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Original Communications.

GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS.

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As leucorrhœa is sometimes a disease which is very uncomfortable for the patient and tedious for the physician to cure, it may be of interest to draw the attention of the profession to the good results to be obtained by the use of Boracic Acid. Its remarkable powers have been observed over and over again by me when used in purulent otorrhœa, in which the odor is the most disagreeable symptom of the disease. Dr. N. F. Schwartz has reported a number of successful cases in leucorrhœa. (*Archives of Gynecology*, July 1888.) The method recommended is the same as that employed in otorrhœa, and is as follows: First irrigate the vagina with water as hot as can be borne; then a speculum is introduced, and the vaginal walls are carefully dried with absorbent cotton pledgets; sufficient boracic acid is poured through a cylindrical glass speculum to completely distend the vaginal vault, and surround the vaginal portion of the cervix. The powder is held firmly in place by small absorbent cotton tampons, supported by a large aseptic wool tampon. It is odorless, antiseptic, and healing.

Dr. M. H. Lackersteen (in the *Medical Standard*, August, 1886), gives an important communication on the value of Nitro-glycerine in collapse. He cites three cases in which recovery took place after the patient was apparently dead, by means of hypodermic injections of one to ten minims of

the one per cent. solution. In one case, a young married lady who was suffering from the slow passage of a gall stone suddenly collapsed, and brandy, ether and ammonia failed to revive her. Neither respiration nor the heart sounds were detectable. She had been in this condition for nearly half an hour when the attending physician thought of nitro-glycerine, and gave her an injection of ten drops of the one per cent. solution. In a minute there was a gasp but no pulse; the second minute showed irregular respiration, and the heart began to quiver. An injection of one-tenth of a grain of Atropine was then given, and soon after the pulsè became perceptible, the blood began to circulate, and other signs of returning life appeared. The next morning she passed twenty-eight gall stones and a large slough. The second case was that of a young lady who fell into a lake and was submerged for three minutes, and who, after some hours exertion on the part of attending physicians, was given up for dead. Electricity had been applied without value. Four minims of one per cent. nitro-glycerine were injected over the pit of the stomach. Within three minutes evidences of life were manifest.

In the the third case a still-born child was resuscitated by the hypodermic injection of two minims of one per cent. nitro-glycerine, diluted with a hundred drops of hot water, and a proportionate quantity of atropine which was injected into the cord. In a minute the child's heart began to beat, and it is now living.

Would this treatment not be worth a trial in failure of the heart's action during and after labour? I can speak from experience, for having paid a visit