

treated by the *iodide of sodium*, which he believes may be substituted advantageously for the iodide of potassium, as it does not disturb the digestive apparatus. The dose was 3i., raised to 3ii a day.—*Ib.*

Somaitis Ulcerosa.—Dr. Mackenzie recommends sponging with the dilute nitric acid of the Pharmacopœia, and giving internally carbonate of ammonia and citrate of iron.—*Ib.*

Phlegmon.—Polli confirms the statement of Bellini, as to the abortive cure of sub-inflammatory swellings of the skin and subcutaneous cellular tissue by the application of a few drops of liquor ammonia. In syphilitic bubo this method is also useful.—*Ib.*

Intestinal Obstructions.—Mr. B. Phillips advises, in intestinal obstructions, that the drastic purgatives, such as croton oil, should not be given at an early period; but one or two full doses of calomel and opium (8 to 10 grains of calomel to 2 grs. of opium) should be first given, and large emollient enemata be thrown up every six or eight hours. If these means fail, Mr. Phillips pushes mercury to salivation, mercurial inunction as well as administration by the mouth, being employed.—*Ib.*

PERISCOPE.

New Mode of Applying Leeches.—Dr. Sloan states that he has hit upon a plan by which very indifferent leeches may be rendered most efficient bloodsuckers.

"The idea," he says, "first occurred to me some years ago, while waiting the effect of a dozen, which were remaining attached to the skin, but scarcely drawing blood.

"It struck me that, as leeches are remarkably influenced by atmospheric changes, it might be worth while trying the experiment of partially exhausting the air over them, and thus inducing the sensation of a low barometer. On covering them with a cupping-glass, and by means of the air-pump producing a moderate degree of rarefaction, an immediate change in the style of sucking took place; the leeches displayed an activity I have rarely seen equalled by those of the best quality when applied in the usual way; they rapidly became fully distended, and fell off. By continuing the exhausting process afterwards, which is a common enough practice, a sufficient quantity of blood was readily obtained; and I remarked that the erysipelatous appearance, which usually followed leech-bites, in this patient was prevented.

"It is quite possible that the increased activity under the exhausted cupping-glass may arise from the skin being rendered more vascular, and thus yielding its blood more readily; or we may even view the leech in these circumstances as an elastic sac, communicating with the circulation by a firm canula, so that the blood may flow into the animal without much exertion on its part; but, whatever the cause, the result will be found satisfactory. I have never had occasion to try the effect of snipping off the tails of the animals under this plan, but possibly it would be eminently successful.

"The operation is almost as quickly performed as cupping, and has this advantage, that it requires no dexterity. I think any nurse of