

ARMY SURGERY AT THE VIENNA EXHIBITION.

Rich in nearly every product of human industry, the Vienna exhibition contains no objects more attractive than the collection of field hospital apparatus under the superintendence of Dr. Wittelsböhler. That accomplished physician, well known as the editor of one of the leading medical journals of the Kaiser city, has brought together, and arranged in admirable system, every article and implement appertaining to the tendance and treatment of the sick and wounded in war. The collection occupies an entire pavilion marked with the red cross, and reflects such a picture of the horrors of battle that the military departments, not only of Austria, but of foreign governments, regarded Dr. Wittelsböhler's undertaking with no little disfavour. In the centre of the pavilion are exhibited, neatly and legibly labeled, all the surgical instruments and appliances employed during and after operations. There is, for one thing, a large assortment of bandages, with models illustrative of their application. There is also a series of mechanical limbs susceptible, through springs, of almost life-like motion. Add to this the *matériel* of field ambulances, packed in chests with wonderful economy of space, and specimen medicaments, also disposed in the compactest of receptacles, and the visitor will be prepared for the next collection of objects—cases of fractured human bones, illustrating the smashing effect of the blunt needle-gun bullet, or the splitting, rending lesion left by the more pointed and more swiftly projected chassépot shot. Close at hand may be seen a number of photographs showing face and head wounds in all their ghastliness as they came in for treatment, and also the triumph of surgery in their after-appearance. One of the wings contains stretchers, litters, operating tables and beds, field kitchens, spring-chairs, couches, surgeries and dispensaries on wheels—every possible contrivance or device, in short, for bringing help to the wounded in the quickest and most effective way. In another wing may be seen hospital trains, from the rudimentary Hamburg railway ambulance, unventilated and shorn of every comfort, to the splendidly appointed "Service des Blessés" from Paris—a locomotive infirmary rich in all imaginable furniture for the sick and wounded, as well as for its medical, surgical, and culinary staff. This French train, self-contained in all respects, economises space in the most wonderful way, and avoids vibration, while keeping up a constant supply of fresh air. Its kitchen carries in its four corners fresh drinking and cooking-water for the whole train, the metal reservoirs containing it being so shaped as to usurp no appreciable room, while most easy of access. Its restaurant is furnished with an officers' table, as well as one for the men, provided with excellent glass, cutlery, and china. The cook and waiter have beds in the kitchen, while the wards are entirely devoted to the patients, and the surgical staff occupies a separate car, containing the office, dispensary, hospital stores, spare stretchers, instrument cases, extra bedding, and so forth. Each surgeon has a room to himself, more comfortable than

any ~~same~~ cabin on board a steamer-packet, and the berths for the wounded are perfect as to ventilation and general appointment. The French ambulance, indeed, defies competition, as may be seen by a moment's comparison with the Prussian railway ambulance hard by, which, solid and practical as it is, lacks most of the comforts and all the luxuries of its Parisian rival. Field ambulances of various patterns are also sent by England, Austria, Germany, Italy, and Spain—one by Baron Mundy so meeting the approval of the Imperial War-office as to be presently adopted for the Austro-Hungarian army. No surgeon or physician, whether in civil or military practice, should lose a chance of seeing Dr. Wittelsböhler's wonderful collection; while, to say nothing of the other attractions of the exhibition, there is an interest attaching to the local medical school which cannot fail to render profitable, as well as pleasurable, a few weeks' sojourn in the "Paris of Eastern Europe."—*Lancet*.

SHORT NOTES.

FARADISATION IN PAINFUL AFFECTIONS.

Dr. Anstie, in the *Practitioner*, attempts to define the boundaries of usefulness of faradisation in the treatment of painful affections. Faradisation, according to him, is pre-eminently useful as a mental counter-irritant in hysterical pain; again in hysterical hyperæsthesia; in myalgic affections; in rheumatic pains of the ligaments of joints, periosteum, fasciæ; while in true neuralgia it is, as a rule, useless. Dr. Anstie warns his readers against the old-fashioned way of employing the rotatory apparatus, as occasionally productive of considerable mischief.

