

### Family Diabetes.

Martinet (*La presse Médicale*, February 10, 1904, p. 94) reports that in June, 1900, a man, aged forty-eight years, consulted him for symptoms which proved to be those of diabetes mellitus. The disease had followed an attack of influenza contracted in the previous February. The patient's father had died of diabetes also.

Several months later the writer was consulted by the patient's wife, a woman aged forty years. She was found to have exophthalmic goitre. The examination of the urine showed a large amount of sugar present. Martinet considers this a typical case of *conjugal diabetes*, although some objection might be taken to this opinion, owing to the not infrequent occurrence of glycosuria in exophthalmic goitre. He states that he observed four cases of conjugal diabetes in his practice during the year 1903, and does not believe that the condition is extremely rare.

At the beginning of this year the mother of the first patient, aged sixty-six years, came under treatment for a phlegmon on the right hand, which developed very rapidly after being pricked with a needle. The examination of this patient's urine also showed abundance of sugar. She lived with her son.

In this family the patient, his mother, and his wife had diabetes and his father died of the disease. The writer lays down the following axiom: If one discovers diabetes in one or several members of a family, the urine of all the other members should be examined for sugar, especially if the various members live together.—*American Journal of Medical Science*.

### On the Use of Rubber and Thread Gloves.

Goepel (*Centralblatt für Chirurgie*, 1903, No. 42) states that in view of the fact that rubber gloves tear very easily and that thread gloves are very permeable, it is a good procedure to wear the latter over the former, which not only prevents the slipping of instruments, etc., but also has the following advantages: 1. It is a greater safeguard against infection, either of the patient by the operator or *vice versa*. 2. The hands can be used more freely and easily. 3. The gloves can be rapidly changed should necessity require. 4. The use of the thread glove does quite away with the slipperiness of the rubber, and so ligatures may be tied more easily and securely. 5. The thread gloves can be easily removed in any case where their roughness might injure the tissue and then be replaced when the danger is passed. 6. The time of the operation is shortened. 7. By their use repeated washing of the hands becomes unnecessary, as the gloves can be scrubbed while on the operator's hand, and this prevents chapping or eczema in those cases where the hands are very sensitive.—*American Journal of Medical Science*.