

open to the objection that they stand sterilization by heat but once, after which they must be preserved in some antiseptic solution, which often impairs their strength or pliability, and always requires washing off in sterile water to remove before use. The substance which the author employs as a substitute is paraffin of a melting point of 45° to 47° C. If a small piece of this is thrown on the surface of boiling water it is first melted, and then, on cooling, forms a thin, floating pellicle, which may be handled with forceps and cut to the proper shape with scissors. The technique of its practical application is simple. A flat vessel provided with a cover is partially filled with water and brought to a boiling point. A piece of paraffin is then thrown in and the boiling continued for ten minutes. The vessel is then placed in another dish of cold water, causing the paraffin to harden as a thin pellicle on the surface. As soon as this occurs the vessel is placed in water at a little above body temperature, which keeps pellicle soft and pliable. Holes for drainage may then be punctured through it with a sterile needle, and after cutting to shape it is lifted with forceps and applied to the wound with the water side down. The thickness may easily be controlled as experience dictates by the size of the lump of paraffin used.—*Centralblatt f. Chir. St. Louis. Med. Rev.*

Jottings.

Dr. Bartholow states that the loss of voice from fatigue or simple laryngitis is relieved by small doses of nitric acid well diluted and given every two hours.

A blister applied to a felon in its early stages will often prevent its further progress. The blister need not be more than one and a quarter inches square, but should be kept on perhaps eighteen hours, when dark serous accumulation can be let out. Paint the locality with comp. tinct. of iodine every hour or two until the pain ceases or inflammation is removed. The application of fresh grated Indian turnip moistened with turpentine is most highly extolled.—*Med. Summary.*

Abram Meyer (*Med. Record*, March 8, 1902), reports a