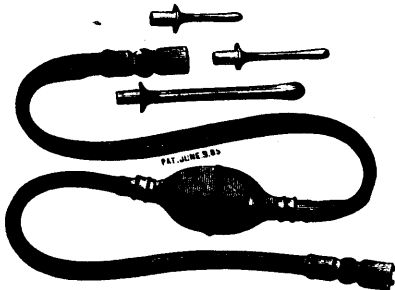


THE NEW CONTINUOUS-FLOW SYRINGE.

This new syringe, which is attracting the attention of all the leading medical men of this city, entirely obviates the intermittent action of all other pump syringes and produces a continuous stream with less exertion than other styles require. The Alpha, as the syringe is called, is perfectly simple in construction and its great advantage consists of its corrugated outlet tube, which is folded in such a manner that when filled with water it expands, and, by contracting to its original shape, keeps up the pressure while the bulb is filling. The syringe has many other advantages, such as noiseless rubber-covered sinkers and soft rubber sockets for the pipes, which require no screw-threads.



A close inspection of the cut shows a simple change in the formation of the rubber outlet tube, which completely changes the action of the ordinary instrument. This tube is made of very fine rubber, vulcanized in a corrugated or folded form, so as to contract its capacity and allow expansion. When the bulb is compressed in the usual manner, the liquid flows into and expands this tube into a temporary reservoir, and the elastic tendency of the rubber to regain its dormant shape assists the action of the syringe, and keeps up the flow while the bulb is expanding and refilling. The flow is, therefore, not only continuous, but can be either gentle or strong; or checked at once at the easy control of the user.

It is well understood that all intermittent bulb syringes act only while the liquid is being squeezed out of the bulb, the flow through the injection nozzle ceasing while the bulb is expanding. More or less air is, therefore, invariably drawn back into the syringe while the valve is seating, or oftener through a disorder of the outlet valve; fecalized fluids of the rectum are also drawn back into the tubes from the same causes, rendering an intermittent syringe offensive. It is apparent that a practical syringe constructed to produce a continuous flow, obviates many serious and oft times dangerous faults existing in the intermittent acting syringe.—*N. Y. World.*

CORROSIVE SUBLIMATE IN DIPHTHERIA. — Dr.

Werner, medical officer to a circumscribed factory population of about two thousand near Narwa, on the Gulf of Finland, writes in the *St. Petersburg Medicinische Wochenschrift*, describing the satisfactory results he has obtained in diphtheria by treatment with perchloride of mercury internally, combined with ichthyol inunctions. The disease is very frequent and fatal in the locality, he having attended during the last six years ninety cases, the average mortality of which was between sixty and seventy per cent., the majority succumbing from general weakness when the local affection was passing off or after it had quite disappeared. Last year the type was peculiarly severe. In July, August, and September eleven cases occurred of which no less than nine proved fatal. From the end of September to the present time, however, during which period there have occurred seventeen cases, all of which were treated with perchloride of mercury, and many of which were very severe, there were only two fatal cases, neither of which were seen till a few hours before death.

The author's method of administration is as follows: For young children he dissolves a quarter of a grain of the perchloride in four ounces of water, for children of 6 or 7 half a grain in six ounces of water, and for adults three-quarters of a grain in eight ounces of water. This solution is given to the patients while they are awake every twenty or thirty minutes, in measured doses, so arranged that the quantities made up shall last from twenty to twenty-four hours—*i. e.*, about half a drachm in the case of young children, and a drachm in that of adults. When a good deal of sleep is obtained, larger doses are given at longer intervals. As a rule only milk is allowed as nourishment. If considerable pyrexia exists, an enema of from 10 to 30 grains of antipyrin, according to the age of the patient is given, the rectum having been previously cleared out. Externally, ichthyol is diligently rubbed in over the swollen glands three or four times a day, the fingers being wetted with water when dry to permit of the rubbing being continued for some time. For the first two days of this treatment the local affection usually undergoes no improvement, but on the third day it begins to diminish and the general condition becomes better, the appetite increasing and the children regaining their wonted spirits. In no case did the author meet with the extreme debility which was frequent in cases treated by pilocarpine even when the local affection was decreasing. As the patients approached convalescence the medicine was diminished, so that more than six bottles were never required. Complications never occurred, though three of the patients had previously had scarlatina.—*Lancet.*

THE ORIGIN OF CANCER.—The close connection that exists between chronic inflammations and irri-