

TREATMENT OF CHRONIC GASTRIC ULCER.—In a recent number of the *Lancet*, Dr. Robt. Saundby says :

As a general rule, I order at first half an ounce of milk and lime water every hour as the only food, with the sulphate of iron and magnesia mixture in purgative doses three times a day. Ziems. sen and Leube use sulphate of soda or Carlsbad salt in purgative doses, with the object of removing all remains of food from the stomach ; but I use this mixture simply to remedy the anæmia and constipation so generally present. If hæmatemesis actually occurs, or the patient is admitted with a very recent history of it, I order ice to suck, and feed per rectum for a day or two, and then proceed as before. When, as usually is the case, vomiting and pain cease under this treatment, I double the allowance of milk and lime water, then change the diet to soft bread-and-milk, getting on through pounded chicken to ordinary diet as rapidly as possible. The good results are attested by the table. It may be objected that these cases are not cured, but that there is only a temporary remission of the symptoms. I do not think this is true—although one case did undoubtedly relapse three times—as all these patients were made out-patients under me, and attended for a longer or shorter time, continuing to take the medicine. Had they relapsed it is most probable they would have reapplied for admission to this hospital, where, according to the rules, they would have been placed under my care. It may be thought that there is danger, by this plan, of exciting hæmorrhage, or causing perforation, but I think this fear is sufficiently answered by the record.

THE DRY TREATMENT OF CHANCROIDS.—The following treatment in use in the surgical divisions of Bellevue Hospital, New York, is recommended : After the prepuce has been retracted a small quantity of absorbent cotton is made to surround the penis just behind the corona, and is held in place by a rubber thread-band. The sulcus behind the glans is thus obliterated, and no longer forms a receptacle for secretions. The ulcerated glans is free from irritation, the prepuce being held back, and the cotton absorbs the exudation almost as soon as formed. The dressing can be changed as often as is necessary to keep the parts dry.

SPECIFIC TREATMENT OF TYPHOID FEVER.—Dr. J. H. Van Eman, in the *Jour. of the Amer. Med. Assoc.*, thus writes of the treatment of typhoid fever : Having concluded in 1889 that pathogenic germs cannot exist or increase in an acid medium, he at once began the treatment of his typhoid cases as soon as he was reasonably certain of his diagnosis, as follows : For the first 36 to 48 hours he gave calomel in 5 to 10-grain doses until he had very thoroughly cleansed out the alimentary canal, for the purpose of either sweeping out or destroying all germs that had not migrated from the intestine. While doing this he sterilized all foods and drinks, thus preventing the ingress of new germs. This being done, he put the patient on half-drachm doses of dilute muriatic acid in syrup and water, every three hours, day and night. In six cases thus treated all recovered. In all the diarrhoea was promptly arrested and never gave any further trouble ; in fact some little attention was required to keep the bowels open. In no case did the delirium occur, neither sordes nor dry cracked tongue. In five of the cases the duration was under 21 days. No complication existed, and convalescence was uninterrupted and unusually rapid. The evening temperature did not exceed 103° in any case.

ALCOHOL IN ERYSIPELAS.—Dr. Stembarth, of Cracow (*St. Louis Med. and Surg. Jour.*), emphatically recommends the treatment of erysipelas by means of freely painting the affected area and adjacent apparently healthy zone with absolute alcohol. The painting should be made with a brush or cotton wool swab and repeated every two or three hours. Of twelve consecutive cases treated by the author after this simple, easy, safe and highly efficacious method, eleven recovered in two or three days. The remaining case (that of an extensive puerperal erysipelas of the lower limbs and lower part of the body) was cured on the tenth day.

ECZEMA IN CHILDREN.—Use a 5% lanolin and bismuth salve, thickly spread on linen, and bandage it upon the part morning and night. Lanolin forms but a small amount of fatty acids on the skin, while vaseline and other fats readily produce fatty acids which are very irritating to the child's sensitive skin.