

drop doses thrice daily. Under this treatment the ulcer healed in about five weeks, leaving a scar a little darker in tint than the skin and with an edge slightly puckered, somewhat in the manner of keloid. It has now remained in the same state for three months.

I have since treated a lady in the suburbs for an ulcer near the outer canthus, which presents more of the characters of Jacob's ulcer. It was about as large as a sixpence, covered with a brown fetid scab, and had existed for over ten years, beginning when the patient was fifty-five. This patient was a sufferer from gout, and from its frequent concomitant, eczema of the legs. Having poulticed off the scab, I used the same ointment, and medicine as in the former case with success, so far as I can judge, for it is possible the ulcer may re-open. Ever since Jacob described rodent ulcers, in 1823, excision has been regarded as the sole remedial step, but in some cases it is not available. For instance, the ulcer was too large in the first case detailed, and in the second the patient refused to submit to operation, as she had done six years ago when the suggestion was made by a most eminent consulting surgeon.

The same local application and alterative have cured a case of sycois menti which was lately under my observation. The disease was not parasitic, but most obstinate and extensive. Before I tried citrine ointment, and carbolic acid, with Donovan's solution internally, I had used lotions of chloride of mercury, cyanide of potassium, and several other applications, without any benefit.

ACTION OF THE CINCHONA ALKALOIDS ON BACTERIA.

Dr. E. Buchanan Baxter (The Practitioner, November, 1873,) arrives at the following conclusions as the results of a large number of experiments upon the influence of the four chief alkaloids of cinchona bark over bacteroid organisms:

1. Quinia is doubtless excelled by other antiseptics, but there is no substance equal to it in antiseptic power which can be introduced into the blood in the same proportions without risk of fatal effects, if we except the other cinchona alkaloids, and the sulphate of beberia.
2. Quinia in such fractional doses as are capable of being introduced into the circulation exerts an inhibitory, not a toxic, action upon microzymes. It may check septic changes, it cannot destroy the organisms to which such changes are due.
3. The four cinchona alkaloids are very nearly equal in antiseptic power. Arranged in the strict order of their efficacy, they stand thus:—quinia=quinidine; next comes cinchonidine; last though at no great distance, cinchonina. This order corresponds to that in which they have been arranged with reference to their antiperiodic power.
4. Among reputed antiperiodics, the sulphate of beberia seems to equal quinia in antiseptic power.
5. Among reputed antiseptics, sodic sulpho-carbolate and strychnia have a decided value, though they stand some way below quinia; sodic sulphate has a feeble though decided antiseptic value; sodic hypo-sulphate, little or none; berberin and aesculin are hardly, if at all, antiseptic; potassic picrate is almost equal to quinia, but it is doubtful whether it can be given in sufficient doses without danger of life.

Active measures have been taken in Montreal to prevent the further spread of the small-pox. Compulsory vaccination by the public vaccinators is the order of the day.

MEDICAL NEWS.

The Philadelphia Medical Times of Nov. 8th refers to two additional suppressed deaths from chloroform, occurring in the practice of a surgeon in that city.

Dr Clifton E. Wing, recently one of the house officers of the City hospital, has been appointed house physician to the Women's Hospital, New York.

It is proposed in Italy to erect a monument to Eustachius. Few anatomists have had their trumpet so much blown.—[Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

A petrified child has been exhumed at Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, according to a writer in the Cincinnati Lancet and Observer. It had been dead for two years, and is described as absolutely perfect and statue like.

The daily registers of the Morgue, in which the 'sensational' information obtained about the bodies exposed there, is carefully written, are being collected and bound in volumes, and they will be placed for the benefit of the lovers of tragedy in the National Library. This new apocrypha of modern life will, no doubt, find many readers, some with the objects of literary craft, and some from more serious and philosophic motives.

EARLY CLINICS.—That bedside teaching was pursued eighteen centuries ago, although in no very pleasant way for patients, appears from the following lines translated from Martial:

"I'm out of sorts, but Symmachus is here,
His hundred pupils following in the rear;
All feel my pulse with hands as cold as snow,
I had no fever then—I have it now."

—[Maphother's Address, Med. Press and Circular.

