

cian, named Cooper, has just applied for a patent on a process to preserve human bodies by compression. By a curious combination of steel presses and hot rollers, he excludes all the moisture and reduces a full grown body to a very small size, 12 by 15 inches, rendering it as hard and imperishable as marble. He has made several experiments with perfect success. The doctor and others who have investigated the process think it will supersede cremation, as bodies thus preserved are not only not offensive, but can be made to assume various ornamental shapes and be kept in the parlor or elsewhere as constant reminders of the departed. The doctor has on his centre-table the remains of a child pressed into the form of a cross. It resembles the purest marble, is highly ornamental, and is perfectly odorless. The inventor proposes to place a large number of specimens on exhibition in a few days. A company will be formed to push the invention."

**RELATION BETWEEN ERYSIPELAS AND PUERPERAL FEVER.**—M. Doyen (*Rev. Med.*) said he had investigated the report showing a connection between erysipelas and puerperal fever. From this investigation of clinical and experimental facts he draws the following conclusions :

1. The puerperal streptococcus, which is the microbe characteristic of puerperal fever, nearly always gives rabbits erysipelas and a small abscess; in a woman it sometimes produces erysipelas, cellulitis, or purulent pleurisy.
2. The streptococcus of erysipelas nearly always gives rabbits erysipelas, and at times even cellulitis, or peritonitis to man.
3. The streptococcus of pus at times gives erysipelas to rabbits. The three streptococci, which are identical in cultures appear to be one, of which the manifestations may vary. Doyen has never seen the streptococcus in his studies of the microbes of the vagina, and he believes that this microbe, when it is met with in the cavity of the uterus, has been imported there directly by the hands or the instruments of the operator.

**TO REMOVE WARTS, CORNS, ETC.**—The *Albany Medical Annals* says: The thickened epidermis is slightly moistened with an antiseptic solution (boracic or salicylic acid) and then covered with a fairly thick layer of pure crystallized salicylic acid. Over this is placed moist borated lint in four layers, a piece of gutta-percha fabric, and a bandage. In the case of small warts and callosities the dressing is allowed to remain for five days. On

removal it will be found that the thickened tissue is somewhat shrunken and has separated from the subjacent parts, which are covered with perfectly normal skin, presenting no traces of injury or bleeding. The author has never seen any caustic effects from this application on the surrounding and subjacent tissues. If the callosity is of any considerable thickness, as is often seen on the sole of the foot, the dressing should be left in place for ten days or renewed after five days. The great advantage of this application is that the effects of the salicylic acid are localized to the thickened area.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF CANCER.**—Dr. Haviland, writing in the *Lancet* on the above subject, says:—"There is abundant evidence to show that cancer does not thrive in high, dry localities, where the soil is kept sweet by the absence of floods and the nature of the rocks; but that it does prevail and become very fatal where vegetation is killed and decomposed, and where afterward a rank herbage springs up, composed of sour grass and bitter plants, which scour and otherwise disease cattle and sheep that feed upon them.

**UNG. HYD. NIT. IN BOILS AND FELONS.**—Boils and felons may be often aborted (*Wiener Therap. Gaz.*) by the free use of nitrate of mercury ointment, if suppuration have not commenced. It does not cause pain, but after about twelve hours, a drawing sensation is felt, after which all sensation ceases. The writer covers the entire finger with a coating of the ointment about  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick and covers with strong sticking plaster. The dressing is allowed to remain on for six hours, after which no further treatment is necessary.

**SUBSTITUTE FOR COD LIVER OIL DURING THE SUMMER.**—Every one knows how difficult it is to keep patients up to the mark with their Cod Liver Oil in summer. The *Med. Press and Circular* recommends the following as a substitute—Chloride of sodium, 3ij; bromide of sodium, 3j.; iodide of potassium, 3ss.; water, 3iv. A teaspoonful morning and evening in milk.

**DISINFECTION OF APARTMENTS.**—It has been shown that the ordinary disinfection of rooms, *Deutsche Med. Woch.*, by chlorine gas is inefficient, certain infectious organisms being uninjured by it.