

resulting in exfoliation of the epidermis in large flakes, has been observed after an application of 10 grs. to the ounce.

10. That the strength of the ointment recommended by Balmanno Squire (3ii to 3i) is excessive; a milder strength (20 grs.-3i to 3i) being usually sufficient to develop the full therapeutical virtues of the drug.

11. That in other diseases for which it has been recommended, as acne, favus, pityriasis versicolor, eczema marginatum, etc., chrysophanic acid possesses no advantages over certain other drugs which are commonly used.

Pyrogallic acid was thought to be the best substitute for the other in cases where the skin was unusually sensitive, or where the disease attacked the scalp and face. With regard to the strength of the ointment of chrysophanic acid, in our own experience we have never found it necessary in any case to employ a stronger application than one containing 10 grains to the ounce. In one case, which we are in the habit of citing, a strong man was made alarmingly ill by the application of an ointment of the above strength. The case was one of general diffuse psoriasis, and on the second day of the treatment he was seized with a rigor, his temperature rising to 105° , and the body was found soon after to be covered with a rash identical in many of its characters with that of scarlet fever. This peculiar action of the drug was not understood at the time, so that some uneasiness was felt for the moment. The feverish symptoms of course rapidly subsided, and a complete cure of the psoriasis followed. Ever since, we have preferred, especially in private practice, to feel our way, by commencing the treatment with an ointment not stronger than six grains to the ounce. One of the greatest objections raised against chrysophanic acid is its unfortunate property of staining the clothing. This can be obviated in great measure by employing a species of varnish recommended by Dr. Fox of New York. This is made by suspending about 10 per cent. of the acid in flexible collodion. By rubbing up the powder first with a little alcohol and ether, and then adding the collodion and shaking, a more uniform mixture is made. Dr. Fox thinks that the varnish is not quite so efficacious as the ointment, but, after drying for ten minutes, will not stain the clothing.

CAUSES OF CONSUMPTION.

Last year Dr. Playter of Toronto addressed a circular to a large number of medical men in Canada and the United States,