

## CURRENT MEDICAL LITERATURE

### MEDICINE.

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#### A DIET IN CHRONIC CONSTIPATION.

Moyer, in the *St. Louis Medical Review*, suggests the following :

7 a.m. A glass of cold water.

8 a.m. A liberal breakfast with sweetened coffee, a good deal of butter, honey, and graham bread. After which the patient should go to stool.

1 p.m. Midday meal of meat, a good deal of vegetables, salad, stewed fruits, farinaceous food, followed by half a bottle of light wine.

7 p.m. Meat, with plenty of butter, graham bread, and stewed fruits.

10 p.m. Before retiring fresh or stewed fruit.

This is a diet for simple constipation and is not adapted to obesity or diabetes. The diet in all cases must be suitable to individual cases rather than according to dietetic rules.

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#### THE TREATMENT OF EPIDEMIC CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS BY DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN.

In the *Medical Record*, March 11th, Waitzfelder, of Gouverneur Hospital, New York, discusses the results of this method of treating this terrible disease. At this hospital there were admitted during 1904, 113 cases of which 75 died, 5 unimproved, 5 improved, and 28 cured. The treatment did not originate with the writer, but his attention was called to the work of Wolff, bacteriologist of the city of Hartford, who demonstrated an antagonism existing between the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus and the diplococcus intracellularis meningitidis, the causal agent in the recent epidemic disease, pure cultures of the latter being killed by the serum. He communicated with Wolff, who reported a case which showed marked improvement after the injection of the anti-diphtheritic serum, and he determined to try it in the hospital. In all, 17 cases were so treated, 5 recovered completely, 3 died, 9 are still under observation ; of these, 5 give