scure conditions which underlie the occurrence of purpura. Dr. Poulet, of Planchet-les-Mines, has for many years made use of nitrate of silver in severe cases of purpura, complicated by copious hæmorrhages from the nose, stomach and bowels. He narrates two cases which seem to point to a distinct controlling influence over the morbid condition. He gives it in doses of from an eighth to a sixth of a grain, made into a pill with bread crumbs, twice or three times a day. It is seldom necessary to continue the treatment beyond four days.—*Medical Press and Circular.*

Some Points on the Treatment of House-Maid's Knee.—Making and maintaining an aseptic operation field, he incises in its full length the anterior wall of the sac, and with scissors and curette removes all of the sac and fibrous tissue, leaving throughout a raw surface. Then with heavy silk and long straight needle he introduces six or eight sutures between the posterior wall of sac and the patella, coming through the skin some distance back from incision on either side. He now accurately closes the incision with superficial sutures, and placing a large pad of aseptic gauze upon it, ties the deep sutures tightly over all, obliterating the space entirely. Healing by first intention should take place in a few days.—*J. S. Wight, M.D., in Brooklyn Medical Journal.*

Molluscum Contagiosum.—Professor Neisser, of Breslau, published in the *Vierteljahresschr. f. Dermat. u. Syph.*, 1888, the results of a series of careful observations, from which it appeared to him that the essential cause of molluscum (or epithelioma) contagiosum is a psorozoon. This psorozoon was supposed to develop within the epidermic cells, and to give rise to a peculiar change which constituted the pathological histology of the disease. In the *Monats. f. prakt. Derm.*, vol. 10, No. 4, Drs. Torok and Tommasoli have published an account of a very exhaustive study of this affection, chiefly made in the dermatological laboratory of Dr. Unna, of Hamburg. Having treated sections through the diseased epidermis by various dyes and chemicals, they have satisfied themselves that the so-called amœbæ of molluscum contagiosum are not organized bodies at all, but are the products of degeneration of the substance of the cells, and that these products are chemically related to colloid substance.

Antifebrin not a Safe Remedy.—Dr. Beale says: I am very glad Dr. Wilks supports me in condemning some of the new and dangerous remedies sometimes given in various febrile diseases, and hope you will allow it to be widely known as possible that antifebrin and, I venture to think, more than one allied substance are not safe, and ought not to be prescribed. A high temperature, as far as I am able to judge, does less harm to the patient than some of the substances given to reduce it. The class of remedies in question occasions physiological changes which are indeed the very last to be desired in cases in which the tendency to death, particularly in certain forms of acute disease, is due to defective action of heart or lungs or both, and is, in fact, contraindicated.

Is the Gastric Juice a Germicide?—Drs. Straus and Wurtz have conducted a series of experiments in order to ascertain the action of the gastric juice on the bacilli of tubercle, charbon, typhoid, and cholera morbus. The juice from man, dogs, and sheep was selected for the experiments. It was found that digestion for a few hours at a temperature of 100° F. destroyed all the germs. The bacillus anthracis was killed in half an hour, the bacillus of typhoid and cholera in under three hours, whilst the bacillus of tubercle bore digestion for six hours, under which time it was still capable of provoking general tubercular infection. Even when digested for from eight to twelve hours the bacillus was still capable of producing a local tubercular abscess, not followed by general infection. Over twelve hours' digestion destroyed it completely. The germicide influence of gastric juice appears to be due to its acid contents, as it was found that hydrochloric acid alone, dissolved in water in the same proportion as it is in gastric juice, proved as active a destroyer of the bacilli. The pepsin appears to have no influence on the germs.