

duced, with marked fetor of the breath, without sponginess of the gums. Presuming that the mercury had evidently entered the circulation, I drew off twelve centimeters of milk. Mercury could not be detected. This investigation is incomplete.

OPIMUM.—I have had several opportunities of noticing the effects of laudanum on mother and child. When the dose is large the narcotic principle can be detected in milk, but in small doses no trace can be found.

I had a patient, Mrs. H., a lady in good position, who was in the habit of taking the tincture for sleeplessness, her usual dose being twenty to thirty minims. As she was suckling, I asked her whether she had noticed any effect on the child; she answered, yes. When the child was fed it slept the whole night without disturbing her. Her infant was pallid and listless. She sent me some of her milk after taking her usual quantity of the tincture. Odor slightly altered. Responded to test for morphia.

QUININE.—Quinine readily passes into the blood, and probably very little is decomposed in the body, as it can be detected in the urine and sweat of healthy and fever patients. It is almost exclusively eliminated by the urine, most of it being secreted in six hours. It has been found in the blood.

As quinine is one of the best tonics we possess it is given therefore in all states of the system where debility is present; so is much used when mothers are nursing, and it becomes important to note its effect on mother and child.

Obs. 1.—Small doses, three grains every hour, were given to Alice W. After twelve grains had been taken eight centimeters of milk were drawn off, but no trace could be found; though it was found in the urine. The child did not object to take the breast. No doubt only a small quantity was taken up by the blood, as the dose was small; the largest quantity being eliminated by the kidneys.

RHUBARB (RHEUM PALMATUM).—All the polygonaceæ are not so readily absorbed as this drug. It is almost exceptional as regards the ease with which it can be found in the urine, sweat, in the serum of the blood, and in the milk. It colors the secretions, owing to the presence in it of chrysophanic acid. As a purgative for women and children it is well known. It acts physiologically upon the infant through the agency of the mother's milk, which it renders slightly bitter and at the same time purgative.

SENNA.—Neligan tells us that the cathartic principle of senna is absorbed before its operation is produced, as is proved by the action on the intestines, when an infusion is injected into the veins, and also by its imparting a purgative property to the milk of nurses.

I have frequently employed it as a purgative for nursing mothers, and have invariably found that the milk affected the infant—in many cases

producing colic. The peculiar flavor of the senna and the odor were distinctly perceptible, though it does not lessen or increase the secretion of milk.

RESTORING THE HEART'S ACTION WHEN IT HAS CEASED TO BEAT.

I do not remember what induced me to kill a mouse by a blow upon the head, and rip it open to see the heart beat. It did not. I pricked it with a needle and set it a-going. It stopped after a time. Then I gave it a second prick, and a few pulsations were distinctly seen. When I was in petticoats my father was sent for to see a girl in a fit. He was out, and when he came home he was informed of the fact. "How long ago, and any second message?" Being told, he thought he need not go. My mother suggested he "ought to go," which he did. He found the girl dressed in her grave-clothes and "laid out" upon a linen-covered table. He examined her and found some warmth over the heart. He ordered hot water to be brought (not scalding hot), and poured it into a jug; tore her shroud open, stood on a chair and poured a continuous stream of hot water, until the throbings of the heart were distinctly seen. That girl was the mother of several children before I left Scotland, in 1848. My mother used to laugh, and take her share of the credit of her restoration to life.

An old man here, Robert Robinson, several years before his death, took a fit, and apparently expired upon the floor, where he was lying, pulseless and breathless. The heart had ceased to beat, and I was told that "he was beyond any doctor's power now." I felt some warmth over the heart, and tried my father's remedy; and to the wonder of spectators, the septuagenarian revived and lived several years afterward. Hot water can easily be obtained, and no one can object to such an experiment.—*J. C. Reid, M.D. British Med. Journal.*

TEST FOR SUGAR IN THE URINE.

Dr. L. S. Oppenheimer gives the following:

℞ Cupr. Sulph., cryst.....1 grain.
Glycerine, purif.....1 ounce. M.

One drachm of this mixture will reduce one grain of grape-sugar in a caustic alkali. Two or three drops of the mixture are put in a test-tube, and one half ounce liq. potass. added; the whole is then boiled, a few drops of urine added, and the whole boiled again. If sugar is present it will be thrown down as the brownish-yellow cuprous oxide. The test is surer than Trommer's; it can be used to determine the quantity of sugar; albumen does not interfere with the reaction, and the mixture will keep indefinitely.—*Med. Brief.*