

for having worn dazzling decorations to which he had no right.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

ANOTHER TRIBUTE TO BRITISH SURGERY.—Last spring Dr. Bantock, surgeon to the Samaritan Hospital, was invited by the American Gynecological Society to read a paper at one of its meetings. This invitation was accepted, and not only was the paper read, but Dr. Bantock was called upon to operate at several hospitals in the States, chiefly with a view to illustrate his manner of performing hysterectomy for the removal of uterine fibroids. At Philadelphia, he performed the operation on a patient of Dr. Joseph Price, in a private hospital, and on a young negress, a patient of Dr. Bromall, in the Women's Hospital, where Dr. Bantock also removed the appendages for hydrosalpinx. At the Women's Hospital, New York, he performed hysterectomy on a patient of Dr. Hunter, and on another under Dr. Carroll Lee's charge; he further did an exploratory operation in a case of malignant disease at the Bellevue Hospital; lastly, at Chicago, Dr. Bantock did a double ovariectomy at St. Luke's Hospital, and another ovariectomy in private, the cases being under the care of Dr. Dudley. All these operations were performed without antiseptics. When we bear in mind the reception of Sir Joseph Lister at Buda-Pesth, a few years ago, and the yet more practical compliment recently paid to Sir Spencer Wells in Austria, and to Dr. Bantock across the Atlantic, we must feel how strong the influence of British surgery is felt, and the merits of our surgeons recognized, beyond the dominions of Queen Victoria.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

PAPAIN IN SYPHILITIC ULCERS OF THE TONGUE.—Mr. Henry Fenwick strongly recommends papaine in syphilitic ulcers of the tongue and throat, especially when mixed with cocaine. The surface of the ulcers and the white patches in secondary syphilis, rapidly clean and begin to skin over. He has used it in lozenges (papaine,  $\frac{1}{8}$ gr.; cocaine,  $\frac{1}{8}$ gr.; pot. ass. bicarb.,  $\frac{1}{8}$ gr). He has also used it in the following way: Mix papaine with a small quantity of glycerine and water, so as to form a thin paste; add a little bicarbonate of potash, and brush ulcers with the

same thrice daily. Papaine is coming into use in the treatment of the dyspepsia in infancy and childhood associated with diarrhoea, with stools containing imperfectly digested food. It would seem that Finkler's preparation is best adapted for this purpose.—*Medical Times.*

LACTIC ACID IN CHRONIC PURULENT INFLAMMATION OF THE MIDDLE EAR.—Lange (*Monatsh. f. Ohrenkrkh.*) recommends lactic acid in the above named affection. He commences, as a rule, with a 15 per cent. solution, which is dropped in once daily, or which is applied with cotton pledgets on the diseased mucous membrane. After this treatment has been continued for some days without having caused reactive symptoms, Lange makes use of stronger solutions in those cases in which the mucous membrane is considerably thickened or granulating; he, however, rarely used a stronger solution than 30 per cent. The first symptoms which are noticed after using the lactic acid are decreased secretion and early disappearance of the frequently existing factor. Small granulations usually get covered with a white, necrosed scab, and then shrink rapidly. The acid is apparently ineffectual against coarser vegetations. Neither does it seem applicable for acute ear inflammations. More concentrated solutions cause pain, but the latter usually passes off rapidly. Steel instruments are attacked by the lactic acid.—*Therapeutische Monatshefte—Medical Chronicle.*

LAFAYETTE MIXTURE.—A modification of the the mixture of copaiba, liquor potassæ, sweet spirits of nitre, and mucilage of gum arabic, known as the Lafayette mixture, was proposed by Bumstead, and is now generally employed in place of the original:—

R. Copaibæ,  
Spirit. ætheris nitrosi, āā. . . . . f ̄ j  
Liquor potassæ . . . . . f ̄ j  
Extract. glycyrrhizæ . . . . . ̄ ss.

M. et adde

Ol. gaultheriæ . . . . . gtt. xvj.  
Syrup. acaciæ . . . . . f ̄ j M.

Dose.—A teaspoonful after meals.

—*College and Clinical Record.*