

ten years. According to the *Indianapolis Medical Journal*, he states that there have been thirteen deaths following the operation of injecting the acid into piles, out of three thousand cases. This is a mortality far greater than that attendant upon the use of chloroform as an anæsthetic. The estimated mortality, in the late civil war, following chloroform anæsthesia was about one in three thousand administrations often undertaken under circumstances of embarrassment and risk. But the chloroform was of the purest that could be found and was scrutinized with care before being accepted in the medical supplies. On the other hand, in regard to the purity of the carbolic-acid used by the operators on hæmorrhoids, little if any attention is given to it, it is alleged: generally the first that is offered is accepted without question. — *A. M. Med. Jour.*

**MENSTRUAL URTICARIA CURED BY CASTRATION.**—At the First Congress of the German Dermatological Society, held at Prague, June 10th to 12th, 1889, Dr. Taunton gave an account of a case of menstrual urticaria which had been cured by castration. The patient was a woman, thirty years old, who at every menstruation suffered with violent colicky pains and an extensive eruption of urticaria. She was in very poor health and had inflammation of both ovaries and salpingitis of gonorrhœal origin. Both tubes and ovaries were removed by Prof. Schauta. With the occurrence of the menopause, artificially brought about by the operation, the urticaria and the other disturbances disappeared. The woman—who was exhibited to the Society—enjoyed excellent health and presented a blooming appearance.—*Wiener med. Presse, Medical and Surgical Reporter.*

**FATAL HÆMORRHAGE FROM THE STUMP OF THE UMBILICAL CORD.**—Uncontrollable hæmorrhage on separation of the cord in the new-born infant is not common. It is very serious; only 32 per cent. of recorded cases appear to have recovered. Dr. Tross, of Karlsruhe, describes a case in the *Berlin. klin. Wochenschrift*. The infant was five days old; as the stump of the cord was in process of separation, severe hæmorrhage set in.

A single vessel was found to be the source of bleeding, but all attempts to tie it securely failed. The umbilical tissues were secured by transfixion, but free hæmorrhage took place from the tracks made by the transfixing needle. The tissues were firmly tied above the seat of transfixion, and the hæmorrhage at last ceased. The stump was swabbed with perchloride of iron, and wool containing that salt laid upon it, and retained by means of a binder. In the night hæmorrhage recurred: the mother, acting on Dr. Tross's advice, at once tied another ligature round the parts below that which he had applied, but in vain: the child died. The entire integuments assumed, after death, a remarkable lemon-yellow tint, which steadily increased. The blood which escaped during life showed no disposition to coagulate. The above is described by Dr. Tross as a case of omphalorrhagia neonatorum spontanea. — *Brit. Med. Jour.*

**NAPHTHALIN IN TYPHOID FEVER.** Dr. C. Schrwald has made some bacteriological experiments in Prof. Rossbach's laboratory, from which he draws the following conclusions:—1. Naphthalin retards but slowly in the temperature of a room the development of the bacilli of putrefaction of feces, and of typhoid. 2. Naphthalin finely powdered and well spread, or in solution and continually shaken, has its disinfecting power increased. 3. In a temperature of 98° the effect of naphthalin is much more powerful, which makes it highly probable that it is chiefly in its gaseous state that it destroys the germs. 4. Gaseous naphthalin in solution has more effect on aerobic than on anaerobic bacilli, and more on germs cultivated in a solid medium than on those cultivated in liquid. 5. The conditions for the full effect of naphthalin are much more favourable in the intestines than in the test-glass. 6. Naphthalin added to feces decreases their germs by about a half, but administered internally, it first decreases them to one-third or even a quarter: after this, however, their number rises again almost to its original figure. 7. Against the bacilli of typhoid stools naphthalin is considered still more effective: and decreases the number of the germs even to one-tenth. 8. The administration of naphthalin should be commenced at the very beginning of typhoid fever. 9. As calomel affects some of