

moment I drew it across the membranes they ruptured, and the child was born in four minutes. I recommend that one should be carried in every midwifery bag.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BREAST AND ITS TREATMENT BY ELASTIC PRESSURE.—Dr. Horne (*Dub. Jour. Med. Science*) gives the following conclusions as to the management of the puerperal breast: 1. Mastitis is rarely seen, except in patients who have suffered from fissured or crushed nipples, and is the result of infectious matter gaining entrance. 2. That, as a rule, the secretion milk of continues only while the natural stimulus, as nursing or other, means, continues to be employed. 3. That the secretion of milk, either in normal or inflammatory state, begins to abate when such stimulus is withdrawn, and will entirely cease after a week or two. That in all cases of threatened or inflamed breast, well regulated pressure by means of an elastic bandage should be applied, and no attempt should be made to nurse or withdraw the secretion until the entire subsidence of the inflammatory movement. The advantages of the elastic bandage over an ordinary roller are: 1. It is easier of application. 2. The pressure is more uniform. 3. It is not so likely to slip. 4. It is more comfortable to the patient, as requiring much less material. 5. It is not necessary to apply it over the shoulders.

THE PATHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF CHLOROFORM INHALATION.—Dr. Robert Ostertag sums up a lengthy paper (*Lancet*) on this subject as follows: 1. That after long-continued inhalation of chloroform by different animals there may arise fatty degeneration of organs, especially fatty infiltration of the liver, fatty metamorphosis of the cardiac and skeletal muscles, kidneys, and stomach. 2. These fatty changes result from the action of chloroform upon the blood (destruction of red corpuscles) and upon the tissue cells. 3. Some individuals have a greater susceptibility to this action of chloroform than others, and succumb at an earlier period to its effects. 4. The fatal effect is due to cardiac paralysis, which may occasionally be accompanied by but slight anatomical lesion of the myocardium, and also to gradual carbonisation of the blood.

STAMMERING.—Says the *Kansas City Medical Journal*: It is a well-known fact that stutters, when speaking in a whispering voice, show no impediment of speech. A new method of treatment has been advocated by Dr. Coen and is as follows: In the first ten days speaking is prohibited. This will allow rest to the voice, and constitutes the preliminary state of treatment. During the next ten days speaking is permissible in the whispering voice, and in the course of the next fifteen days the ordinary conversational tone may be gradually employed.

MENTHOL IN PRURITIC AFFECTIONS.—This remedy is highly recommended by Saalfeld in various forms of pruritus. He gives it either as a lotion or ointment, his formulæ being—

1. R.—Menthol, gr. 22-37.
Spirit vin. rect., $\frac{3}{4}$ j̄.
2. Menthol, gr 37.
Ol. olivarum, (3 ij. - 5 iij.)
Lanolin, $\frac{3}{4}$ j̄.

He has had excellent results in urticaria and various forms of pruritus.

PERSPIRING FEET.—Not long ago the relative values of various remedies for the treatment of perspiring feet were being tested by military surgeons abroad (*Med. and Surg. Rep.*) A weak chromic acid solution seemed to yield the best results and was adopted for the German army. Still, the acid solution is not entirely satisfactory, since it must be used most cautiously, and when applied to sore feet, not unfrequently gives rise to severe inflammation.

A simple and perfectly harmless preparation is the following:

- R.—Talc, 10 parts.
Alum, 2 parts.

Mix, and dust freely and frequently on the feet.

This preparation has proved most efficacious and is largely used in the Swiss army.

DEATH FROM SULPHONAL.—A death has been reported (*Med. Rec*) following the use of two fifteen-grain doses of sulphonal, the doses being given an hour and a quarter apart. The fatal results occurred forty hours after the first dose. The patient was a woman with melancholia, aged twenty-eight. The mode of death was apnoea.