

NEW CAUSTIC PASTE.—The following (*Med. Rec.*) promises well: Powdered starch 37 parts, wheat flour 112 parts, bichloride of mercury 1 part, dried chloride of zinc 110 parts, croton chloral 10 parts, pure iodol 10 parts, bromide of camphor 10 parts, crystallized carbolic acid 10 parts, all to be mixed up in a glass mortar, the ingredients being well pulverized separately, and gradually add to the whole the quantity of distilled water necessary to obtain a homogeneous paste, which keeps in a perfect state of preservation for an indefinite time. When required to be used the quantity necessary should be pressed in the hand previously moistened, and the paste could then be pressed into any shape or form. The following advantages are claimed for this preparation: 1. Moderate pain without any general reaction. 2. Production of an eschar which is hard and well limited, detaching itself quickly or allowing itself to be easily removed with a sharp instrument or by scraping. 3. Marked alterative and antiseptic action. 4. Powerful hemostatic. 5. Easy to be manipulated. 6. This caustic not being fusible, nor deliquescent, may be easily applied to any part, where it may remain from 6 to 24 hours, according to the intensity of action the surgeon may wish to obtain. 7. The eschars fall off in a few days.

THE NEW ANESTHETIC.—In our last number we gave a note of *Gleditschine*, the new alkaloid of the tear-blanket tree, which was said to be a rival to cocaine. It appears, however, that there was some fraud connected with it, the alleged alkaloid containing cocaine and atropine with which it had been adulterated. A good deal of controversy has taken place on the subject, and Dr. Claiborne, on whose authority we believe the original report was made, has not stated definitely what his opinions on the matter are. The matter will soon be settled by examination by manufacturing chemists and others, of leaves which cannot have been tampered with. The ones used in the former trial are said to have been soaked in solutions of cocaine and atropine.

TREATMENT OF COCCYODYNIA BY INJECTION OF PURE CARBOLIC ACID.—Dr. Illingworth, writing to the *Prov. Med. Jour.*, says he has cured cases of coccyodynia in women by the above method. He

had tried Sir J. Y. Simpson's tenotomy operation for isolation of the bones, producing only temporary relief to the patient. He injects six minims of the pure acid into the most tender part, having first smeared the adjacent parts with olive oil. This gave instant relief for ten days, when the operation was repeated. The pain did not return for fourteen days, when a third injection completed the cure. The only drawback was a small fistulous opening which remained; this was easily healed.

OIL OF TURPENTINE AS AN ANTISEPTIC.—Recent researches by Hohlmeier (*Fortschritte der Medicin*) go to show that oil of turpentine is of small value as an antiseptic. It requires to be employed for a long time and in large quantities, to exert its germicide power. This is contrary to the generally accepted idea, and it is well to be borne in mind. Many good authorities, among them the late Angus Macdonald, of Edinburgh, have upheld this drug as an antiseptic agent, but it would appear that it is of value only when nothing better is to be obtained.

BRITISH DIPLOMAS.—The following Canadians have recently been admitted to the L.R.C.P. & S. Ed., and L.F.P. & S., Glasgow: J. D. Thorburn (Toronto), D. Mitchell, E. Clouse and A. Thompson (Trinity). It is remarkable that at this examination, out of forty-eight successful candidates only four or five are Scotchmen; the remainder hailing from all parts of the globe where English is spoken. It may also be noted that our Canadian graduates have either given London a wide berth, or have been in what plucked candidates call "hard luck."

THE CROWN PRINCE.—The growth in the Crown Prince's throat is cancerous, and is situated just below the left vocal chord. There is said to be a slight growth beginning on the right side which will preclude the operation of partial extirpation of the larynx. It is said the Prince will not consent to total extirpation, so the only remaining operative measure is tracheotomy, which may give him a margin of a year or two of life.

NITRO-GLYCERINE IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION.—An interesting case is reported in the *Sei-i kwai* medical journal of Japan, of the resuscitation of