

edge of this paper is brought into contact with the outer edge of the gas flame a grey coloration, due to arsenic, will be seen in the flame (test No. 1.) The paper is burned a little, and the fumes that are given off will be found to have a strong, garlic like odor, due to the vapor of arsenic acid (test No. 2). Take the paper away from the flame and look at the charred end—the carbon will be colored a bronze-red, this is a copper reduced by the carbon (test No. 3); being now away from the flame in a fine state of division, the copper is slightly oxydized by the air, and on placing the charred end a second time, not too far into the flame, the flame will now be colored green by copper (test No. 4). By this simple means it is possible to form an opinion, without apparatus and without leaving the room, as to whether any wall-paper contains arsenic, for copper arseniate is commonly used in preparing wall-papers. Tests 1 and 2 would be yielded by any paper containing arsenic in considerable quantities.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

TANNIN IN PHTHISIS.—French physicians have been experimenting upon rabbits, in order to discover some substance which would render them insusceptible to inoculations of tuberculous matter. They found tannin to act in the manner desired. Six rabbits were treated for a month with doses of tannin varying from fifty centigrams to one gram. Two inoculations were then made, one with lung tissue from a patient who had died of acute tuberculosis, the other with miliary tubercle from a hospital patient. No trace of infection followed, while three other rabbits, to which tannin had not been given, died in consequence of inoculations with the same material. Upon this suggestion, over fifty cases of phthisis have been treated by giving tannin in doses of from two to four grams daily; and improvement was perceptible in two weeks, the patients increasing in weight. The final judgment upon this plan of affording resistance to the action of tubercular virus, is anxiously awaited.—*Pop. Science News.*

EFFECTS OF PROLONGED LACTATION UPON THE OVARIES AND UTERUS.—Japp. Sinclair presents the following conclusions, based upon the study of a large number of cases of prolonged lactation:

1. Lactation tends to prevent conception by retarding the return of the ovaries to a condition in which ovulation is perfect.
2. After weaning, the evolution of the ovaries is much more rapid than during lactation.
3. The abrupt cessation of a prolonged lactation may be followed by an evolution of the ovaries and uterus so rapid as to induce symptoms of ovarian and uterine hyperæmia.
4. Prolonged lactation may produce a superinvolution of ovaries and uterus, and under favoring

circumstances a prolapse of the latter organ.—*Revue Medicale.*

THE FILIFORM BOUGIE.—A correspondent of the *Atlantic Medical and Surgical Journal*, writing from New York, says: "The most simple application of common sense is in the little instrument known as Banks' filiform bougie. We all can recall times when we have worried for days, trying to dilate an old, inveterate stricture, when we have taxed our ingenuity and the patient's patience, trying all the means of our command, and making but little satisfactory progress. I well recall one case in which it took me three days to get down three ordinary filiform bougies, putting in one and leaving it fifteen or twenty hours, and then passing another down beside it, and so on till I could get in a small steel sound, and thus I was three weeks accomplishing what I could now accomplish, with Banks' filiform, in thirty minutes. Banks' filiform and cocaine now are masters of the situation in most strictures. The only surprising thing about these filiform is that we didn't think of the same thing a hundred years ago."—*Med. Rec.*

TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.—Dr. F. B. Drescher informs us that he has made use of the following treatment in diphtheria with marked success:

R—Hydrargyri bichloridi, . . . gr. $\frac{1}{2}$
 Spts. frumenti, $\frac{5}{8}$ j.
 Syr. simplicis, $\frac{5}{8}$ j.—M.

Sig.—Teaspoonful every 3 hours, night and day.

R—Liq. ferri subsulphatis, . . . 3 ij.
 Glycerine, $\frac{5}{8}$ ij.—M.

Sig.—Brush throat once or twice a day.

R—Tr. ferri chloridi, 3 ij.
 Potassii chloratis, 3 j.
 Glycerini, $\frac{5}{8}$ iss.
 Aquæ cinnamomi, q s. ad. $\frac{5}{8}$ ij.—M.

Sig.—Teaspoonful in teaspoonful of water every 3 hours, night and day.

—*Am. Med. Digest.*

LOCAL REMEDY FOR NEURALGIA.—A mixture of one part of iodoform, to ten or fifteen of collodion, if spread repeatedly upon a neuralgic surface until it attains a thickness of one to two millimetres, is said to be quite effective in the treatment of certain neuralgias. If the first application does not speedily terminate the neuralgia, those who have used this mode of treatment direct that its application should be continued. It seems especially valuable in the relief of neuralgias of the trigeminus. It also seems of value to be applied along the spine, particularly at painful points in what is called spinal irritation. These observations are by no means new, and yet they seem worthy of further consideration.—*Neurological Review.*