

ACETIC ACID IN SMALL-POX.—The *Med. and Surg. Reporter* of Mar. '73, contains a Report of Dr. Roth of his Mission (by order of the Austrian Government) to Upper Silesia, where small pox was epidemic and very malignant among a peasant population, herded together in huts, generally a single room for a family, sometimes 10 to 14 in number and uncleanly in habits, wearing woollen clothing from season to season. Acting on the theory of a yeast ferment as characteristic of the poison, Dr. Roth ordered 2 tablespoonfulls of common vinegar, with or without water after breakfast and towards evening for 14 days. For half grown and feeble persons, one half this dose. The result of the prophylactic treatment was favourable beyond his hope. Not a single fatality occurred even when the disease was quite developed, and 8 out of 10 of those exposed escaped the disease altogether, and the small number of the sick was but little affected, pustules were few and sequelæ nil.

Dr. Roth's plan has been carefully tried in Toronto this season and has been attended with very favorable results. From all reports it seems worthy of adoption, at least so far as prophylaxis is concerned.

LINIMENT FOR ACUTE RHEUMATISM.—Very few liniments are adapted for application to joints affected by acute rheumatism. Some eminent practitioners discard them altogether, or rely by preference upon soothing alkaline lotions. The following formula for a liniment has the experience of Charity Hospital, New York to recommend it:

℞ Tinct opii—3j
Spirit chloroformi—5iss
Linimenti saponis ad O. j. M.

The liniment is applied freely to the joints and immediately covered with cotton and oiled silk. The *Medical Record* says the relief from pain afforded by this application has been gratifying.

GUARANA.—Dr. Macdonald of Edinburgh, Scotland, has an extended and carefully written communication in "*The Practitioner*," published in London, and reprinted in New York, September, 1873, establishing the reputation of *Guarana* for sick headache. Its effects in neuralgia, sick headache and diarrhoea are sometimes almost immediate and wonderful.

CREMATION versus BURIAL.—There has been a revival in Italy, to a limited extent, of the ancient practice of cremation; and the advocacy of this method of disposing of the dead by certain eminent medical authorities in England, has given rise to a great sensation in the popular mind. The excitement in England has even extended to America. In both countries now this question is discussed in its scientific bearings; and we may suppose that in certain advanced communities the practice will not be without examples. The sanitary reasons that may be strong enough in densely populated countries to induce scientific men to lend the mode their sanction, do not so powerfully apply in a country like ours; and such arguments are less likely, therefore, to overcome the feelings of loving-kindness and attachment to the memories of the dead which find gratification in the time-honoured practice of interment with the rites of Christian burial.

BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.—A second reprint of the British Pharmacopœia with additions has just been published. The additions comprise new remedies of importance, such as chloral hydrate, amyl nitrite; several new forms of medicines, such as chloroform water, mustard water, liquid extract of liquorice, hypodermic injection of morphine, solution of citrate of magnesia, phosphorated oil, phosphorus pill, compound scammony pill, compound powder of elaterium, syrup of chloral, etc., and three new tinctures, viz., tincture of fresh orange peel, tincture of larch bark, and ammoniated tincture of quinia. Areca nut, a valuable anthelmintic, and acetic ether, a most agreeable compound ether, are included among the additions. Tincture of larch bark has been found serviceable in certain bronchial affections. An authorized formula for hypodermic injection of morphia was much needed.

CARBOLATED COD LIVER OIL.—We beg leave to call attention to this new and important combination. It is very highly recommended by the medical profession in the United States, and has been found especially serviceable where the expectation is profuse and offensive. In extensive suppurating wounds it supports the constitution, lessens the discharge and promotes healthy action. It contains 1 gr. carbolic acid to the oz. of cod liver oil. The carbolic acid also disguises the taste and prevents it from becoming rancid.