

From *L'Union Medicale*.

At the session of the *Academie de Medecine*, on the 11th Sept., Dr. Laborde read a paper upon "*The Physiological Action of Salicylate of Soda and the Mechanism of its Action.*" M. Laborde thinks that he may deduce from his experiments the following conclusions:—

The physiological action of the salicylate of soda is predominantly *elective*, over the phenomena of sensibility to pain, or *consciousness*. The mechanism of this action resides in the influence exercised by its chemical properties, not upon the conductive power of the sensory nervous filament, but upon the centre of reception and elaboration of peripheral impressions. This action of the salicylate of soda upon the functional phenomena of sensibility, and consequently upon the organic cerebral seat of these phenomena, explains the effects produced upon painful symptoms in the morbid state; and it is principally, and perhaps exclusively, by virtue of this analgesic property that salicylic acid operates in the cure of articular rheumatism. The experimental researches which served as the basis of this paper were made in the laboratory of Prof. Beclard.—*Com. MM. See, Gueneau de Mussy, Vulpian.*

At the same meeting "M. Jules Guerin exhibited to the *Academie* a number of pathological specimens and photographs, showing the series of intestinal lesions observed in typhoid fever.

"M. J. Guerin said that these preparations and drawing showed the characters of the typhic intestinal lesions in their relation to the etiology which he had pointed out; that is to say, that these changes are subordinate (or due) to the vesicating and destructive action of the fecal matters in contact with the intestinal mucus, and that they are in some way proportionate to the quantity, the quality, and, so to speak, the age of the typhic ferment."

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TREATMENT OF PUERPERAL METRORRHAGIA.

In case of uterine hæmorrhage occurring after delivery, Dr. Donovan employs successfully the tincture of *Cannabis Indica*, in the dose of 1 gramme and 20 centigrammes. The action of this remedy is rapid and certain, even when the ergot of rye has failed. The tincture of Indian hemp is equally efficacious against metrorrhagias in general, and superabundant menstrual fluxes in particular.

Formularies.

FRECKLES, AND HOW TO TREAT THEM.—Many remedial preparations of a more complicated character have been recommended, of which New Remedies gives the following:

R Zinci sulpho-carbol.....	2 parts ;
Glycerine	25 "
Aq. rosæ.....	25 "
Spiritus vini rect	5 "

Dissolve and mix. The freckled skin is to be anointed with this twice daily, the ointment being allowed to stay on from one-half to one hour, and then washed off with cold water. Anæmic persons should also take a mild ferruginous tonic. In the sunlight a dark veil should be worn.

A French journal recommends a collodion containing ten per cent. of its weight of sulpho-carbolate of zinc, as giving excellent results. The solutions of corrosive sublimate and other mercurial salts, often used for the purpose, are more or less dangerous, and should be avoided. The following lotion, which contains only a minute proportion of mercury, is harmless and well recommended:

R Hydrarg. perchlor	gr. v ;
Acid hydrochlor	gtt. xxx.
Sacch. alb.....	3j ;
Spt. vin. rect.....	3ij ;
Aquæ rosæ	3 vij.

The following formula is also highly recommended:

R Sulpho-carbolate of zinc...	1 part ;
Collodion.....	45 parts ;
Oil of lemon	1 part ;
Absolute alcohol.....	5 parts.

The sulpho-carbolate of zinc should be reduced to an extremely fine powder, and should then be thoroughly incorporated with the fluid mixture.

Here is another, in which white mustard-seed and lemon juice are the chief ingredients:

R Pulv. sinapis alb.....	3 ij ;
Olei amygdal	3 ss.

Succi limonium, enough to make a thick paste.

Mix. To be applied as an ointment.

It is also said that powdered nitre moistened with water, and applied night and morning, will soon remove all traces of freckles. An old-fashioned household prescription is sour milk or buttermilk, which may sometimes answer the purpose.