

be prescribed, and not less than one drachm when frequently repeated. Besides having an influence over many spasmodic affections, it has a most tranquillising influence on the mind. Given alone in asthma it will not relieve the spasm, but in combination with the nitrite of sodium the improved condition of the patient is sometimes simply marvellous.—*Lancet*.

IODINE AS A REMEDY FOR VOMITING—M. Darthier bears testimony to the value of tincture of iodine administered internally for the relief of vomiting, a remedy recommended by the late Professor Lasegue in the vomiting of pregnancy. The author has observed its use in nineteen cases, eleven of which were tubercular subjects, and found that it is of more value in the vomiting of early phthisis than in that of the later stages of this disease. At the same time he gives instances of advanced cases with obstinate vomiting, where the symptom was largely controlled by the drug. Amongst other cases he gives one of bronchial dilatation (subsequently fatal from acute tuberculosis) in a female, who for three weeks, had regularly vomited after every meal. From the date of commencement of the use of the drug, she ceased to vomit, and after a week's treatment, which was not productive of any sign of iodism, was completely cured of the symptom. Apart from phthisical vomiting, M. Darthier finds it useful in alcoholic gastritis, in ulcer of the stomach, and in the vomiting of pregnancy and of chlorosis, instances of which are recorded. He says that the majority of the patients take the iodine with pleasure; it often produces an agreeable sense of warmth in the stomach, lasting from five to twenty minutes. The dose is ten drops, dissolved in 125 grammes of water, taken in three portions immediately after meals. In a certain number of cases, symptoms of iodism are produced, chiefly coryza, but a good many patients do not experience any such inconvenience from it.—*Lancet*.

THE CURE OF FACIAL NEURALGIA, ODONTALGIA AND ALLIED NEUROSES.—Dr. Geo. Leslie, in a paper read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society, of Edinburgh, announces that he has been able to cure many cases of the above-named very troublesome disorders by a very simple procedure. This procedure consists in the application of powdered chloride of sodium—common salt—to the nasal mucous membrane. The salt may be used by the patient as snuff, a pinch of it being taken into the nostrils on the affected side, and in many cases this has been found effectual in preventing a recurrence of the trouble. The best results were obtained when the salt was administered through an insufflator. A small insufflator was used for this purpose, the chamber holding but four grains. As the powder was blown in, the patient was

asked to draw air up the nostril. The application produces but little pain or discomfort. Although a single application usually suffices for the immediate inhibition of the neuralgia, especially when it is recent and localized in one branch of the fifth nerve, in other cases where the disease has been of long standing and of extensive distribution, he had found that insufflation repeated every half-minute for about five minutes was required. In conclusion the author reports a series of cases cured by this novel treatment. Among these were cases of odontalgia, cephalalgia frontal and vertical, facial neuralgias of various types, and bronchial asthma.—*Ed. Med. Jour.*

ATROPINE SOLUTION IN NOCTURNAL EARACHE IN CHILDREN.—Lately I have been treating a lady for sore eyes. Incidentally she told me about her little girl, two years old, crying nightly with earache. The child could not sleep, and would not let the mother sleep. I prescribed one grain atropine sulphate in an ounce of water, and told the mother to drop four drops into the ear whenever the child complained of pain, and let it remain there for twelve to fifteen minutes, explaining that it would do no harm, if the child should even go to sleep with the medicine in the ear. The mother and child have neither lost any sleep since the use of the medicine was begun.

I have been using atropine solution for nocturnal earache in children for about twenty-five years, and have not yet known it to fail to promptly relieve the suffering. During this time I have known it to stop the night-crying from earache of many children. It not only stops the pain promptly, but it in a short time actually cures the trouble. At least, that has been my experience. In pain from tympanic abscesses, furuncles and otitis externa it has no appreciable effect.—*St. Louis Med. and Surg. Journal*.

THE "NORMAL" DIET.—According to Dr. G. Munro Smith, the daily destructive metabolism, which is the great criterion of work done, does not vary much among different occupations. Premising that he does not consider moderate over-eating injurious, he finds that very many men eat considerably more than the most liberal tables; it is not an uncommon thing for an averaged-sized man on very moderate work to eat 25 or 27 ounces of chemically dry food a day. Women eat much less than men, after making allowances for differences in weight and work. Where a man eats 19 ounces, a woman of the same weight and of active habits eats only 14 or 15 ounces. On a diet from which all meat is excluded he has found that 12 to 13 ounces *per diem* will comfortably feed a hard-working man. A moderate amount of stimulants appears to increase the average; moderately free drinking diminishes it. A diet consisting of