

**SIMPLE REMEDY FOR SCIATICA.**—Dr. Ebrard, physician to the Hospital of Nimes, publishes in the *Courrier Medical* this new method of treatment. For many years I have treated the pains of sciatica and other neuralgias without having recourse to any other electric battery than a smoothing-iron, which, along with vinegar, is to be found in every house. This is how they are employed: The iron is heated hot enough to vapourise the vinegar, and is wrapped up in some material, preferably woolen; it is then dipped in the vinegar and applied upon the painful part. The operation is repeated two or three times in the day. It rarely happens that the pain has not disappeared at the end of twenty-four hours. This action is easily understood, on account of its contact with the fire, the iron becomes magnetic, and if an acid be added while it is hot, electricity is produced, and the same effects are obtained as with an electric battery.

**CLINICAL VALUE OF THE THERMOMETER IN ABDOMINAL AFFECTIONS.**—By Prof. Peter.—The physician may be called to a case of disease of the stomach; he finds no material proof of the existence of cancer, but he may feel intuitively that there is one. In such a case, the application of the thermometer is of real importance. Being called in consultation by my distinguished confrere, M. Leudet (de Rouen) to the case of a man 52 years of age, percussion of the epigastrium, practised *en doulant*, showed certain points of dulness. Under these circumstances, I had recourse to the thermometer to clear up the obscurities of the diagnosis. In the epigastric depression the thermometer registered  $37^{\circ}.5$  ( $99^{\circ}.4$  Fabr.); but it is known that the normal temperature of the epigastrium in the healthy individual is about  $35^{\circ}.5$  (about  $96^{\circ}$  Fabr.). In painless atonic dyspepsias, the temperature remains unchanged. The result of my researches goes to show that the temperature in the vicinity of a cancerous lesion is elevated from  $1^{\circ}$  to  $1^{\circ}.5$  (centigrade) above the normal. This is not due to phlegmasia but to irritation. The fact is, in my opinion, significant. In simple gastralgia, there may be elevation of temperature, but it is ephemeral, and only lasts as long as the pain continues. This is a fact

which appears to me to be worthy of remark and which is interesting because it enables us to comprehend how, even in cancer, a cauterization of the epigastrium, resorted to opportunely, may dissipate the hyperæmia; to say nothing of the important diagnostic deduction derivable from this means.—*La France Méd.*

**COLD BATH IN DELIRIUM TREMENS.**—D. Féréol, of the *Hôpital Lariboisière*, late records (*L'Union Médicale*) the successful treatment of a case of "acute febrile alcoholic delirium" by cold baths. The patient, a young man twenty-six years of age, entered the hospital on the 14th August "in a state of delirium excitation, which at night required the straight jacket to be applied. The night was passed amidst cries, vociferations, furious agitation and hallucinations of sight and hearing. Temperature very elevated, but impossible to place the thermometer; pulse very frequent. On the morning of the 15th, I prescribed the cold baths, to be given during the day, and a mixture containing 10 grammes of bromide of potassium. The first bath was followed by amelioration, the agitation seemed even to abate. But, at the second, given two hours after the first, the patient grew calmer, and was scarcely replaced in bed when he fell into a sleep, lasting two hours; on awakening he was given a draught, and a short time afterwards he again fell into a sleep, which lasted throughout the night up to 5 o'clock in the morning."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths

### BIRTHS.

In Bowmanville, on Jan. 26th, the wife of Beith, of a son.

On January 31st, at Guelph, the wife of Dr. Hall, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

On Jan. 21st, at Toronto, W. J. Wilson, M.D. Stouffville, to Mary Ann O'Neil, of Toronto.

At St. Mary's, on Feb. 1st, J. J. Hall, M.D. Mrs. Morphy.

At Napance, on February 18th, Milton Ira Beer, M.B., to Miss Lilian Hanault.

On January 22nd, Francis M. Howe, M.D. Fordwich, Ont., to Mary A. McDowell, eldest daughter of the late A. C. McDowell, of Manitoba.

### DEATHS.

At Cobourg, on Feb. 8th, William Wade, M.D. On Wednesday, Feb. 5th, at 112 Bay St., Dr. Campbell, M.D., in the 67th year of his age.