

cal law that acids check acid secretions. The exhibition of hydrochloric acid in combination with the simple bitter tonics one or two hours before meals overcomes to a degree the excitability of the glands and thus render them less susceptible to the irritation of the food, the bitters assisting, by their direct tonic action on the tissue, toward permanent relief. When a deficiency of hydrochloric acid is secreted this should be supplied immediately after each meal. The acid given at this time facilitates digestion and thus prevents that fermentation which manifests itself in lactic and butyric acid eructations. The joint exhibition of pepsin in such cases aids in digestion.—*Medical Age*.

### OBSTRUCTED BOWELS.—BELLADONNA LOCALLY.

The external application of belladonna was resorted to by Dr. Costine (*London Lancet*) in a case of intestinal obstruction, and was followed in a few hours by a discharge from the bowels. There was obstinate constipation, no evacuation having taken place for fourteen days. Vomiting had occasionally taken place, and there had been much pain in the abdomen. Examination showed much distension of the belly, though the walls were not tense. There was occasionally a soft, defined swelling in the right iliac region about the size of the cæcum, but no lumps or bowel could be felt; there was no hernia and nothing abnormal could be felt per rectum. A large quantity of fluid could be injected. The patient had taken all kinds of purgatives without effect. One grain of opium every six hours was ordered; also cold, strong beef tea and milk in small quantities often repeated. The next day there was freedom from pain and vomiting, but on the second day after, he was much prostrated, with a frequent and intermittent pulse and fecal vomiting. Six ounces of brandy in twenty-four hours and plenty of beef tea were ordered, and one ounce of belladonna ointment spread on a large poultice was applied over the abdomen, and frequently repeated. The belladonna was first applied in the afternoon, and the same evening the bowels were opened. He progressed favorably for several days, when constipation again took place, which castor oil failed to relieve, but which the external application of belladonna, and opium internally, removed.—*Med. Rev.*

### VOMITING OF PREGNANCY.

The following drugs have been recommended for this distressing symptom, which we here arrange alphabetically rather than in the order of their relative importance:—

Arsenic, in the form of Fowler's solution, in drop doses given before meals, is often of great advantage.

Atropia has been highly recommended for the vomiting of pregnancy, in the dose of  $\frac{1}{120}$  of a

grain, injected subcutaneously in the epigastric region. It is said to arrest it promptly and permanently after other remedies have failed.

Bismuth, subnitrate, in ten-grain doses combined with  $\frac{1}{4}$  grain carbolic acid, mixed with a suitable adjuvant, to be taken three or four times daily.

Calumba, in tincture, dose 5 to 10 drop: in infusion, dose teaspoonful.

Cerium, oxalate, dose 2 to 5 grains. Usually the best effects are produced after several days' use.—Sir James Simpson.

Champagne, tablespoonful doses with ice, every fifteen minutes.

Chloral hydrate, with bromide of potassium, 10 grains of each at night when the symptoms first develop.—W. C. Burke.

Copper, sulphate,  $\frac{1}{20}$  grain three times daily.

Hydrocyanic acid, dilute, three-drop doses once in four hours.

Iodide, tincture, drop doses every hour or two.

Nux vomica, tincture, drop doses every hour or two.

Pepsin, five to ten-grain doses.—*Med. Bulletin*.

### INHALATIONS OF IODOFORM IN TUBERCULOSIS.

Dr. Davezac, of Bordeaux, employs iodoform by inhalation in cases of tuberculosis. The apparatus used by him is very simple and inexpensive—a large-mouthed bottle, holding about 250 grammes, the mouth closed by a cork pierced with two openings; in one, a vertical glass tube, very thin at its lower end; in the other, a glass tube bent at an angle, its one end at the bottom of the bottle; and the other affixed to a rubber tube of about twenty centimeters, having a glass mouthpiece. The medicated liquid occupies the lower portion of the bottle, and when the patient inhales through his mouthpiece, the external air thus solicited travels through the layer of liquid, and comes to the patient freighted with the vapors of the medicament. His formula is as follows:

Iodoform (pulverized), 1 grm., 50 ctgrms.

Essence of turpentine, 50 grms.

Oil of arachides, 150 to 200 grms.

(American earth-nut).

Essence of Bergamot, 2 grms., 50 ctgrms.

Thymic acid, 2 grms., 50 ctgrms.

The oil in the mixture emulsifies the iodoform without destroying its volatility, and lessens the susceptibility of the mucous membrane against the two irritating qualities of the turpentine. The inhalations seem to have good effect in diminishing the cough and lessening the expectoration and removing its fetidness.—*Progres Medical*.

### BOWDITCH'S FORMULA FOR IRREGULAR HEART.

In a discussion upon heart-disease before the Boston Society for Medical Improvement, Prof.