

ANTIPYRINE IN ERYSIPELAS.

Dr. Favre, of Fribourg, says the *British Medical Journal*, has reported an unusually severe case of erysipelas showing the high curative value of antipyrine. A woman, aged thirty years, suffered from facial erysipelas accompanied by somnolence, vomiting, constipation, and high fever. In spite of application of cold carbolic acid, ichthyol, corrosive sublimate, strips of adhesive plaster, etc., the morbid process gradually extended over the scalp, neck, chest, upper extremities, abdomen, and buttocks. On the tenth day the administration of antipyrine was begun, with the result that the febrile symptoms were at once decidedly reduced, the eruption soon ceased to spread, and the patient's subjective state was greatly improved.

DIURETIN.

This substance is a sodio-salicylate of theobromine, and possesses certain properties common to theobromine, and caffeine, although it does not cause the mental excitement and wakefulness which so often result from the use of caffeine. Diuretin has produced well-marked diuresis in many cases of dropsy associated with disease of the heart and kidneys, and its place in therapeutics appears to be close to that hitherto occupied by digitalis and strophanthus. The substance is fairly soluble in warm water, and remains in solution on cooling, but it has the disadvantage of undergoing changes rather rapidly unless kept in well-stoppered bottles.—*The Lancet*, October 11, 1890.

A TEST FOR DRINKING-WATER.

A test for the purity of drinking-water is given as follows by Professor Angell, of the Michigan University: "Dissolve about $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful of the purest white sugar in a pint ($\frac{1}{2}$ litre) bottle completely full of water to be tested, tightly stoppered; expose it to the day light and a temperature up to 70° F. (21.11° C.) after a day or two examine, holding the bottle against something black, for floating specks, which will betray the presence of organic matter in considerable proportion."—*Cincinnati Lancet-Clinic*, July, 1890.

LOCAL ANÆSTHESIA FOR MINOR OPERATIONS.

In minor surgical operations, incision of a paronychia, evacuation of a glandular abscess, extirpation of a superficial epithelioma, etc., M. Dobisch, of Zwittau, uses, with success, the

following solution in spray to obtain local anæsthesia:—

R Mentholi, . . . 4.0 grammes (3j).
Chloroformi, . . . 40.0 " (3x).
Ætheris sulph., . . 60.0 " (3xv).—M

The local anæsthesia lasts from two to six minutes. — *Allgemeine Medicinische Central Zeitung, L'Union Médicale*.

SYPHILITIC ULCERATIONS.

M. Plumert gives the following formulæ:—

R Hydrarg. salicylat.,
Potassii carbonat., āā 1.00 gramme (gr.xv).
Aquæ destillatæ, 100.00 grammes (3iij).—M
Ft. sol.

Sig.: Bathe the ulcerations with the lotion, or apply compresses wet with the same.

The following ointment may also be used:—

R Hydrarg. salicylat., 1.00 gramme (gr. xv),
Vasellini . . . 30.00 grammes (3j).—M.

This ointment is also efficacious in eczema.—*L'Union Médicale*, October, *Satellite*.

THE TREATMENT OF BULLET WOUNDS.

M. Rochet, after discussing the widely different opinions of the older surgeons, Paré, Sedillot, Larrey, Percy and others, who advocate the immediate removal of bullets, and those of Trélat and Verneuil, who advocate allowing them to remain, concludes that the danger of searching for the foreign body is often greater than allowing it to remain, since in case, of bad after-effects, endangering life, the search can be made then as well as at the immediate time of injury. He advises, however, immediate operation in case of wound of important organs where it is possible to reach the foreign body with the knife.—*Gazette des Hôpitaux*.

BROMIDROSIS OF FEET.

Scott recommends the following:

R.—Biborate of sodium } of each 2 drachms.
Salicylic acid, }
Boric acid, } 30 grains.
Glycerin at -86° F. } of each 1 ounce.
Alcohol, }

Mix, and use as a wash three times a day.

This application is particularly useful in those cases where much maceration of the skin is present, and where remedies of other kinds have failed.—*Medical News*.