

## TREATMENT OF CONVULSIONS IN CHILDREN.

In a paper published in the *La Médecine Moderne*, December 18, 1890, the author calls attention briefly to the usual advice of at once removing the clothes of the child affected with convulsions before giving it a warm mustard bath, with cold applications to the head. The seizure is very apt to come from the digestive tube, and thus production of vomiting by tickling the soft palate, or the administration of an emetic may be of service, or a full dose of calomel or of castor oil may be administered. It should also be remembered that perhaps an intestinal parasite may be the starting-point of the convulsion, and that a vermifuge may be indicated. When there is a cerebral hyperemia the application of leeches behind the ears may arrest the convulsion, or in very vigorous children bleeding may even be practiced with success. Mustard plasters may be perhaps of value applied to the lower extremities, or even the compression of the carotids, as recommended by Trousseau. Inhalations of chloroform may produce relief, but it will be usually only transient, and a repetition of its employment is not without danger. Bromide of potassium combined with chloral is especially reliable when the convulsions are obstinate,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  to 15 grains may be given to young children, 30 to 60 grains to children a little older, and 60 to 90 grains to children approaching adolescence. To new-born children the dose of chloral should be only  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a grain; to nursing infants 2 grains; 3 to 5 grains to children of two years of age, and 6 to 13 grains to children between seven and twelve years of age. When the convulsion has been subdued it would be well to continue the use of the bromides, prescribing bathing the head with cold water, general friction, lukewarm baths, and strict regulation of diet. With this may also be combined small doses of calomel and the valerianate and oxide of zinc.—*Therapeutic Gazette*.—*Am. Practit. and News*.

## HOW TO REMOVE SUTURES IN GYNÆCOLOGICAL AND OTHER OPERATIONS.

Dr. Howard Kelly lays great stress upon the minutest matters of detail in a paper entitled "Antisepsis and Asepsis Before and After Major Gynæcological Operations." His directions in respect to the removal of sutures apply to all operations where they are used, although Dr. Kelly specially refers to abdominal sections. Care must be taken, he says, in their removal, not to convert this simple step into a source of irritation or infection of the wound. There is usually a little cake of encrusted lymph and powder at the point where the suture emerges from the skin. In removing the suture the loop

must not be cut above that point on one side of the wound; for if that mistake be made, when the suture is extracted by traction on the opposite side of the wound, the crust of lymph will be dragged through the whole track of the suture, including, in the case of an abdominal section, the peritoneum. The suture must be cut below the crust, where it is moist and pliable. The free ends of the suture should, in the first place, be caught by a dressing forceps so that the loop may be raised; then the loop is carefully clipped in the moist part, below its point of exit. Lastly, the suture is extracted by pulling it toward the side on which it has been cut. If traction be made in the opposite direction, the freshly-united surfaces may be dragged apart.—*American Journal Medical Sciences*.—*Satellite*.

## TREATMENT OF BED-SORES.

Billroth is stated to apply the following treatment for bed-sores: Upon the appearance of reddening of the skin he applies a lotion of vinegar or lemon juice. If excoriation is present, he applies nitrate of silver, and protects the part by zinc ointment or soap plasters. Where gangrene comes on, antiseptic compresses are to be applied, the wound being cleaned by the use of chlorine water, or carbolated oil may be used with care as the phenomena of intoxication may appear. Internally, he employs supportive treatment with wine, acids, quinine and musk.—*Med. News*.

## PRESCRIPTION FOR WHOOPING COUGH.

Von Genser is said to use the following prescription in the treatment of whooping cough:

R. Carbolic acid,	1½ grains.
Rectified spirit,	2 drops.
Tincture of iodine,	5 "
Tinct. of belladonna,	10 "
Peppermint water,	2 ounces.
Simple Syrup,	1 drachm.

To a child of two years a teaspoonful of this mixture may be given every two hours.—*Med. News*.

## ENDOMETRITIS.

Professor Parvin, in speaking of the treatment of endometritis, said the patient should be put to bed, given a saline purgative and antiseptic injections. This may abort an attack. Make use of warm baths; later, astringent injections. There is nothing better in this disease than the injection of a teaspoonful of creolin to a quart (litre) of boiling water or the application of Churchill's tincture of iodine.—*Times and Register*.