

MATERNAL IMPRESSIONS.

The following occurred in the practice of a Maryland physician, according to the *Dublin Medical Journal*: "A lady, during pregnancy, carried with her a pocket edition of MOORE'S poetical words, which she read almost constantly. Her child, at three years of age, exhibited a most wonderful gift of putting sentences into rhyme; in fact, naturally expressed his little ideas and thoughts in flowing measure!" Blame not the bard—but a case like this shows how important is a well-assorted library to a gravid uterus.—*British Med. Journal*.

EPISTAXIS CURED BY A BLISTER.

Dr. Verneuil relates the case of a man whose epistaxis occurred every third day. Sulphate of quinia was given without avail; ergot was administered with no better result; so was digitalis. The patient had been a habitual drinker. The liver was thought perhaps to be "cirrlosed," although no enlargement or tenderness was found in this region. A large fly-blister was applied over the liver, since which time the epistaxis has not returned.

COD LIVER OIL IN EPILEPSY.

Dr. Fairbairn, of Brooklyn, N. Y., writes: The digestive disorder and annoying and disfiguring eruption which result from taking the bromides in large doses for a length of time, are serious disadvantages connected with the administration of these salts. A remedy which will prevent the bad effects of a medicine, and at the same time will rather aid than detract from its good effects, is certainly a valuable one. I think in this case we have such a remedy in cod liver oil.

A young lady suffering from epilepsy has been under my care for the past five months, who has taken bromide of potassium in large doses for nearly a year, and by this remedy cod-liver oil has warded off the above troublesome results. The mode of taking it was this: Brom. potas., 3 ss., was taken thrice daily after eating; this was followed one hour after each dose by ol. morrhuae, ʒ ss. When first attacked by the malady she had eight convulsions in twenty-four hours. She began the bromide in 3 ss. doses, but was compelled to stop it on account of the gastric derangement. A friend recommended the cod liver oil. She resumed the bromide, adding the oil, and has taken it without further trouble since. The eruption, before profuse, disappeared under this management. The disease has been well controlled, only four convulsions having occurred in the past seven months. I doubt not that the cod liver oil has had its share in the direct benefit done to the nervous system, besides affording a protection from the irritating salt to the coats of the stomach. In summing up the good effects of the oil I find: 1st. Absence of the digestive disorders; 2d. Ab-

sence of the acne eruption; 3d. That the anæmia usually found in persons taking this medicine continually, is far from being marked; 4th. The body is better nourished, and appetite unimpaired. I have made trial of this treatment in others cases, with similar good results. As the articles that have appeared in your *Journal* in the past month, on the bromides, have made no mention of this device, I have been led to write the above.—*N. Y. Medical Record*.

BEEF SUPPOSITORIES.

Though the rectum is, strictly speaking, an excretory organ, it may nevertheless, by virtue of its absorbing power, take the place of the stomach and small intestine in the ingestion of medicinal and alimentary agents. Dupuytren used to say that owing to the absence of digestion the agent passes more directly, more purely and more surely to its destination from the rectum than it does when taken by the stomach. Hence the speedy efficacy of chloral in mania and the vomiting of pregnancy; of opium and ipecac in dysentery, etc. With this fact in view I have lately used Johnston's or Liebig's beef extract incorporated with cocoa butter in the form of suppository to support life in chronic gastric disorders, adynamic diseases and all cases where the administration of food by the ordinary channel was impossible. The beef is easily combined with the butter, or to save time, or for other reasons, the hollow suppositories may be used. The advantage of the suppositories over the beef injection will immediately commend itself.—*Dr. James I. Tucker, in Chicago Med. and Surg. Journ.*

TREATMENT OF AMENORRHEA.

William R. D. Blackwood, M.D., Physician to St. Mary's Hospital, writes, in the *Medical Bulletin*:

A large number of remedies have been credited with emmenagogue properties, many of them being inert, and some of them simply irritant poisons whose employment has frequently resulted fatally, especially when used with criminal intent, as abortifacients. Strychnia affords excellent results in many instances. A favorite with me is the following:

Strychnia sulph	gr. j;
Cinchonidia sulph.....	3 j;
Ferrum per hydrogen.....	} aa ʒ ij;
Assafetida pulv.....	
Ext. quassia.....	q.s.

M. In pil. No. 60 div. Sig. One four times daily.

I usually add at bedtime ten drops of Squibb's fluid ext. ergot in water; and a forcible jet of cold water along the spine every morning on rising for a few minutes, with brisk friction of the abdomen, succeeds admirably in many cases. Exercise in the open air, equestrianism particularly, with attention to a normal action of the skin, kidneys, and bowels is essential.