GLYCOGEN AND GLYCOGENY.

The *Medical Times and Gazette*, June 21, 1873, in an article on this subject, concludes as follows: "Glycogen is formed in the liver; as it is converted into sugar, it is carried away into the circulation. Glycogen is no deposit in the liver, but really formed there; it may be formed from animal or vegetable food, but its formation is greatly stimulated by the use of sugar as an article of diet. Normally, sugar of glycogen is hardly to be found in the system, save sometimes after meals, when sugar may be detected. The process of destruction is not known, but when it is arrested, or the rate of glyco-geny is excessive, we have, first, a saccharine condition of the blood, then of the urine, and so the disease called diabetes."

FEEDING WITH PEPTONES IN DISEASE OF THE STOMACH.

A recent number of the *Gazette Médicale* has an article on the above. About two pounds of lean meat, chopped into pieces, are put into a china pan, with one litre of water containing two thousandths of hydrochloric acid. The pan is then put into a Papin's kettle, perfectly sealed, and then subjected to maceration for about fifteen hours. The contents are then crushed in a mortar until they constitute an emulsion, and then put back into the kettle again for about fifteen hours. The substance thus obtained must be com-

pletely neutralized with bicarbonate of soda, and evaporated afterwards to the consistence of pap. When thus prepared this soluble meat is generally well accepted by patients. Milk and pounded biscuit may, however, be added for variety, and in order to avoid too great uniformity of food.

CATARH OF THE FALLOPIAN TUBES.

In the *American Journal of Obstetrics* Dr. Hennig expresses the opinion that catarrh of the Fallopian tubes is more frequent than that of any other part of the female sexual organs. Out of 103 females he found catarrh of the tubes present in 44. It occurs oftener before than after the critical period in married women.

CLINICAL STUDY.

The clinical study of disease is inexhaustible. It requires knowledge, patience, skill, an increasing interest in the welfare of the patient, an increasing interest in the study of his disease, as you watch it. Clinical study is ever living, ever fresh. It brings that true power that depends on true knowledge and wisdom, to him who has diligently pursued it, and who still pursues it to the end of his career.—*Dr. Sibson, Brit. Med. Journ.*

EXPERIMENTS IN DISINFECTIO.

In the *Journal of the Austrian Apothecaries* February 10, 1873, Albert Eckstein published an account of his attempts to disinfect a privy which was used daily by one hundred persons, and the results are so interesting that they are here transcribed.

1. Two pounds of sulphate of iron in solution. After from two to three hours all bad smell has disappeared, but in twelve hours all the influence of the disinfectant was lost.
2. Sulphate of copper in solution, the same.
3. Two pounds of sulphate of iron in crystals; their effects lasted two days.
4. Sulphate of copper, the same.
5. Sulphurous acid in solution rapidly lost its effects, and was exceedingly irritating to the respiratory organs.
6. Two pounds of impure carbolic acid filled the house for two days with such a disagreeable smell, that it was impossible to tell whether the original smell was destroyed or covered up.
7. Two pounds of sulphate of iron in a parchment sack exerted a disinfecting influence for three full days, and when the parchment sack was drawn up, it contained only some dirty odorless fluid.
8. Two pounds of the best chloride of calcium in the parchment sack disinfected the privy for at least nine days.

OZONISATION OF AIR IN THE SICK ROOM.

Dr. Lender (*Deutsch Klinik*, No. 19, 1873) proposes an easy means of carrying out the above object. He mentions the use of a powder composed of peroxide of manganese, permanganate of potash, and oxalic acid, which has the property of giving out, in contact with water, an abundant quantity of ozone. For a chamber of middling size he uses about two tablespoonfuls of the powder, over which he pours from one to one and a half tablespoonfuls of water every two hours. In this way the quantity of ozone produced is