

Selections.

Serumtherapy in Malignant Endocarditis.

Moritz's *St. Petersburg medicinische Wochenschrift* says that the mortality in this condition is at least 80 per cent.; that all sorts of medications have been tried, but they all failed; he therefore determined to try the effect of antistaphylococcus serum. A case of typical endocarditis, with a temperature-chart resembling that of the malignant form, came under his observation, and injections were used. The man recovered so far as the pyemic symptoms were concerned, and it was noticed that after each injection of the serum there was improvement in the temperature.—*Univ. Med. Mag.*

Oil in Urinals.

It has been found that if urinals are coated with heavy oil, the urine leaves no traces or odor as it runs off (*Journ. d'Hygiene*). The 178 public urinals in Vienna are treated in this way, with satisfactory results, saving the city \$30 a year for the water supply of each. Many other European cities have already adopted the use of oil for this purpose. The urinal is scrubbed with a broom and plenty of water once a week or fortnight. When it is quite dry it is painted with thick mineral oil, obtained by distilling petroleum. Another system has a permanent syphon supply of oil.—*Journ. Amer. Med. Assn.*

The Menopause and the Kidneys.

Dr. Le Gendre (*Gazette des Hôpitaux*), as a result of many observations, concludes that the kidney is often affected by the menopause. In some women the menopause, or the diminution or retardation of the menstrual flow, is capable of producing a renal congestion of varying intensity, which manifests itself in different ways—sometimes by a diminished secretion of urine; at other times by slight albuminuria, or hematuria, lumbar pain, nausea, vomiting, and severe headache. Such symptoms can be relieved by diuretic treatment. If a chronic nephritis pre-exists, the menopause may cause the appearance of severe symptoms.—*Med. Record.*

Lactophenin as a Hypnotic.

A. Christiani (*Il Manicomio Moderno*) recommends the use of lactophenin as a hypnotic. He gives it in doses of from 15 to 45 gr. suspended in sweetened mucilage in the evening one