

of a colored woman, twenty-one years of age, who received a penetrating wound of the chest. The injury was done with the blade of a pocket knife, which passed completely through the right ventricle of the heart, a little to the left of the septum. Two days after the injury the patient had a miscarriage, and, although antiseptic injections were used, she died four days later, or six days and fifteen hours after receipt of the wound. There was only a small amount of clotted blood in the pericardium after death, and the wound in the heart was closed by a plug of fibrin. Had not the abortion occurred the patient would probably have recovered, and the gravity of the wound not have been discovered.—*Kansas City Med. Index.*

DEATH FOLLOWING THE INJECTION OF COCAINE INTO THE URETHRA.—Before performing an internal urethrotomy, the author, M. Simes, injected one gramme of a five per cent. cocaine solution into the urethra. The patient, aged 29 years, was, independent of his local trouble, in good health. Immediately following the injection, contraction of the muscles of the face took place, then dilatation of the pupils, arrest of respiration, and epileptiform convulsions. The convulsive phenomena increased in severity, the respiratory movements became more and more feeble, the cyanosis intense, and at the end of twenty minutes the patient was dead. At the autopsy the lungs were much congested, but normal, the left ventricle contracted. Post mortem clots were found on the right heart.—*Gaz. degli ospitali.*—*Lyon Medical.*

THE MICRO-ORGANISMS IN CHEESE.—Professor Adamez, of Larnthall, in Switzerland, has isolated nineteen varieties of microbes in a single variety of cheese in the fresh condition. In each gramme of this product he counted from 90,000 to 140,000 bacteria, which in seventy days had multiplied to 800,000. In the soft varieties the number is still greater: 1,200,000 in a gramme of cheese thirty-four days old, and 2,000,000 in another forty-five days old. These figures refer to the interior; in the rind, three to five millions of organisms were counted per gramme.—*Lyon Medical, March 16, 1890.*

G.A.F.

SWELLING OF THERAPEUTIC ORIGIN—SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTIONS OF METALLIC MERCURY.—At the Society of the Medical Sciences of Lyons, M. Augagneur exhibited fragments of a tumor of therapeutic origin. A patient, suffering from a mild attack of syphilis, was given two subcutaneous injections of metallic mercury in the buttock, one containing six grammes, the other three. The attack progressed, producing some manifestations in the mouth. The interesting feature of the case was, that the patient suffered very frequently from attacks of ulcerative stomatitis, occurring at short intervals, particularly after a blow on the buttock. A month ago, after a fall on the buttock, he again had a serious attack of stomatitis, and was admitted into l'Antiquaille. Suspecting that the metallic mercury had not been absorbed, M. Augagneur decided to remove the swelling which had formed about the situation of the mercurial injection; he did, in fact, express metallic mercury from the Gluteus maximus after removing the greater part of the muscle. This case demonstrates the uncertainty and danger of this treatment. The mercury is probably absorbed as a chloride.—*Lyon Medical, March 30, 1890.*

G.A.F.

TREATMENT OF SOFT CHANCRES BY THE SUB-BENZOATE OF BISMUTH.—Iodoform is perhaps the best local application for the treatment of chancroid or soft chancres, but its characteristic odor renders its use difficult in city practice, unless the patient keeps to his room. We are glad, therefore, to welcome the appearance of a new remedy, highly extolled by Mr. Finger, who has substituted the sub-benzoate of bismuth for iodoform. The chancroid is powdered with the sub-benzoate, covered with cotton wool, and a small dressing applied. This operation may be repeated once or twice a day. When the first application is made the patient feels a slight burning sensation, easily borne. The sub-benzoate causes no local irritation; in three or four days, more rarely in five or six, the chancroid assumes the appearance of a healthy ulcer. An ointment of the strength of two per cent. of carbolic acid is all that will be necessary to complete the cure. The sub-benzoate of bismuth is obtained by heating the sub-nitrate of bismuth in presence of nitric acid and benzoate