

prevalent amongst horses in London, and which appears very closely indeed to resemble the catarrhal epidemic on the continent, has in my hands yielded very markedly to the use of antifebrin. I mention this because I observe that some continental physicians strongly recommend antipyrin. As far as I know, these agents have not previously been used in veterinary practice; they appear, however, in the horse to be most valuable febrifuges, being capable of reducing the temperature as much as five degrees in from sixteen to twenty four hours. An opinion prevails amongst physicians that these medicines, if given freely, are attended with cardiac depression. So far as my observations have extended (and I have treated about 100 cases with antifebrin), in the horse, at all events, no ill effects follow provided that diffusible stimulants be given with the drug, and the latter be withheld on the temperature becoming normal. To show that antifebrin may be given liberally with safety, I may remark that in one extreme case I gave one drachm and a half every six hours for three days, although the pulse was at first very frequent (99) and weak (the standard in the horse being taken as 60.) No unpleasant symptoms followed except very slight diarrhoea, which apparently afforded the animal some relief. I could give you a more complete account, but having forwarded an article with cases recorded to the *Veterinarian*, I refer you to this if the subject is of sufficient importance. I feel justified in asserting that antifebrin is one of the best remedies for influenza in horses, that it may in equine patients be given without fear, and that very few deaths will result if good nursing and hygienic conditions are likewise brought to bear upon the patient.

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PILLS OF TAR AND IODOFORM.—Negel gives the following formula for these pills which, he says, are well supported by phthisical patients: Iodoform, 3 gm.; vegetable tar, 15 gm.; extract of opium, 60 cgm.; make 120 pills. The writer states that the addition of 5 to 10 per cent. of tar to iodoform, perfectly deodorizes the latter.—*Revue de Phar.*, July.

ARTERIES FOR DRAINAGE TUBES.—At the late meeting of the American Surgical Association, Dr. S. H. Weeks showed some specimens of a new variety of absorbable drainage-tubes he has prepared. They are made from the arteries of the ox. The vessels are separated from their sheaths, and cut into appropriate lengths. They are first boiled in water for five minutes, then passed over glass rods of proper size. Subsequently they are immersed for ten minutes in corrosive sublimate solution (1 per cent.), and finally stored in alcohol (95 per cent.) They are said to be entirely unirritating, to act as efficient drains, and to be absorbed in about a week.

COLLODIUM.—Can be obtained perfectly transparent if it be agitated with carefully washed and ignited quartz sand; the effect is purely mechanical, the suspended particles with the sand forming a heavy gelatinous mass from which the clear collodium is easily decanted.—Kransfeld, *Phaz. Ztschr. f. Russl.*, 1889, 392.

TEETH-CLEANSER FOR DISCOLORED TEETH.—Make a stiff paste of powdered cuttle-fish bone with a four per cent. solution of hydrogen peroxide; apply by rubbing over the teeth and after a few minutes rinse with plenty of water. The teeth are cleansed in a few minutes without injury to the enamel.—*Oester. Zeitschr. f. Pharm.*, 1889, 304.

SENSE OF TASTE IN CRIMINALS.—The following note reproduced in the *Journal de la Sante* may be found interesting. Dr. S. Ottolenghi, a pupil of Professor Lombroso, has studied the sense of taste in criminals compared with that of other individuals. He says that in criminals the sense of taste is manifestly weak relatively to that of ordinary individuals; there is, again, a difference less marked between occasional delinquents, and those who are habitual or born delinquents. Female criminals have the sense of taste still more obtuse than men of the same category. The author concludes from these remarks that this diminution in the sense of taste in criminals depends on a defect in the cerebral cortex.