

by mixing together one-half drachm each of camphor and chloral and adding to this one ounce of oleic acid. This makes a clear brown liquid having the odour of camphor, and it may be scented to suit the taste of the patient.—*St. Louis Cour. of Med.*

TREATMENT OF BURNS BY BORACIC ACID OIL.
—C. J. Bond, F.R.C.S., writes to the *British Medical Journal*.—

It is now a year since we began to use boracic acid oil as a dressing for burns at the Leicester Infirmary, at first simply in the form of a mechanical suspension of the powdered acid in olive-oil. I have found that 18 grains of powdered boracic acid dissolved in a drachm of hot glycerine, and added to an ounce of olive oil, forms a kind of imperfect emulsion, the glycerine retaining the acid in solution when cold. This can be easily shaken up with the oil. This makes a non-irritating and doubly antiseptic dressing, and extensive burns treated thus, and covered with a layer of some antiseptic wool, require to be disturbed but seldom, and if not perfectly aseptic, are far "sweeter" than when dressed with, for instance, the carron oil.

As a lubricant for catheters, sounds, etc., this boracic oil with glycerine possesses advantages. It is superior to olive oil, because of its antiseptic property; and better than carbolic oil, because it is less irritating and much more stable; boracic acid being non-volatile. Glycerine itself, too, is a dressing of considerable value by virtue of its dehydrating power.

THE CROW AND THE COUNTRY DOCTOR.—(A MEDICAL FABLE.)—A flock of Crows were much alarmed one day at the sight of a strange object in the midst of a field upon which they customarily fed. They at once called upon an Old Crow who practised his profession in those parts, and who made a specialty of corns, to give his opinion about the matter. The Crow, having examined the object, shook his head, and said that it was a serious case, and that it was

lucky he had been summoned so soon, though he should have been called earlier, and he would like the advice of his friend, the Owl, who had had the benefit of travel abroad, and who was particularly skilful in cases which called for the Steady Use of the Eyes. He would also like to have the Frog, who was spending his summer vacation by a neighbouring pool, and who had a wide reputation for his physiological knowledge, to see the case. The Crow, the Owl, and the Frog met, and having studied the object at a suitable distance withdrew to the shade of a High Wall in order to deliberate. The Frog first opened his mouth, and observed that it was a nice Case, which reminded him of a very curious experience that he had had with a piece of Red Flannel two summers before, when he received a severe contusion upon the centre of Goltz. After telling all about this very apposite event, the Owl observed that such cases were extremely rare. He had, however, had two very much like them, the details of which he had forgotten. He then related some very humorous obstetrical stories, which much amused the Crow.

Having received these opinions, the Crow thanked his Colleagues for the valuable light they had furnished. He had himself been at first disposed to think the trouble a case of *Terror Corvorum*, or Scare-Crow; but the advice given reminded him now that the appearance in the cornfield exactly resembled a doctor whom he occasionally met, and who, after practising medicine for forty years, was at present trying to live on what he had saved.

This diagnosis was finally agreed upon, and reported to the anxious Crows outside, who were much relieved.

MORAL.—This story shows the profit that is got from consultation, and the lucrative nature of the practice of medicine.—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*.

M. Bochefontaine swallowed some pills made up from five cubic centimetres of diarrhoeal liquid, from a woman in the algid stage of cholera. He experienced a little fever, and slight constipation, and then recovered completely.—*L'Union Méd.*