

exudation, intertrigo, subacute eczema, etc. Its anæsthetic and drying effects are remarkable. In cracked nipple it has a rapid analgesic and curative action. Treatment with ichthyol lasts from a few days to some weeks, and generally the good effect is permanent. The author has given ichthyol internally in the form of pills (5 to 10 centigrammes), and externally diluted with glycerine or in an ointment of which lanolin, or better still glycerine, is the basis in the strength of 10 g. in 100.—*British Medical Journal*.

PARACENTESIS IN SYRINGOMYELIA.—Abbe and Coly (*Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*) report the case of a man, aged 26, presenting incomplete spastic paraplegia, specially localized pathic, thermic, and tactile anæsthesia, and allochiria—the complex of symptoms suggesting the existence of partial transverse myelitis below the level of the seventh dorsal vertebra. An exploratory operation disclosed a fusiform enlargement of the cord between the eighth and eleventh dorsal vertebræ. After withdrawal of a drachm and a half of clear watery fluid the swollen cord collapsed. Recovery from the operation was complete. At the end of the second week the spasms and rigidity of the legs diminished, and some control over the bladder and rectum was regained. No further relief ensued. Death occurred six months after the operation.—*British Med. Journal*.

TWO CASES OF TETANUS TREATED SUCCESSFULLY BY ANTIPYRIN.—Cavina and Venturoli (*Rif. Med.*) record two cases in which the administration of antipyrin in large doses seems to have contributed largely to the ultimate recovery of the patients. It is true that chloral was given at the same time, but the authors do not judge that drug to have been the essential part of the treatment, for the spasms were only modified as long as the antipyrin was taken and recurred when chloral alone was given. This is by no means the first case recorded in which antipyrin has been reported as successful in tetanus, and it may well be that, even if it be not actually curative, it does good by enabling the patient to live through what would otherwise be the fatal course of the disease, while the toxin is being eliminated by the ordinary channels.—*British Medical Journal*.

AMYL NITRITE FOR AFTER PAINS.—I am satisfied that in many cases a nice warm meal is better than any medicine. Still, I have had several cases in which the pains were exhaustingly severe, and in which I was glad to turn to nitrite of amyl. This potent drug is a very efficient controller of after pains, and, used cautiously, I see no reason to apprehend harm from it. A neat way to use it is to saturate a piece of tissue paper with five or six drops, stuff this into a two-drachm vial, and request the patient to draw the cork and inhale the odour when she feels the pain coming on. It acts with magical celerity.—*Dr. Winterburn, in Journal of Obstetrics*.

RESORCIN IN TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOUS ULCERATIONS OF THE LARYNX (Von Bymorsky, *Le Courier Medical*).—This drug gives a better effect than lactic acid and is painless. In the early stages it is recommended to use derivatives externally, weak cocaine solutions, and spraying the throat with soda solutions. The food is liquid, and patients must abstain from speaking. When the active symptoms have subsided, make daily applications of a solution of 50 to 80 per cent. of (medical) resorcine. There is no need to use cocaine. The suppuration and œdema disappear in a few days.—*Times and Register*.

CARBOLIC ACID POISONING.—A case is reported from Russia in which a child of three months presented marked symptoms of carbolic acid poisoning after spending a few hours in a room which had just previously been disinfected with a 2 per cent. carbolic acid spray.—*Med. Review*.

HÆMORRHOIDS rapidly diminish in size, become free from secretion and pain, and generally improve, according to Dr. James, if powdered daily with pure calomel.—*N. Y. Med. Review*.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF MERCURY IN THE BODY.—M. Ullmann's remarks upon the ultimate distribution of mercury among various organs of the body are interesting. He has found that whatever the preparation of the drug was, and especially when the mode of administration was by means of injection, the greater part of the mercury was deposited in the kidneys, the liver, the spleen, and