

be measured. A painful point due to ulcer will not bear nearly as much pressure as one due to other causes. His treatment consists of rest in bed, limited diet and the administration of large doses of nitrate of silver in *solution*. He uses gr. iij to f̄iv of water at first and gradually increases the strength. The next bottle having gr. iiivss and the third vi. gr. to f̄iv. The dose is a tablespoonful diluted with a wineglassful of water and taken on an empty stomach. Some obstinate cases will not be relieved by this treatment. In these he gives no food by the mouth, but feeds by enemata. The yolk of two eggs, half a pint of milk, one tablespoonful of wine or brandy and a tablespoonful of flour are warmed and given every three hours. The return to solid food is gradual, liquids being first given.—*Univ. Med. Mag.*

PNEUMONIA.—Dr. H; C. Wood, in *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, says: There is pneumonias which are one thing, and there are pneumonias which, therapeutically, are another thing. Pneumonias therapeutically may have no more relation with one another than a pneumonia has with a dysentery, and are no more to be treated as the same disease, though we label them with the same name. When I speak to you about the treatment of pneumonias I do not mean the treatment of senile pneumonias nor of asthenic pneumonias; I mean the treatment of frank, sthenic, hard pneumonia, that comes upon a man as with the bound of a lion. I say here that I am certain that when our forefathers bled these cases they saved lives that we now lose. I am out of date perhaps; I am behind the times in one way, and I am ahead of the times in another way. The pendulum is beginning to swing a little towards venesection; but the thought I want to leave with you is that by means of this drug (*veratrum viride*) we can get all the good that comes from venesection. You bleed a man, you depress him, lower the immediate activity of the vital forces, but you also take away power, and by and by, when the fight comes, that man is exhausted. Venesection has the dangers that surround tartar emetic. Remember that the abdominal vessels in a man will after death contain all the blood in his body and not be full. We forget very often that it is the abdominal vessels that dominate the circulation. Some of you must have seen in the operation of ovariectomy a woman dying, blanched upon the table, revived by a dash of hot water into the abdomen. The woman revives out of her syncope because hot water contracts the abdominal vessels. When we give a man *veratrum viride* we dilate his abdominal vessels—we bleed the man into his own belly. By the action of this drug we get the influence of venesection; but instead of withdrawing the blood entirely from the body, we put it in a reservoir, whence we can pour it back when the proper time comes.—*Medical Brief.*

We are indebted to our friend, Dr. C. W. Tompkins, of Jasper, Fla., for the following poetic clipping from a late issue of the *Jasper News*. Dr. Tompkins has had it printed on the back of a number of his statements:

Once upon a midnight dreary,
The doctor slumbered weak and weary
And all the town could hear
Him snore.

While he lay there sweetly napping,
Suddenly there came a tapping
Like a ramgoat madly rapping
His hard head upon
The door.

"Get thee up" a voice said loudly,
"Come in haste," it added proudly,
Like a man who owned a million or
Much more.

But the doctor never heeded,
Back to dreamland fast he speeded,
For such men as that he needed
In his practice
Nevermore.

For long months that man had owed him,
Not a cent he'd ever paid him,
And the doctor now will dose him
Nevermore.

—*Atlanta Med. and Surg. Jour.*

THE ACTION AND USE OF DIURETIN.—Dr. Herrick's experience seems to warrant the following deductions:

1. Diuretine is a diuretic acting by direct stimulation of the renal epithelium, and best suited to cases in which there is a general dropsical effusion.
2. It is the best medicinal remedy for removing dropsical fluid due to valvular disease of the heart, after digitalis and pure cardiac tonics have failed.
3. It can be advantageously combined with digitalis and pure cardiac tonics.
4. It probably has a direct effect upon the heart as well as upon the kidneys, slowing and strengthening its action and improving its rhythm.
5. Diuretin has oftentimes a beneficial effect in other circulatory diseases with dropsy, as myocarditis, aneurism, and arterio-sclerosis. Its action is here more uncertain than in valvular disease.
6. In the dropsy of nephritis it can be used without danger of irritating the kidney, the effects in acute nephritis being more certain than in chronic nephritis. Where the renal epithelium has undergone too extensive degeneration, the drug may fail to act.
7. In the dropsy of portal obstruction, and especially of cirrhosis of the liver, it usually fails to give good results.
8. It occasionally causes nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, palpitation, headache, and slight fever rarely, skin eruptions follow its use.
9. The maximum daily amount that can be given with safety is 150 grains; the average daily