

man, whose body had been cremated in Italy, had applied to the authorities for leave to keep the ashes in their house. Such a petition being altogether without precedent, the authorities were greatly perplexed how to deal with it; they had ordinances and regulations of all kinds as to burial, and as to the preservation of bodies or parts of bodies for scientific purposes, but the forethought of legislators had made no provision for the disposal of the ashes of cremated ancestors. The question was accordingly referred to the Minister of the Interior, who thereupon asked the opinion of the Sanitary Council as to the hygienic aspect of the matter. That body, after due deliberation, passed a resolution to the effect that the ashes might be kept in the house without danger to health. This is the first public pronouncement of the Austrian Sanitary Council in any way relating to cremation. Though it was careful not to commit itself officially on the general question of the expediency of cremation, individual members expressed their approval of this way of disposing of the dead, from a sanitary point of view, while leaving the legal and religious aspects of the question to be dealt with by the proper authorities.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

HÆMATEMESIS IN A NEW-BORN INFANT.—Mr. H. C. Hodges, of Watton, has published the notes of a case, under the care of his father, of hæmatemesis in a new-born child. The child, after a perfectly natural and easy labor, was born at 5 a.m. At 11 a.m. a very urgent message came that the child had hemorrhage. It was found to be blanched, and the pulse very feeble, and the clothes were saturated with bright blood, which had been vomited. Absolute quiet was enjoined, and ten minims of hazeline every two hours were ordered. There was no more hemorrhage, but about a tablespoonful of blood-stained mucus was vomited at 5:30 p.m. Hiccough had been constant since the morning. There was also one rather copious evacuation of blood, besides meconium. The next day the hiccough was less. There was a slight serous discharge from the left ear, and subconjunctival hemorrhage of the left eye. On the second day after birth there was internal strabismus of the left eye. After the third day, the symptoms rapidly disappeared, and the child got

quite well. Mr. Hodges was disposed to think that there had been some injury to the vessels at the base of the skull.—*Lond. Lancet.*

SULPHO-CALCINE IN DIPHTHERIA.—A case of diphtheria came into my hands recently, which had been resigned as past hope by the former physician. The event fully justified his opinion. This case presented a difficulty sometimes met with, where the preparation of iron and nascent chlorine, upon which I usually rely, proved too strong for the child's mucous membranes, while it could not destroy the diphtheria when diluted. The day before the child died, her brother, 18 months of age, was seized with the same disease, in a malignant form. Knowing that it would be useless to rely on the chlorine mixture, a trial having shown the same effect as in the older child, I determined to employ sulpho-calcine, Dr. Love having reported favorably upon it. The liquid was applied in full strength to the false membranes, while the mouth, throat, and nose (which began to discharge ominously) were washed out hourly with as strong dilutions as they could bear. The child recovered, although slight epistaxis occurred, showing how grave was the nasal affection. The remedy deserves a further trial.—*Philadelphia Times and Register.*

GNORRHŒA OCCURRING IN A BROTHER AND SISTER AGED RESPECTIVELY SIX AND EIGHT YEARS.—Dr. T. M. Bull reported the cases to the New York Academy of Medicine. The first patient, a boy aged six, was brought to the clinic February 6, with a urethral discharge dating from about Christmas. Pus flowed from the urethra which, on examination, was found to contain numerous gonococci. Five days after the visit of the boy, the sister, aged eight years, was brought to the clinic, with a discharge which had been discovered about January 8. There was considerable swelling of the vulva and flow of pus from the vagina, which was found to contain gonococci in numbers. Both cases were completely cured by March 1. It was probable the boy had got gonorrhœa from his uncle, with whom he slept and who had the disease, and later the sister got it from the boy, since intercourse was acknowledged by both.