

CHRONIC URETHRAL DISCHARGES.

F. N. Otis, M.D., N. Y. (*N. Y. Med. Journal*), in an article on "Chronic Urethral Discharge," gives us his treatment as follows: When, after a longer or shorter time, the acute symptoms of an attack of gonorrhœa have subsided, and there remains simply a purulent or muco purulent painless discharge, examination should be carefully instituted with the view to ascertain the exact point to which the disease has extended, and, as nearly as possible, the pathological condition upon which the continuance of the discharge depends.

The indications for treatment are to apply such local measures as are most likely to diminish the excess of fluid, and to stimulate the membrane to a more complete performance of its functions. Solutions of the salts of zinc, lead, and iron, combining the astringent and stimulating properties in various degrees, are found well calculated to meet this double requirement. Vegetable tonics and astringents are found also of value. The more thoroughly the epithelial products in the discharges are degenerated, the more stimulating and astringent is the application required to be. When the discharge is not wholly without pain, he is accustomed to add 2 or 3 grains of the extract of belladonna to the following solution: Sulphate of zinc, or the acetate of lead, alone or in combination, and of a strength varying from one to three grains to the ounce of distilled water. When the discharge is small in quantity and chiefly mucous, the acetate of lead, grains *one to three*; the persulphate of iron, grains *three to five*; tannic acid, from *five to ten*, are often promptly efficacious.

He has seen positive benefit in quite a number of cases where a solution of two or three grains of phenol to the ounce of water has been used.

CHLORODYNE.

We proceed to redeem our promise to give an exact formula by which this proprietary medicine may be prepared. We may premise that careful investigation enabled us to decide upon the general composition of the article, but that the following prescription was actually prepared by a pharmacien in the East, just before chloridyne was so extensively advertised:—

R. Morph. mur., gr. xvj.
Acidi perchlor., m. xl.
Tinct. lobelia, 3 j.
Tinct. capsici, 3 j.
Ol. m. pip., gtt. vj.
Chloroform, f. 3 j.
Ac. hydrocy, Scheele, m. xxiv.
Theriac, q. s.
Aq. ferventis, ad 3 iv.

M. Dissolve the morphia in the acid and hot water; then add the other ingredients.

After careful experimentation we find that a more uniform result will be obtained by ordering three ounces, by weight, of treacle instead of the indefinite *quant. suf.* Half a drachm of the product contains a quarter of a grain of the morphia salt.—*Doctor, June 1, 1872.*

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THE AMALGAM QUESTION.

In our November number, we inserted, at the request of one of our subscribers, a paragraph which appeared in the *Dental Register*, published at Cincinnati, in which it was made to appear that a certain individual had died from the most intense salivation, produced by the introduction of this now somewhat noted mercurial amalgam into one of his teeth. As we anticipated, the insertion of this paragraph has produced a letter signed W. G. B., initials of one of our well-known dentists, in which he gives the opposite side of the question, quoting from two articles, which appeared in the same *Dental Register*, reviewing and criticising the verdict of the Coroner's Jury, and the statements of the first paragraph. As we have not the slightest intention to become further involved in this now somewhat celebrated dispute which has produced a law suit, and as both sides have been able once more to put in an appearance, we shall not insert anything more on the subject. We, however, think there would not have been any harm if W. G. B. had quoted the following additional paragraph from the article of Dr. Rice, giving as it does his opinion of the value of the preparation. "Amalgam has many faults, and few advantages, and every conscientious dentist should disdain its use, except in cases that are few and far between."

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

With this number we complete the first half year of the *Record*, and we are happy to be able to announce that its success has been beyond our most sanguine anticipations. Ushered somewhat hurriedly and unexpectedly into existence, there was no time to make a special effort to extend its circulation, nor has any been made since. Yet it has been quietly, yet surely, working its way, till at this moment our circulation is within a fraction of being double that of the old *Canada Medical Journal*. To many of our friends throughout the country, who have aided in extending our circulation, we owe many thanks, which we heartily tender them.

We are now unable to supply complete sets of the