

incision through the skin. Local anæsthesia has been maintained sufficiently long to allow of a careful and leisurely performance of the operation, without, however, encouraging that undue tediousness against which Mr. Christopher Heath has recently spoken so opportunely as a besetting fault of modern surgeons who operate under chloroform. My experience with cocaine in tracheotomy would be represented by about forty cases; we have had twenty in the hospital and in my private practice during the last year. I have witnessed its good effect especially in the last fortnight, during which time I have had occasion to perform the operation four times, all these cases being on account of cancer, and occurring in patients aged seventy-five, fifty-eight, seventy-seven, and fifty-four respectfully. Beyond the advantages of cocaine as a local anæsthetic, this remedy so applied has the effect of depriving the part of blood, and thereby diminishing hæmorrhage during the operation, whereas with chloroform and ether the contrary effect is often produced. It also quiets the breathing and steadies the larynx in cases in which respiration is seriously hurried. In only one case have I seen any toxic action, and that was at once remedied, when the trachea was opened and a full flow of air admitted into the lungs.

Asphyxiated by Gas.

A few weeks ago, a young man stopping over night at the Franklin Hotel, Hagerstown, Md., was overcome by gas escaping from the burner, which he had failed to turn off properly. He was found about eight o'clock in the morning lying on floor of his bedroom, unconscious, and as cold as in death. Dr. Mason and myself were called in haste. The doctor had already given the patient a hypodermic injection of whiskey, and was about ordering rubber bags and bottles of hot water when I arrived. We immediately proceeded to take advantage of every known remedy and appliance to restore consciousness and whatever vitality remained. We had, however, little hope of his restoration. The hypodermic injections of whiskey were continued, and nitrate of amyl was given by inhalation. We also employed friction, massage, the hot bath, etc. Dr. Mason was compelled to absent himself on account of patients requiring his attention. He left the case entirely in my hands. Up to this time we agreed that there had been no

improvement, and death seemed to be inevitable. However, I stayed with him three long hours, with three able-bodied assistants who kept up a constant friction and manipulation in addition to the hot bath. I continued the hypodermic injections of whiskey, and added to the treatment sulphuric ether and tincture of digitalis. After having given by the skin over one fluid ounce of whiskey and brandy, six drachms of sulphuric ether, and three drachms of tincture of digitalis, at eleven o'clock, our patient began to show marked signs of returning vitality. In an hour more he was restored to perfect consciousness. His lungs had become so filled with blood that expectoration was very copious for some days. He made a good recovery, however, and now enjoys his usual health.

In conclusion, I would say that I believe all that had been done for his resuscitation would have been useless had the digitalis been omitted. After each hypodermic injection of half a drachm of the tincture the improvement in the contractions of the heart was quite marked. Up to thirty minutes before the young man opened his eyes, I kept increasing the dose to 60 *m*. This began to produce wonderful results in twenty minutes' time, and in thirty minutes he looked around the room.

This is the second case I have had. The first case was unconscious eight or ten hours. He also made a good recovery.—By N. B. Shade, in *The Medical Bulletin*.

Terebene and Eucalyptus for Winter Cough, Etc.

A medical friend of ours informs us that under very unfavorable climatic conditions, and in cases of comparatively long standing, where neither pinol nor pure terebene *per se* caused any distinct improvement, he has found that the following quickly cures, and, in fact, leaves little or nothing to be desired, if systematically persevered with:—
℞. Terebena pura, ʒiijss.; ol. eucalyp. glob., ʒij.; syr. tolut., ad ʒiv. Misce. One teaspoonful every two or three hours. *Shake the bottle well before using.*

Treatment of Puerperal Sepsis with Salicylate of Sodium and Alcoholics.

Von Jaksch, of Gratz, in a comprehensive article in the *Wiener Med. Presse*, No. 1, 1888, speaks in the most positive terms of the value in puerperal sepsis of salicylate of soda in combination with alcoholics. His opinions are based upon fifty