

## THERAPEUTIC NOTES

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*Delirium tremens.*—S. Walter Ranson: That of the drugs used in the treatment of delirium tremens—morphine, chloral, bromides, scopolamine, whiskey and ergot, ergot has proved of the greatest value. Of the fluid extract of ergot give drachm doses every four hours. Combine with this hot baths and liquids.

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*Sea-Sickness.*—A. T. Brand (*The Lancet*) has drawn attention to the value of reflex stimulation of the vagus centre and its vicinity by vesication over the par vagum between the mastoid and the angle of the jaw. Beneficial effects are produced in cardiac, respiratory and gastric affections. He suggests this treatment in *mal-de-mer*.

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*Chorea.*—Eustace Smith (*The Lancet*) says ergot of rye in the treatment of diseases of the nervous system is of long standing. It was a recognized remedy in epilepsy in 1881. He became acquainted with it first in the early "seventies." Smith urges the importance of giving ergot in substantial doses in chorea if any good result is to be obtained. He has found no appreciable effect from small doses.

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*Fistula in Ano.*—A. W. Elting (*Annals of Surgery*) reports 105 consecutive cases. Of these 96 were non-tuberculous and 9 tuberculous. Of the latter, 7 had pulmonary tuberculosis at the time of operation. Of the total number of cases, 64 were in males, and 41 in females. The essential features underlying the cure are: (a) The severance of the communication between the bowel and the fistulous tract; (b) the removal of the diseased portion of the bowel, including the fistulous opening. It is often necessary to perform a widespread and destructive dissection and removal of the fistulous tracts. By the application of the Whitehead principle cures can be effected without injury to the sphincter and no subsequent loss of sphincteric function.