

creatin changes starch into dextrin, splits up fats, etc.; but in acids it has no effect, and, therefore, it is useless to put it into an acid stomach. Pepsin in water with HCl dissolves albuminates. When the stomach does not secrete it, as in anæmia, scrofulosis, etc., its use is beneficial.

The preparations of bismuth are a gentle and anti-fermentative protective to the gastric mucous membrane. The gastric neuralgia of the anæmic, hysteric and pregnant are favorably acted on by it. When nitrate of silver is to be taken, no salt should be allowed in the food, and the stomach should be fairly empty. Solutions are better than pills.

To an adult one-half to one grain in four ounces may be given in tablespoon doses every two hours. For irrigation a few grains of the silver salt to a pint of water may be employed. Charcoal is of no use when wet. It should be given in wafers or capsules, and only the carbo-animalis should be used. For atonic stomachs bitters are appropriate. The roots of gentian, calumba, quassia-wood, dandelion, Irish moss and condurango are beneficial. The best of all bitters is nux vomica. Rhubarb in small doses has no cathartic effect. It improves the appetite, particularly in rickety children. Motory incompetence may be treated with orexin, spices, massage, internal douches (hot and cold), electricity, etc. Lack of HCl results from anæmia, defective enervation, atrophy of glands, cicatrices or tumor. Pepsin is deficient at the same time. They can be supplied in medicine. Excess of acid is more frequent. It may be due to chronic gastritis, ulceration

or neurosis. The abuse of tobacco or alcohol also causes it. Whatever excites gastric secretion must be avoided. Instead of aromatics, acid, bicarbonate of sodium, etc., give nitrate of silver in solution—1 to 3000 or 6000 in tablespoon doses. In all cases antacids are indicated, such as prepared chalk, magnesia, bismuth, etc. Butyric acid ought to be neutralized before food is taken. Magnesia must be given ten minutes before a meal. Round ulcer requires, theoretically, absolute rest. The only food permissible is sterilized milk, not to be drunk, but taken by the teaspoon. The stomach should be kept alkaline. It must not be inflated. The meals should be small but frequent. Opiates are good to enforce rest. Irrigation ought to be avoided.

In the vomiting and neuralgia of neurotic persons these remedies have served best the author: 1. Half to one drop doses of tincture of iodine every one to three hours; 2, arsenious acid in doses of one-fifth to one-third of a milligramme every one to three hours; and 3, the valeriate of zinc in doses of from 75 to 125 centimeters daily in divided doses. The oxide of zinc is also useful, in six daily doses of from two to five centigrammes each. In vomiting of pregnancy, one drop every hour of wine of ipecac has proved useful. The application of the interrupted current, one pole to the neck and the other to the epigastrium, is also effective. Constipation may give rise to vomiting, and should be relieved by purgation and rectal irrigation. In protracted fermentation the character of the food must be inquired into. The nose and pharynx should be examined. Among the