

granate root, and seeds of the fruit, but their action was not always sure, more especially kusso, which, when fresh and pure, is very reliable, but deteriorates rapidly when kept any time, and, from its expense, is apt to be adulterated.

After many trials, the following was found to be the best mode of procedure :

When a man was admitted with tænia, he was allowed no food after dinner the day of his admission ; that evening he was given a full dose of compound infusion of senna with one or two drachms of rochelle salts. The senna was found to clear the mucus from the intestines and expose the worm better than any other purge. The following morning, after the bowels were well cleared out, and the man had fasted 15 or 18 hours, he was given from 1½ to 2 drachms of kamale powder, together with the same quantity of ethereal extract of male fern. This was given in the following way : the kamala was first suspended in an aromatic mucilage and the male fern added. Just before giving it to the patient this mixture was poured into half a teacupful of warm milk and taken while hot. An hour or so afterwards, half an ounce each of castor oil and turpentine were given.

The rationale of the treatment is as follows : The worm is made hungry, and exposed by clearing the mucus from the bowels, then the remedy is given in hot milk, as the animal is particularly fond of that article of diet ; the turpentine is to give the coup de grace, if required, and the oil to remove him from the patient.

It is necessary to carefully examine the worm passed to make sure that the head has come away ; otherwise all the trouble is for nothing, as, no matter how many feet are removed, the worm re-grows very rapidly, and in a short time will be as troublesome as ever. It is easy to distinguish the head after having seen one. To the naked eye it appears as a white point on which, with a small power magnifying glass blackish suckers may be detected. Between these is a conical proboscis surrounded by a double circle of hooks, so small that they are invisible unless with a glass of considerable power. The neck is several inches in length, not jointed, and remains attached to the head.

If the directions I have given are strictly observed, in the great majority of cases the patient will be cured, although occasionally it is necessary

to repeat the operation in a week or ten days, when the head has been left behind.

Very often, however, I have found that, in cases where a second dose was required, some irregularity or deviation from the prescribed routine had been committed.

Particular care must be taken to use good samples of kamala and male fern ; the kamala especially is very hard to get pure.

## ON SOME POINTS OF CONTEMPORARY INTEREST.

By C. E. NELSON, M.D., New York.

*Scavengers, and sewer-gases.*—In a large metropolis, these cannot be dispensed with ; if they are well constructed (as in London), in conjunction with the most improved “stink-traps,” charcoal trays, &c., sewers may be very beneficial ; if inefficiently built, of poor materials, with useless traps (as in New York), they may be productive of a certain amount of *malaise*, but hardly of severe disease : many of these cases of so-called town *malaria* were probably contracted in country watering places, from evening exposure ; and the cases of typhoid fever, from drinking foul cistern water in country hotels ; they return to town sick and wearied ; on the return these persons probably rarely take the accustomed out-door walk, so, being confined in rooms which often are superheated, they become languid, and the implanted seeds (now it is called “germs”) of *malaria* develop into lingering, and sometimes fatal disease. It is surely improper to include these cases in the city’s sick list (considering they were contracted in the country), attributing them to our sewer-system. Our watering-class population commit many imprudencies in the country that they would not dream of doing in town, such as sitting outside the house during the evening, when the air is raw and damp ; they do not take pattern by the farming class, who never dream of sitting outside their houses in the evening. *Drinking milk* in large quantities, this is “*de rigueur*” with town people, thinking it would not be “the country” if they did not do so ; farmer families rarely drink milk, knowing how it goes through the dirty fingers of cow-boys ; it, however, deranges the stomach and digestion. When the city boarders have drunk and gorged themselves sick, then a doctor is called in, whose medical education may be none of the highest.