

EDINBURGH MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

Meeting of December 6, 1893.

Dr. GRAHAM BROWN called attention to certain changes in the circulation caused by pyrexia. In order to determine the viscosity of the blood at different temperatures, he has devised an ingenious apparatus by which the rate of blood-flow can be directly calculated. By means of a formula he is able to determine the rate of flow of distilled water at any temperature, given the rate of flow at another. This formula holds good for water, solutions of serum-albumen, serum-globulin, phinogen, and blood-plasma. If, however, defibrinated blood were used, the results were not in accord, since heat decreased its viscosity much more than when the same fluid did not contain the corpuscular elements. The calculations of the author seem to indicate that in fever the heart would have about one-tenth less work to do in driving the blood through the vessels, solely taking into account its decreased viscosity.

Mr. A. G. MILLER showed two patients with strumous disease of the extremities, whom he had treated by Bier's new method of passive congestion. One patient had suffered from lupus vulgaris of both feet. One leg treated by passive congestion healed sooner than the other, which had been treated without. A tourniquet should be applied with sufficient force to stop, in great part, the venous return, lengthly applications being of more service than short alternations of pressure and relaxations. The method is based upon the theory that congestion exercises an influence upon the growth of tubercle bacilli, as evidenced by the fact that a congested lung rarely becomes tuberculous.

Dr. CAIRD showed a case in which he had performed Wietzel's gastronomy. The operation was begun in the usual manner, and an opening large enough to admit an ordinary lead-pencil was made into the stomach. An India-rubber tube of the same size was introduced and stitched to the walls of the stomach with catgut, the tube being then enveloped in the walls for a short distance and stitched around it so as to form a sort of oesophagus. The tube was then brought through the wound which was stitched around it in the usual way. The tube thus entered the stomach in a totuous manner, thus preventing loss of food by regurgitation or vomiting.

RECENT SUGGESTIONS IN THERAPEUTICS.

AMENORRHOEA.—If due to anæmia: R *Quinin. sulphat.*, ʒiij (4 grammes); *tinct. ferri chloridi*, ʒiiss (46 grammes); *aqua dest.*, ʒiv (124 grammes). M. Teaspoonful four times

daily. If nervous symptoms and headache, *bromides*; if hysteria, *musk*, *asafetida*, and *camphor-gum*. (WILLIAM HENRY, *St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal*, December, 1893.)

ANÆMIA.—When due to defects in digestion: R *Hæmogallol*, ʒij (8 grammes); *fel. bovis insp.*, r. xl (2.60 grammes); *ext. pancreatini*, ʒij (8 grammes); *strychnia sulph.*, gr. j (0.06 gramme); *caffeina mur.*, ʒij (4 grammes); *ext. colocynth.*, gr. x to xx (0.65 to 1.30 grammes); *ext. tarax.*, ʒij (4 grammes). M. et fiat pil. xl. Two t. i. d. after meals. If overstimulation from *strychnine* and *caffeine*, reduce dose to 1 capsule t. i. d. before meals. (W. H. PORTER, *Post-Graduate*, December, 1893.)

CANCER.—Caustics: officinal solution of *chloride of zinc*; *Michel's paste*; *sulphuric acid* and *asbestos*; *Bongard's paste*—*chloride of zinc*, *arsenic*, *corrosive sublimate*, and other substances made into paste with *wheat-flour*. Surgery to be rarely resorted to. (RODMAN, *American Practitioner and News*, December 2, 1893.)

CHANCROIDS OF FEMALE GENITALS.—Thoroughly wash away secretions from ulcer, and neutralize with antiseptic. Cleanse twice daily with hot antiseptic douches of *bichloride of mercury*, 1 to 3000, or 5 per cent. *carbolic acid*. Apply *carbolic acid C. P.*; and when ulcers are small and not too close to bladder or meatus urinarius, use a strong caustic (*nitric acid*) until all diseased tissue is destroyed. Neutralize acid with solution of *potassium hydrate* or *bicarbonate of soda*; apply *iodoform*, *aristol*, *acetanilid*, *boric acid*, or other good antiseptic. (E. C. DAVIS, *Atlanta Medical and Surgical Journal*, December, 1893.)

ENDOMETRITIS.—Curetage, with use of endometrial injections of an alcoholic solution of *euphorin* and *sterilized olive-oil* in equal parts. The liquid is injected, by means of a Braun syringe, immediately after curetting, and every four or five days afterward, until cure results. This treatment is successful where curettagé alone is inadequate. (PINNA-PINTOR, *Rassegna d'ostetricia e ginecologia*, No. 10, 1893.)

INFLUENZA.—*Benzol*, in form of emulsion, in lemonade, 5 minims (0.32 gramme) every two and a half hours. General discomfort disappears about two hours after first dose. Temperature normal within twenty-four hours. (WM. ROBERTSON, *Lancet*, November 11, 1893.)

MENTAL DISEASES.—*Duboisine* as a sedative is prompt in action and easy of administration. To be used preferably in the evening. Especially indicated in acute insanity and alcoholism and in violent mania. Dose, 1½ milligrammes (¼ grain), maximum; ½ milligramme (⅓ grain), minimum. (MONGERI, *Monograph*, Milan, 1893. Tip. Capriolo.)