

into the closed peritoneal cavity after operation to prevent dynamic ileus.

Interesting experiments have been performed by Woodyat and Graham in an attempt to produce experimental acute dilatation of the stomach, i.e., gas in its lumen plus oedema of its walls, by tying a certain number of the arteries to the stomach.

From a number of experiments the theory was deduced that the condition was one due to the lack of oxygen, whether due to disturbance of the circulation or bacterial poisons, since the characteristic symptoms, e.g., epigastric pain, splashing sounds, and vomiting of large quantities of dark greenish material consisting chiefly of gastric secretions, minus blood, with absence of bile or faecal matter, etc., could be experimentally produced by partial cutting out of the aeration of the stomach wall. In conclusion, the scanty observations one has been able to make rather tends to suggest two probable causes of this condition: (1) Sepsis, and (2) the mechanical obstruction theory.

Treatment: After diagnosis, the best treatment is lavage of stomach, postural treatment, prone or upright, and small doses of strychnine gr. 1-30, eserine, gr. 1-60, apomorphia, gr. 1-10, and eleterium, gr. $\frac{1}{2}$, as the occasion indicates.

References:—

1. System of Treatment. Latham and English, Vol. II., p. 311.
2. Diseases of the Stomach (Aaron) 1911, page 211.
3. Stiles, H. J., *B. M. J.*, Sept. 28, 1912, p. 779.
4. Woodyat and Graham. Travis, Chicago, Path, Soc., Vol. VIII., Aug. 1, 1912

SOME PRACTICAL POINTS IN THE TREATMENT OF ECZEMA* (Selected.)

BY G. S. STOPFORD-TAYLOR, M.D., M.R.C.S., ETC.

Senior Physician at the Liverpool Skin Hospital.

GENTLEMEN,—I am sure that you will agree with me when I say that the most attractive branch of general medicine is that of the study of cutaneous disorders, and it has always been a source of regret to me that the General Medical Council has not made a higher standard of education obligatory in this most important subject.

Various reasons may be assigned for this apparent apathy.

Firstly, because common affections of the skin are rarely fatal, and secondly, because the student of to-day is already over-burdened with work.

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