

What is the source of iodine? A.—It is dug out of the earth in blocks, like iron.

Describe dengue or breakbone fever. A.—By four applicants: A fever that comes on soon after the bones are broken. By one applicant: The patient should be cautioned against moving, for fear the bones should break.

Describe the peritoneum. It is a serious membrane lining the belly, and extending into the chest, covering the heart and lungs.

THE TREATMENT OF POST-PARTUM HÆMORRHAGE.—Küstner (*Deutsche Med. Woch., Am. Jour. of the Med. Sciences*) regards post-partum hæmorrhage as generally caused by improper management of labor. Death from this cause rarely occurs in good hands. Hæmorrhage from the vagina and cervix may be immediately checked by closing the lacerated tissue by a stitch or by an antiseptic tampon. Uterine hæmorrhage may be avoided by emptying the uterus slowly; the child's body should never be removed forcibly, but should be expelled by uterine contractions; traction should be made by forceps with the pains only. Rapid delivery of the placenta should be avoided; at least fifteen minutes should elapse before any effort is made, and then uterine contractions should be aided, not superseded, by pressure. Cornutin is thought the best preparation of ergot for use in these cases.

There remains a class of cases in which hæmorrhage is not caused by failure of uterine contraction, as usually, but by rupture of an artery or atheromatous degeneration and rupture of the vessels at the placental site accompanying nephritis, in which the intra-uterine tampon is indicated. In cases occurring where the practitioner has no assistance the tampon may be easily, quickly, and safely applied in all cases of post-partum bleeding; iodoform gauze is the best material. Kustner reports eight cases successfully treated by this means.

A NEW TREATMENT FOR CHANCROIDS.—Dr. G. Letzel, of Munich, says *The Weekly Med. Rev.*, describes a treatment for chancroids which he has employed for some time with excellent results. The results attained by Winckel in the treatment of tears and abrasions occurring in labor by painting with solutions of chloride of iron induced Letzel to employ the same remedy in soft chancres. He was careful to use it only in cases in which no

other treatment had been undergone, the cases coming into his hands on an average about eight days after infection. The sores were painted with the undiluted solution once daily for about four days, at which time they were usually found to be covered by smooth, healthy granulations, after which five or six days' use of sublimed calomel as a dusting powder would suffice to cover the sore with a growth of epithelium. The glandular swellings in the groin rapidly disappeared with the use of strong lotions of the subacetate of lead.

The pain caused by painting the sores as described was easily borne, and there was but little inflammatory reaction around its margins. The paintings seemed to have no influence upon the swellings in the groin. In but two cases was the pain so severe as to require the previous application of cocaine, and in these the patients were very nervous individuals.

A point of some importance is that the applications must not be entrusted to the patient, but should be carried out by the physician himself, by means of a small wad of absorbent cotton which is held applied to the sores for some little time, and with which all parts of the sore are brought in contact.

CHLORAL IN RIGID OS.—A. W. Garry gives a case (*Br. Med. Jour.*) in which, with a rigid os, the pains had been strong but ineffectual, and the patient was becoming exhausted, with dry tongue, quick pulse, etc. He gave 15 gr. of chloral, intending to repeat the dose every half hour till a drachm had been taken. After the second dose, however, the os was sufficiently dilated to permit delivery by the forceps. He adds:—"From my experience, both in hospital and private practice, of the use of this drug in the treatment of the above condition, I am of opinion that it is vastly superior to any other pharmacopœial preparation, when properly administered and with due precautions (should not be given, or at least very cautiously, in a case where fatty heart or atheromatous arteries is suspected), and would strongly recommend my young medical friends to give it a trial before adopting extreme measures, which, in my opinion, are rarely if ever required."

DILUTE sweet spirits of nitre is said to be an efficient application for the acute stage of ivy poisoning,