with an outline of the principles of treatment. By Edward Playter, M.D. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. 1895. pp. 300.

The author, who has for twenty years been editor of *The Canada Health Journal*, has himself made some special investigations relating to the causes of consumption, and during a practice of over a quarter of a century given special attention to the subject. He believes, and quotes high authorities to show that the body factor or condition—the so-called "soil"—arises directly and immediately from the decomposition of retained effete substances in the blood and tissues, the result of imperfect metabolism, from a proportionately small respiratory capacity and want of oxygen; and that this factor, rather than the bacillus, should be regarded as the exciting cause of the disease, often giving virulency to the bacillus, also an essential factor. He believes the disease is in a degree infectious, but that preventive measures should bear rather against the body condition as the more important and preventable cause, and quotes Sir James Clark and others in support of this. The following indicates the heads and sub-heads under which some of the preventive measures are treated: Pure air, soil, dwellings, bed-rooms, respiratory