The Lancet quotes the following from a French authority as a mode of ascertaining the age and consequent freshness of an egg: Dissolve one hundred and twenty grammes of common salt in a litre of water. If the egg is one day old, it will sink to the bottom; if it was laid the day before, it will not reach the bottom; if three days old, it floats; and if more than five, it comes to the surface, and the shell projects more and more according to staleness.

The magistrates have thought it right to commit for trial for manslaughter Surgeon-Major Macleod, who administered excessive doses of morphia to his wife, with the intention, as stated by himself, of procuring her a night's rest. Bail was accepted in the case. According to the papers, a larger quantity was given than was at first stated. The one grain not producing sleep, it is now stated that double that dose was given and repeated, and naturally it was fatal.—Dublin Medical Press and Circular.

Professor Brunetti has recently invented some new apparatus for the cremation of the dead, after having convinced himself by five experiments on human subjects under the most varied circumstances (divers combustibles, gas retorts, closed vessels, open air), that the 'incineration of the corpse and the complete calcination of the bones by fire is impossible under the usual condition.' We have before us an illustrated pamphlet in which is shown the new variety of reverberating furnace, by which he is enabled at an expenditure of a hundred weight of fuel, to obtain complete cremation in two hours. In the last experiment the corpse was that of a man, aged fifty; it weighed 102 pounds, the weight of the resulting ashes was two pounds and three quarters.

Colonel M'Neil has, we hear, had to leave the coast of Madeira. His wound will permanently disable the wrist. Both arteries were cut, and a large part of the tendons on the front of the arm were torn away. The Simoom Hospital Ship, anchored a mile off the coast, receives sick officers, and we hear good accounts of the whole medical department. Very serious dissatisfaction has been caused throughout the medical department by the nomination of a purely sinocure military commandant to the Victor Emmanuel Hospital Ship. Such appointments have been absolutely condemned and abolished in naval hospitals. They are entirely useless, and are regarded as costly and mischievous jobs. The present appointment is due to the Horse Guards.

PROSPECTUS.

THE CANADIAN MEDICAL TIMES.

A NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL,
DEVOTED TO PRACTICAL MEDICINE,
SURGERY, OBSTETRICS, THERAPEUTICS, AND THE COL-
LATERAL SCIENCES, MEDICAL POLITICS, ETHICS,
NEWS, AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Undersigned being about to enter on the publication of a new Medical Journal in Canada, earnestly solicits the co-operation and support of the profession in his undertaking.

The want of a more frequent means of communication between the members of this well-educated and literary body has been long felt; since monthly publications such as alone have been hitherto attempted in this country, do not at times fully serve the requirements of the controversies and pieces of correspondence which spring up. It necessarily diminishes the interest of a correspondence to have to wait a month for a reply and another month for a rejoinder; and it is in consequence of this drawback, no doubt, that many important or interesting points are not more fully debated in the monthly medical journals.

THE CANADIAN MEDICAL TIMES, appearing weekly, will serve as a vehicle for correspondence on all points of purely professional interest. It is also intended to furnish domestic and foreign medical news; the domestic intelligence having reference more particularly to the proceedings of city and county Medical Societies, College and University pass-lists, public and professional appointments, the outbreak and spread of epidemics, the introduction of sanitary improvements, etc. Many interesting items of this nature, it is hoped, will be contributed by gentlemen in their respective localities.

If the interest of a correspondence can be maintained and its freshness preserved by a weekly publication, it must be yet more valuable to have weekly notices instead of monthly ones of the advances which are continuously being made in the medical art. Obviously the sooner a medical practitioner hears of an improvement the sooner he can put it in practice, and the sooner will his patients reap the benefit. In this manner, the value of a weekly over a monthly or semi-annual medical journal may sometimes prove inestimable. Medical papers and clinical lectures, in abstract form or in extenso, will regularly appear and constitute a considerable portion of the new journal. In this way it is intended to furnish the cream of medical literature in all departments, so that a subscriber may depend upon its pages as including almost every notice of practical value contained in other journals.

Original articles on medical subjects will appear in its pages. The growth of medical literature in Canada of late years encourages the hope that this department will be copiously supplied. Notices of cases have been kindly promised, and an invitation to contribute is hereby extended to others who may have papers for publication. If the profession would encourage the establishment of a worthy representative medical journalism in Canada, its members should feel that upon themselves rests the onus of aiding in the growth of a national professional literature.

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