

DIPHTHERITIC PARALYSIS.

The treatment of this symptom is laid down much as follows by Francis Huber (*Pediatrics*, June 1): Absolute rest, good food, good air; iron in a digestible form; strychnine in full doses by the mouth or, in severe cases, hypodermically in the cervical and clavicular regions; careful massage of the extremities; electricity, artificial respiration, rhythmic tongue-traction and strychnine subcutaneously if respiration is endangered. The author writes of a child, thirty months old, to whom one-fiftieth grain strychnine nitrate was administered hypodermically twice a day for two weeks, and then once a day for some weeks longer, with excellent results.—*Denver Medical Times*.

TREATMENT OF HERPES ZOSTER.

In the milder types, excellent results have been obtained by Cantrell (*Maryland Medical Journal*, June 10) from one of the following applications, used several times daily: One part bismuth subnitrate to seven parts of petrolatum or zinc oxide ointment; one-half or one dram salol in an ounce of ether; one or two grains of morphine sulphate in an ounce of lanolin. The affected parts should be well covered with the medicament, and pieces of linen should be laid over in such a manner as to protect from friction and pressure. In extremely sensitive and painful cases, collodion or ichthyol (a dram to the ounce) may be applied, layer over layer, several times a day with a camel's hair brush. In some cases soaking wet cloths give the most relief, and in others ichthyol in full strength. For excessive pain the writer also recommends painting thrice daily with morphine in collodion, a grain or two per ounce, or with a solution of fifteen grains of acetanilid per ounce of ether. Internally mild cases may receive potassium bromide. For lowered vitality, three or four drops of Fowler's solution or one-thirtieth grain arsenious acid, three times a day, is of service. Patients greatly run down should be given iron or strychnine, or both in combination.—*Denver Medical Times*.

STARCH DIGESTION IN THE STOMACH.

A. E. Austin (*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, April 6, 1899) has made some experiments with reference to the digestion of starch in the stomach. The importance of such a study may be inferred from the statement that two-thirds of the food of the body consists of starch in its various