

THERAPEUTICAL EMPLOYMENT OF IODOFORM.

The *Journal de Medicine Belge* gives, according to the *Journal de pharmacie et de chimie*, a formula which permits the employment of iodoform without inconvenience. According to Dr. Lindeman the balsam of Peru completely masks the odor of iodoform; two parts of this balsam neutralizes perfectly one part of iodoform. The best vehicles are lard, glycerine and above all vaseline. Here is a formula that the author recommends:

℞ Iodoform.....1 part.
Balsam Peru.....3 parts.
Vaseline..... 8 parts.

He also often prescribes the following:

℞ Iodoform.....1 part.
Balsam..... 3 parts.
Alcohol, glycerine or collodion.....12 parts.

First mix exactly the iodoform and the balsam Peru, then add the other ingredients.—*Journal de Medicine et de Chirurgie*.

MORPHINE IN PUERPERAL ECLAMPSIA.

C. C. P. Clark says he has never seen opium, properly used, fail to ward off eclampsia when it seemed to be threatened; that he has many times seen it obviously and at once put a stop to the paroxysms after they had been commenced; and that he has never known a patient to die of this disease when that medicine had been administered in season, in sufficient quantities, and in the proper manner.

When premonitory symptoms of eclampsia appear, continuous or paroxysmal pain in the head, alterations and figments of the senses, especially of sight, mental dullness, ataxy, a countenance expressive of suffering and apprehension, an irresolute and incapable manner, and complaint of indefinite distress, he orders two or three grains of opium per diem with full confidence that convulsions will be warded off. He does not ignore eliminants, but does not trust to them alone or chiefly.

When the convulsions have appeared, he says, the patient "should have forthwith injected into her arm a grain and a half of morphine *by weight*." "Should the paroxysm return any time after two hours, this dose should be repeated. And if she be in labor, she should have another dose after eight hours any way."

He asserts that a comatose or half-comatose condition is no contraindication to such use of morphine; and he urges that this course be pursued unhesitatingly unless the patient be obviously moribund; and has the greatest confidence that morphine so used will succeed in all cases where the brain has not already sustained irreparable injury by a long succession of paroxysms, or by a few of great violence.—*Amer. Jour. of Obstetrics*.

ERGOT IN NEURALGIA.

Dr. Marino, of Palermo, says that local injections of ergot give better results than any other treatment in tic douloureux, not even excepting quinine. Some cases, not all, of sciatica were relieved in the same way. Other forms of neuralgia should receive the same treatment. The injections usually cause pain, but abscesses seldom follow if cold water compresses are applied to the point of puncture. One or two injections suffice, as a rule, but they may have to be continued some time. About two grains of ergot, in water or glycerine, is the proper dose.—*London Medical Record*.—*St. Louis Clinical Record*.

IMPROVEMENT OF SAYRE'S TREATMENT FOR SPINAL CURVATURE.

Mr. Richard Davy, of London, believes he has an improvement on Dr. Sayre's method of tripod suspension in applying the plaster of Paris jacket in spinal caries. He places the patient in a hammock, face downward, arms hanging through slits in the canvas. Extension may then be used or not, according to the views of the surgeon, and the plaster of Paris or other dressing leisurely applied, including the canvass. A free circulation of air is allowed access to the body and the dressing dries rapidly, the patient often sleeping during the time employed. After the drying is complete the spare canvass is trimmed, and the patient literally takes up his bed and walks. After reviewing some of the other methods of treating spinal caries according to SAYRE's plan, that is of providing an outside support of the body, relieving the weak spinal column, Mr. Davy concludes in favor of his own plan. Aside from the small expense and inconvenience involved, he thinks suspension not always safe in spinal, and especially cervical, caries.—*American Practitioner*.

SULPHUR FOR PIMPLES ON THE FACE.

Dr. Gage Parsons believes that Mr. Erasmus Wilson was the first to propose sulphur lotion in acne punctata, according to the *Practitioner*. The usual lotion of the flowers of sulphur with glycerine and water is undoubtedly a valuable remedy, but from the readiness with which the sulphur separates it is inelegant and inconvenient, while it is not quite satisfactory in its results. A far more efficacious mode of using sulphur is to dust the face with pure precipitated sulphur every night with an ordinary puff used for toilet purposes. Recently two severe cases of acne of two years' standing, which had resisted the ordinary methods of treatment, yielded at once to sulphur thus applied. If the sulphur be scented with oil of lemon or roses it will form an elegant cosmetic.