

disease is likely to go on to suppuration and may readily extend to the membranes of the brain and result fatally. Not a few children die from this cause. The early recognition of the disease is not always easy, but it is safe to assume that any child attacked with earache and fever, exhibiting restlessness, rapidity of pulse and the anxious expression of countenance indicative of the existence of fever in children, with or without tenderness over the mastoid, has this disease. The use of ten per cent. iodoform gauze in the form of pledgets inserted loosely into the external auditory meatus, with the ear and the side of the head covered with cotton freshly sterilized by heat, held in place by a little hood, often gives relief from these symptoms, and may cut short what would otherwise become a suppurative inflammation of the middle ear.

SINGER (*Centralblatt für Chirurgie, Therap. Gaz.*) describes a method of curing, in a short time, wounds of the cranial bones, accompanied by stripping off the periosteum. After the wound has been treated antiseptically for several days by moist sublimate or carbolyzed dressings, the external table, or a portion of it, is chipped away by means of a chisel. A moist bandage is then applied. In two or three days healthy granulations appear, and in a very short time the whole wound is converted into a surface of granulation, which promptly cicatrizes. Even in suppurating wounds this method may be carried out. Of course in phlegmonous and progressive inflammatory processes such procedure is not to be recommended, the bones being treated upon general surgical principles. By this treatment wounds of the skull, which would require weeks, or even months, to heal, are completely cicatrized within a few days.

BORIC ACID.—There seems to be a tendency to use borax more and more internally, *Southern Clinic*. In all bladder troubles ten grains of the powder is given several times a day. In cystitis it certainly produces good results. Torchinsky has tried it in 240 cases of typhoid fever during an epidemic, and reports 231 cases of success; 10 to 15 grains were given, and in the first three to five days the fever and diarrhea diminished, tympanitis almost disappeared, and the stools became normal in character. As soon as this

effect was produced the boric acid was discontinued and tonics given. In the later stages of the disease quinine was added to the boric acid, when there were any cerebral symptoms.

A HEAVY, DULL HEADACHE, *Alienist and Neurol.*, situated over the brow and accompanied by languor, chilliness, and a feeling of general discomfort, with distaste for food, which sometime approaches to nausea, can generally be completely removed by a two-grain dose of the iodide of potassium dissolved in half a wine-glass of water, and this quietly sipped, the whole quantity being taken in about ten minutes. In many cases the effect of these small doses has been simply wonderful. A person, who a quarter of an hour before was feeling most miserable and refused all food, wishing only for quietness, would now take a good meal and resume his wonted cheerfulness. The rapidity with which the iodide acts in these cases constitutes its great advantage.

"THE CANADIAN MAGAZINE" FOR OCTOBER.—The October number of *The Canadian Magazine* is excellent. It is full of variety; the topics are timely, and the illustrations abundant and creditable. Wm. Ogilvie, F.R.G.S., the famous Canadian traveller, continues his trip down the Yukon, illustrating it with excellent views of the scenery, and goes into winter quarters near the Arctic Circle. "With a Fishing Tug on Lake Superior," by Henry J. Woodside, is very interesting, well written and attractively illustrated. Dr. John Ferguson furnishes a very readable article on Consumption, taking a hopeful view of its preventibility, and making valuable suggestions on the subject. W. A. Sherwood's view of the recent influence of the French School on Art is striking. Other articles are: "Technical Schools for Women," by Helen Cameron Parker; "Origin of the Social Crisis in the United States," by Viscount de Fronsac; "Emerson's Choice of Representative Men," by Jean McIlwraith; "A Canadian Ghost Story," by Rev. Herbert H. Gowe, and "An Old Flame," by Charles Gordon Rogers, furnish excellent fiction. Published by the Ontario Publishing Co., Ltd., Toronto; \$2.50 per annum.

EARLY NOCTURNAL PAIN IN SYPHILITIC SPINAL DISEASE.—Charcot calls attention to a symptom of syphilitic disease of the spinal cord which is of