

A NEW CATARACT-KNIFE (*The Lancet*, Nov. 28, 1874).—C. Bader, Ophthalmic Surgeon to Guy's Hospital, gives the following description of a new knife, which has of late been used to obviate the inconvenience arising from the inward movement of the eyeball when commencing the corneal incision in the operation for cataract. It so thoroughly answers its purpose that it can be recommended in preference to other cataract-knives. If, standing behind the patient, we wish to operate upon the right eye with the left hand, two different knives—one for the right and one for the left eye—are required, unless the operator prefers using the right hand only, when the bent knife, used with the right hand for the left eye, may be used for the right eye also, commencing, however, the incision at the outer margin of the corner. By the employment of the bent cataract-knife, commencing the incision at the inner margin of the cornea, great control is obtained over the movements of the eyeball, whether the incision be made upwards or downwards. The natural inclination of the eyeball to roll inwards towards the nose when operating in the usual manner, instead of being a source of trouble, becomes a help by the use of the bent knife. The blade is somewhat wider than that of Von Graefe's knife, the point is in a line with the back, and the blade is bent away from the handle in such an angle as to admit of easy access to the inner (nasal) margin of the cornea.—*Med. Times, Philadelphia*.

SULPHO-CARBOLATE OF ZINC IN PRURITIS.—Mrs J. G. Brown, M.D., of the Illinois Women's Hospital. (*Med. Examiner*), recommends as an effectual remedy for obstinate pruritis of the vulva, a solution of sulpho-carbolate of zinc, 30 grains to the ounce of water. After washing with warm water, the solution is applied and left to dry. The application may be made twice a day, to begin with, afterwards once a day, or two or three times a week.

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA.—The total number of matriculated students in the University of Vienna during the year 1873-'74 was 7,526; of whom 1,109 were medical students in the winter session, and 1,036 in the summer session. The number of new entries in the medical department was 194. Among the largest medical classes were those of Profs. Brucke (885); Hyrtl (680); Bamberger (540); Billroth (509); Dumreicher (495); Rokitsansky (354).

ONYCHIA MALIGNA AND INGROWING NAIL FINGERS.—Both of these troubles can be relieved by the local application of powdered Nitrate of Lead, to the inflamed and ulcerated part. But few applications are needed, about once in three or four days. The projecting edge or edges of nails should first be clipped away.

WHOOPIING COUGH.—Dr. Wilde (*Deutsches Archiv*), claims that he can cure every case of whooping cough within eight days, by the following mode of treatment:

The patient should be kept in-door to avoid exposure to cold. Then, at the commencement of every paroxysm, a teaspoonful of the following mixture:

R—Chloroformi, ℥ ʒi.
Æther Sulphur, ℥ ʒij.
Ol. Terebinth, ℥ ʒiij.—M.

is poured on a cloth and held about two inches from the mouth of the patient till the paroxysm subsides.—*Chicago Medical Examiner*.

REMEDY FOR DYSMENORRHOEA.—Dr. Edis recommends in some cases a suppository of half a grain of morphia with one-seventh of a grain of atropine inserted at bed time in dysmenorrhœa. This, he says, will often allay the most severe pain, and enable the patient to procure sleep, when otherwise she would have passed the night in agony, the stomach itself refusing to absorb anodyne mixtures, rejecting them as soon as swallowed, and thus cutting the patient off from the ordinary means of relief. In other cases of dysmenorrhœa he recommends an enema of water as hot as the patient can conveniently bear, combined or not with half a drachm of laudanum.—*Medical Press & Circular*.

The Drs. Mayencon and Bergeret have announced in *La France Medicale*, as the result of extended observations in regard to the action of arsenic and antimony upon the organisms of men and animals, the following general conclusions:

1. Arsenic is absorbed and diffused in the organism with very great promptness. Elimination through the urine takes place immediately; but more is eliminated by the liver than by the kidneys.

2. Antimony is absorbed and diffused more slowly. Urinary elimination rarely begins on the first day; but more is carried off by the liver than by the kidneys.

A NEW CAUSE FOR BLUE (LEAD) LINE ON GUMS.—A writer in the London *Lancet* asserts that the constant use of powdered charcoal as a dentifrice will produce a blue line on the gums, closely simulating that of lead-poisoning.—*Medical Record*.

The *Liberal*, a new Ref. m paper, has been started in Toronto by Messrs Cameron & Co., of London, editors and proprietors of the London *Advertiser*. We gladly welcome this new paper to our exchange list, and wish the proprietors success in their new and promising enterprise.