

base of the toes to about halfway up the leg and carefully secured and moulded by a narrow roller bandage. While the plaster hardens, hold the foot in whatever way is easiest to the patient. There is rarely any further complaint of pain if the splint fits neatly. This, with perfect rest, constitutes the whole treatment, which should continue at least a week, or until all extravasation is absorbed. Fourteen years' experience and observation of results obtained by other methods satisfies me that it is the best and most rational treatment.

The above is in keeping with what was advocated by us some years ago, but we are of opinion that many a sprain is yet treated by liniments and rubbing, and massage even, a most unscientific procedure.

**CAUSES OF SUDDEN DEATHS.**—Says *La Mtd. Moderne*:—We are always astonished to notice how frequently physicians called upon to sign a death certificate in cases of sudden decease give as a cause, *rupture of an aneurism*.

Cerebral apoplexy rarely causes sudden death, and aneurisms only in the proportion of 5 per hundred, as proved by the statistics of Wynn Westcott, of London.

Of one thousand inquests noted by him, if we eliminate deaths caused by accidents, murders and suicides, and those of children under twelve years of age, there remains three hundred and three cases of sudden death. One hundred and eighty-five among the male sex and one hundred and eighteen among females. In one-third of the cases sudden death should be attributed to alcoholic excesses.

Westcott divides the causes into three classes:

1. The *syncofes*, 210 cases—15 ruptures of aortic aneurisms, 4 ruptures of the heart, 20 cases of valvular lesions of the heart, 3 cases of cardiac dilatation, 77 fatty degeneration of the heart, 10 hæmoptysis, 3 hæmatemeses, 2 metrorrhagia, 2 emboli, 3 perforations of the stomach or of the intestine, 2 cases of angina pectoris, 3 of *delirium tremens*, etc.
2. *Coma* 64—of which 20 were due to alcohol.
3. *Asphyxia* 29—œdema of the glottis, croup, convulsions, etc.

**DURATION OF LIFE.**—From *The Insurance Agent*, (*Southern Sanitarian*) we learn that a well-known German statistician has obtained the following

statistics in regard to duration of life; The average is thirty-seven years. Before the seventeenth year a fourth of the population dies. But one person in a thousand attains the age of one hundred years; six in a thousand reach the age of sixty-five years; 35,214,000 persons die during each year; 96,480 each day; 4020 each hour; 67 every minute; while there are born 36,792,000 annually, 100,800 daily, 4200 hourly, and 70 in each minute. The average duration of life is greater in the married than the unmarried individuals, among civilized than among uncivilized communities; while tall people are longer-lived than those of shorter stature. The chances for life, as regards men and women, are more favorable for the latter before the age of fifty, for the former after that age. Married persons bear the proportion to single ones as seventy-five to a thousand. Those born in the spring are more robust than those born at other seasons of the year. More deaths and births occur during the night than during the day.

**THE THERAPEUTICS OF MUSIC.**—An article has been going the rounds of the medical press, on the therapeutic value of music. It is sincerely proposed to employ this "therapeutic agent" scientifically in the treatment of disease. We have not copied it, as we can see nothing practical in it. Indeed nothing can be more chimerical. The blue glass craze was sense as compared to it, notwithstanding Shakespeare's dictum that "some men, when a bag-pipe sings i' the nose, cannot contain their urine." The following airs have been suggested by the *Med. Press*, as suitable for the cases enumerated, viz:—Retarded labor from inertia, "Comin' Thro' the Rye;" Cases of chronic deafness, "Come Back to Erin;" Epilepsy, "Let Me Like a Soldier Fall;" Pyrexia, "The Coolin;" Melancholia, "The Heart Bowed Down;" Cases of doubtful diagnosis, "Oh, Dear! What Can the Matter Be?"

**IODOFORM INJECTIONS IN GOITRE.**—Dr. Kapper, an Austrian military surgeon, has employed, says *The Lancet*, in fifteen cases, with invariable success, Mosetig's plan of injecting iodoform emulsion into soft thyroid tumors. In every instance there was a diminution in the circumference of the neck amounting to from 8 to 10 cm. Antiseptic pre-