

the breathing of steam, which may be generated within the curtains of the bed by means of hot bricks *completely* submerged in boiling water. The mother may go to bed with the child, if necessary, to keep it quiet. (Braithw., &c.)

Glycerine, occasionally applied to the tonsils and larynx, proves useful in all stages of croup, to ease the breathing. (Rankin '59, &c.)

When a false membrane is formed in the larynx and trachea, the time for bleeding is past. The only hope is then to keep the patient nauseated, give calomel, and sustain the powers of life by stimuli. (Evans and Maunsell, p. 580.)

Tracheotomy.—Syncope is a very common accident when operating, but it is rarely that the patient cannot be revived by the usual modes of restoring the asphyxiated. It may be necessary to sponge out the trachea to remove clots of blood. Respiration prevents blood from entering the air tube. A little cold water injected into the bronchi also dislodges clots. (Copeland, &c.)

A woollen scarf should be worn over the opening afterwards, to give warmth and moisture to the inhaled air, otherwise it is apt to excite catarrhal pneumonia. (Rankin '56, &c.) Fatal bronchitis is apt to be produced when the cold dry air is admitted through the opening. (Rankin '48, &c.)

The wound should be cauterized daily to prevent erysipelas, gangrene, or diphtheritic exudation.

A six grain solution of the nitrate of silver injected into the trachea several times a day, is recommended by Trousseau, after the operation. Green's treatment is also applicable through the artificial opening.

Some excellent remarks on tracheotomy may be found in Copeland, &c.; in Braithw., &c.; in Rankin '56, &c., and in Watson, p. 563. W. E. D.

SPOTTED FEVER.—A correspondent from Philadelphia writes:—For some months considerable excitement has been caused in our community, both medical and otherwise, by what is familiarly called "spotted fever." Last fall a number of deaths occurred in the north-western part of our city, known as Manayunk; the disease seems to have spread generally throughout the city, and is now met with in all quarters. Nor is it confined to Philadelphia, as cases have reached us from Chicago, and other parts of the West; in fact, it is an epidemic prevailing almost throughout the entire North. What is it? Its symptoms are severe but adynamic fever, sharp and continued pain in the head, (especially complained of at the occiput and nape of the neck,) great tendency to coma early in the disease, followed often by convulsions or opisthotonos, the head burrowing back in the pillow; sometimes the whole spine arched back like a bow, the bowels irregular, great loss of power, particularly in the nervous system, and death rapidly supervening. The tetanic convulsions and other symptoms cause many to regard it as the same disease which some years ago prevailed to a limited extent in the West, and was denominated "epidemic tetanus." The profession is by no means a unit relative to its nature. Some think it a blood disease, others cerebro-spinal meningitis, etc. Its vulgar name is derived from the eruption over the whole body of numerous purplish spots, varying in size from that of a small pin's head to several inches in circumference. During its free discussion at our societies, I have drawn the inference that those are most successful who stimulate early and

freely. Too often, time is not allowed for the institution of any treatment. In this connection I might remark, that there appears at present an epidemic influence, predisposing to adynamic affections, and particularly of the nervous system.—*Am. Med. Times.*

SMALL POX.—A great discovery is reported to have been recently made by a surgeon of the English army in China, in the way of an effectual cure of small-pox. The mode of treatment is as follows:—When the preceding fever is at its height, and just before the eruption appears, the chest is rubbed with an ointment of croton oil and tart. emetic. This causes the whole of the eruption to appear on that part of the body, to the relief of the rest. It also secures a full and complete eruption, and thus prevents the disease from attacking the internal organs (?). This is said to be now the established mode of treatment in the English army in China, by general orders, and is regarded as a perfect cure.—*Am. Med. Times.*

VILLATE'S LOTION, FOR CARIES AND SINUS.—Dr. Notta, surgeon of the Lisiens hospital, relates in the *Union Medicale*, several cases of caries in which great benefit was experienced by injections, performed with the mixture known to veterinary surgeons as Villate's lotion. Its composition is as follows:

R. Liq. Plumbi Acetatis, ℥j.
Cupri Sulphatis.
Zinci Sulphatis, aa. ℥ss.
Aceti. ℥viij. M.

The salts are dissolved in the vinegar, and the acetate of lead poured slowly into the solution. The result is the formation of acetates of zinc and copper, and of a precipitate of sulphate of lead. Vinegar, and sulphates of zinc and copper remaining in excess.

An exploring trochar is in the first place inserted as deeply as possible into the tract, and the fluid, previously shaken, is injected. Considerable pain follows the operation, and inflammation and copious suppuration are induced, which require the application of poultices. In a case of caries of a rib, of twelve months' duration, Dr. Notta employed an injection every morning for a week; no further treatment was required, and a complete cure followed in the space of twenty days. In another instance of the same kind, twenty-four injections and four months and a half were necessary to effect a cure. But the patient was affected with tuberculosis, a circumstance which, in Dr. Notta's opinion, affords additional evidence of the efficacy of Villate's fluid.

We may add, on the authority of Dr. Boinet, that the caries of a rib has never yet yielded to iodine injections. In cases of this kind, therefore, and in disease of the bones of the metatarsus or phalanges, with abscesses and sinuses, surgeons are fully justified in following Dr. Notta's example.—*Medical Circular.*

MODUM FOR THE STING OF WASPS.—Dr. Mitchell gives the following:—About a week ago, on removing the cover of a warm-water reservoir, in the loft of one of my houses, I was stung by a wasp in the first joint of my right index, a little below the nail. The pain was intense, and inflammation set in immediately. Before I reached my office the joint had swollen considerably. Instinctively (I might almost say so, though I thought of the action of the ether) I seized a vial with co. iodium, and covered the injured place all over, when, to my