

However, this was a case of instrumental labour in a primipera, who was troubled with albuminuria for some time previous to confinement, and whose kidneys never acted well after delivery, whose over-anxious but pious friends kept her mind in an almost constant state of perturbation in reference to her future, regardless of her present salvation—a case in which general peritonitis came on as a result of the septicaemia, and put a period to her earthly career on the sixth day after a noble “struggle for existence.” We feel satisfied that all these causes, operating on a delicate constitution, combined to bring about the fatal result; and not the fact that we changed our lotion on this occasion, though we must confess that we still have a weakness for the carbolic as we have for an old coat, an old home, or an old and tried friend.

Selections.

VERY SMALL DOSES OF CALOMEL IN PNEUMONIA.

In the *Bulletin Général de Thérapeutique* of July 30th, Dr. Droux de Chapois extols the calomel treatment of pneumonia by very minute doses. He prescribes two milligrammes (about one-thirtieth of a grain) every hour for two days. After thus treating over 150 cases, he claims better results than by any of the methods of treatment most vaunted in the text-books. Thus used, the protochloride of mercury has the advantage of not being a weapon that cuts both ways; it produces no violent commotion in the system, but nevertheless exercises an incontestable resolute influence over pulmonary hepatisation. After twenty-four or, at most, forty-eight hours, a mild and unctuous moisture ensues over the whole integument; the tongue and mucous membrane of the mouth becomes moist, the oppression and heat diminish; sometimes a liquid stool after fifteen or twenty doses; finally the fever abates, and bronchial breathing gives place to the crepitant râle redux. It is not claimed that calomel thus given is a specific, but that when in spite of the administration of all the well-known remedies, in place of amendment the symptoms tend to become aggravated,

the tongue dry, the skin hot and pungent, calomel given in minute doses every hour is followed in twenty-four or forty-eight hours, not by profuse sweating, as true sudorifics produce, but by a gentle stimulation of the skin and sebaceous glands, the liver, pancreas, salivary glands, muciparous glands of the alimentary canal and air passages, and the kidneys. After the first day, should the bowels be too loose, the dose is reduced to one milligramme, and if, as sometimes occurs, there should be slight intestinal colics, a little magnesia is given to rid the system of the calomel, when it has become saturated and the desired therapeutic end reached.

R. Z.

A PULMONARY CAVITY HEALED BY INJECTION OF NITRATE OF SILVER.—In *El Siglo Medical* is recorded the case of a peasant of 26 years who contracted a pneumouia which passed into a chronic state and produced a purulent expectoration and an extreme emaciation. Dr. Maragliano determined the presence of a cavity at the base of the right lung. Judging all other medication to be useless he injected a gramme of nitrate of silver, dissolved in 25 grammes of distilled water. The pain was very acute for two hours, and then disappeared; the frequency of the pulse and the fever diminished. The expectoration increased for several days, but then diminished progressively and recovered its normal characteristics. One year later the cicatrization of the cavity was complete. A second case was similarly treated at Madrid, but with an unfavorable result.—*Journal de Médecine*.

At the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. Sternberg stated that he had repeated Koch's experiments on the inoculation of tubercle with results confirmatory of the German investigator. Inoculation of rabbits with inorganic matter, which Dr. Forman claimed would also produce tuberculosis, had not been successful in his hands.—*Medical Journal*.

CURABILITY AND TREATMENT OF LOCOMOTOR ATAXY.—Among 300 cases which Eulenberg has been able to follow, he has found only three