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## Original Communications.

### NOTES ON THERAPEUTICS AND PHARMACOLOGY.

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#### PELLETIERINE IN TAPE-WORM.

In my last contribution I made mention of the uses of Pelletierine in the treatment of tape-worm. I have since ascertained through the kindness of Mr. H. Grey, Pharmaceutical Chemist, of this city, that the great drawback to it is its costliness, which is so great (20 cents per grain) that at present its use is almost out of the question, the dose being a gramme to a gramme and a half. The fluid extract of pomegranate, as made in the United States, (Parke, Davis & Co.) is, however, said to be quite as effective as the alkaloid, and its price is within the reach of all.

#### INFANT FEEDING.

One of the troubles of a young practitioner (*experto crede*) is the management of infants, more especially of infants deprived of the natural milk supply. The *Practitioner* of June, 1881, reprints a little leaflet on this subject by Dr. Elliott, of the Bristol Hospital for Sick Children, and I venture to abstract some of the more useful hints there found. After the age of six months the chief difficulty arises, and the following foods are suggested. 1. Boil the crumb of bread for two hours in water, taking care it does not burn; then add a lump of sugar, a pinch of salt, and pour a little new milk upon it while boiling hot. 2. Cut thin slices of bread into a basin, cover the bread

with cold water, place in an oven to bake; when sufficiently baked take it out, beat the bread up with the fork, slightly sweeten and pour on milk. 3. Baked flour. Bake some biscuit flour in a slow oven until it is of a light fawn colour; reduce it with a rolling pin to a fine powder, and keep it in a tin ready for use. Two tablespoonfuls to half a pint of milk boiled and sweetened. 4. Boil a teaspoonful of powdered barley (ground in a coffee mill) with a little salt in half a pint of water for fifteen minutes; strain, mix with half as much boiled milk, and add a lump of sugar. 5. Scotch oatmeal. Prepare in the same way as 4. This food is especially useful for regulating the bowels when they have a tendency to become constipated. 6. Robb's biscuits. 7. Ridge's or Neaves' farinaceous food for infants. 8. Revalenta Arabica, or lentil food. 9. Cadbury's cocoa essence, Fry's cocoa powder, or cocoa nibs. Dissolve a teaspoonful of either of the two first in half a pint of boiling milk and water (equal parts): of the nibs take one ounce and boil it in a pint and a half of water for five hours, strain and add new milk and sugar. Cocoa makes an excellent food for thin and wasted infants, who take it greedily and soon improve in health.

These foods are to be given lukewarm through a nursing bottle. In hot weather test the food with a small strip of litmus paper. If the paper turns red, make a fresh mess, or add a small pinch of baking soda to the food.

#### EFFECT OF DRUGS IN LACTATION.

Another point to which the practitioner's attention must be directed is the safety of giving powerful medicines to women who are