

of soda. It appears as a fine, light, white powder, having a slight pungent odor.—*Bulletin Medical, Feb. 19th* — *Lyon Medical, March 2nd, 1890.* G.A.F.

EXCEPTION TO THE LAW OF BANNES (otherwise Law of Colles).—By Dr. L. Merz. It is generally admitted by syphilographers that a nursing mother is never infected by her syphilitic child. This precious immunity which preserves from a terrible contagion the person most directly exposed, and which allows these unfortunate little beings, objects of loathing and fear for all who approach them, to enjoy the inestimable advantage of being nursed and cared for by their mothers, is known in science under the name of Colles' Law (or more correctly, according to Professor A. Fournier, as the Law of Bannes). It is looked on as being absolutely established, and Dr. Merz, in the Bibliography of Infantile Syphilis, cites but one exception to this law, published by Zingales in 1882. The Professor of the Medical School of Algiers publishes another exception. A man 34 years of age contracted, when 29 years old, a syphilis of moderate intensity, which, three years later, again revealed its presence by the appearance of a fresh crop of mucous patches in the mouth. His wife became pregnant six or eight months after this fresh attack, which occurred two months after her marriage. Pregnancy was normal. Confinement took place at term, on the 1st of October, the baby, a boy, being apparently sound and healthy. In about fifteen days mucous patches appeared on the lips, tongue, and cheeks of the child, and a discrete pemphigus on his legs and arms. The mother was submitted to the mixed treatment, and the child was free from eruption in ten days. One month later, painful fissures and an indurated chancre appeared on the left breast of the mother, with an indolent enlargement of glands in the axilla. The chancre disappeared in fifteen days, and was followed thirty days later by a magnificent roseola, with falling of hair and mucous patches on the inner surface of the right cheek. The anti-syphilitic treatment on which the mother had been placed when the child first showed signs of the disease had been rigorously carried out. The mother did not exhibit any other manifestations; the

milk remained abundant, and nursing was not interfered with. Both are, or appear to be, cured at the moment of writing. In addition, M. Merz quotes a case in which the law of Colles was confirmed. M. X., 37 years of age, two years married, contracted syphilis when 26 years old; manifestations until 32nd year, moderate intensity. Mrs. X., seven months after her marriage aborted at three months; a year later she was prematurely confined about the middle of the seventh month of a puny, sickly child. The mother nursed him for three months, then seeing that the child was covered, particularly on the face, with an eruption of papules and crusts, which she attributed to her bad milk (she had always been anæmic), she engaged a wet nurse. Six weeks later, the unfortunate nurse, who had been carefully examined and found healthy before being engaged by Mrs. X., developed an indurated chancre on the left breast, followed by a roseola and by alopecia. The mother had no syphilitic manifestations whatever.—*Bull. Med. de l'Algérie*.—*Arch. de Tocologie*.—*Lyon Medical, Feb., 1890.* G.A.F.

THE THERAPEUTIC USES OF IODOI.—Elsewhere is published a paper by Dr. Cerna on the use of iodol, in which he details instances where the drug, when used internally or externally, did great good in diseases widely separated from one another. It has always seemed to us that the profession was too much inclined to pass this drug by as one which could only be considered a substitute for iodoform, and an almost useless addition to internal medicine. Some years ago Cervesato published the results obtained by him from its use in the treatment of scrofula and respiratory affections of a chronic type, and in the treatment of tertiary syphilis. He claimed that it does not readily produce iodism, even when used in the dose of 15 to 45 grains a day, and that the stomach is not disturbed by its employment. Still further back Stembo wrote a paper asserting its value in diphtheria, when it is applied locally to the affected area, using it alone, or in the form of a solution made up as follows: R.—Iodoli, ℥ss; alcohol, fʒss; glycerini, fʒiiiss.—M. S. To be painted over the part.

The number of cases treated by him was