

case, is said to be a clever and skilful practitioner." Here presents the ludicrous aspect of the announcement. The specialist in charge of the case, is, according to his long repeated advertisements, nothing, if he is not a gynaecologist, so that we may be on the eve of a startling announcement. The 19th century has witnessed many strange advances and denouements in medicine and surgery; can it be that hidden in the Speaker's abdomen are the organs pertaining to womankind, and that the removal of a uterus, or possibly appendages may not be the special work, undertaken by this "special, clever and skilful practitioner?" The profession await the result with more than curiosity, meanwhile all wish this popular official a speedy delivery.

Such statements as are contained in the article alluded to though written with friendly intent are certain to bring a professional man into ridicule. Private and public puffing and self-laudation may succeed for a time, but it is sure to play out. As a tree is known by its fruits, so will a medical man be judged by the results of his work, and except among the ignorant and thoughtless, such paragraphs as those we quote are absolutely injurious to the professional man's reputation and whenever brought under notice, will receive merited exposure in this journal.

### PHARMACY.

AN OINTMENT FOR CHAPPED HANDS is recommended in *Provincial Medical Journal*, consisting of menthol 15 gr., salol 30 gr., olive oil  $\frac{1}{2}$  drachm, and lanolin  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. It is said to alleviate the pain on the first application.

NITRATE OF AMYL is commended as the most rational and successful antidote to use where chloroform or cocaine seem to threaten life by their unfavorable action

on the heart. A few drops of nitrate of amyl administered by inhalation will be one of the most probable means of restoring the heart's action.—*Jour. Am. Med. Assoc.*, April 5.

CAMPHORIC ACID was found by Dr. Leu (*Wiener Medic. Blatter*) to give better results than atropine in cases of night-sweats due to phthisis. The average dose was 2 gm., given about noon, and 2 to 3 gm., given at night. In some cases 4 to 5 gm. were given, usually in capsules, though the taste is not unpleasant. The after-effects are quite insignificant.

REMEDY FOR RHUS POISONING.—Editor *Philadelphia Journal of Pharmacy*:—Having experienced great relief from the application of "Phenol Sodique" externally, undiluted, in a very annoying case of poisoning of the arms and hands by "poison ivy," while endeavoring to extirpate the vines, I take the liberty of submitting the facts, and with sentiments of profound respect, I remain, yours—B. F. BUTCHER. Philadelphia, Pa., August 26, 1890.

BURNS FROM HYDROFLUORIC ACID.—M. Desvignes *Repert. de Phar.*, Sept. 10) describes the case of an engraver on glass whose skin was burned while handling hydrofluoric acid. The treatment recommended is to wash the burned parts with a largely diluted milk of lime or magnesia. Ammonia is used, but is usually made too strong, considering the small quantity of hydrofluoric acid present, and the excess of ammonia has too caustic an action on the burned skin.

VASELIN AND WATER.—According to M. Klebs, of Brussels, the inconvenience sometimes experienced in dispensing, through the immiscibility of vaselin and water may be overcome by the aid of castor oil. The addition of this oil in the proportion of two drops to a gram of liquid, he has found to be sufficient to produce a perfectly homogeneous mixture. By this means potassium iodide may be introduced into an unguent without danger of the decomposition that takes place after a time when fat is used.

ATROPINE as an antagonist to chloroform was recommended many years ago