

Selections.

Stypticin.

The need of a local hemostatic that would combine promptness and certainty of action with innocuousness has long been recognized. Neither ferric chloride, nor absolute alcohol, nor suprarenal extract are altogether satisfactory considered in this respect.

The almost ideal hemostatic seems to have been discovered in stypticin. This remedy is very popular with gynecologists as an internal styptic in uterine bleeding. It has been successfully used in hemorrhages from the bladder after the introduction of sounds, and dentists speak favorably of its efficiency in the hemorrhage after tooth-extraction, etc.

Dr. R. Kaufmann (*Journal of Cutaneous and Genito-urinary Diseases*, No. 223) confirms the previous reports on stypticin. He uses it chiefly as a local hemostatic in manipulations about the urethra, in circumcision, etc. A piece of cotton may be soaked in the solution of stypticin and applied. No caustic effects need be feared.

The hemorrhage following the extraction of a tooth, while usually ceasing of its own accord, occasionally persists and gives rise to difficulties in checking it. If the patient should chance to be a bleeder the trouble will be quite serious, and the usual styptics will be found unavailing. Stypticin is, however, highly recommended in such emergencies as a prompt styptic. —*Medical Age*.

Formalin as a Disinfectant for the Hands: An Unpleasant Personal Experience.

Dr. Charles P. Noble, in *American Medicine*, says:—"Desiring to improve upon the present methods of hand disinfection, I was led to experiment with formalin solution as a substitute for bichlorid of mercury solution. Heretofore the method of hand disinfection which I have employed has been to spend 15 minutes in scrubbing the hands with soap and hot water and in cleaning the nails. This was followed by an alcohol bath, and after this the hands were put through a saturated solution of permanganate of potash, a saturated solution of oxalic acid and bichlorid solution 1 to 1,000. In the bichlorid bath the hands and forearms were immersed and allowed to soak. This method of hand disinfection has given very good practical results. The introduction of rubber gloves into surgery caused one unpleasant consequence from the above method of hand disinfection, the sulphur in the gloves and the bichlorid solution, left upon the hands, uniting to make a sulfid of mercury.