

Progress of Science.

INSTANTANEOUS REMEDY FOR LUMBAGO.

Collodion, tincture of iodine, liquid ammonia, equal parts. To be applied widely over the parts with a camel's hair brush.—*Peoria Med. Monthly.*

A NEW JOURNAL.

Dr. I. N. Love, of St. Louis, Mo., an experienced medical writer and editor, will, we understand, soon establish a new medical journal, *The Medical Mirror*. There are not too many good medical magazines in the country, and we have a right to expect, from the reputation and experience of its editor, that the *Mirror* will take the first rank, and become a leader in the Southwest.

TO RESTORE THE POLISH OF INSTRUMENTS.

Some weeks ago the stopper of a bottle of corrosive sublimate which was carried in a satchel along with a lot of loose instruments, came out and the chemical was emptied into the bag. The fact was not noticed at the time and the next day the instruments were found covered with rust and in some instances quite badly eroded. How to get the instruments clean without sending them to an instrument maker was a question which I determined to settle by experiment. The instruments consisted of dressing forceps, scissors, needle holder, needles, several bistouries, scalpels, etc., the knives all having tortoise shell or ivory handles. Without going into the details of the experiments I will give you the method of procedure, which yielded perfectly satisfactory results. A saturated solution of chloride of tin in distilled water was made and with this a number of large test tubes were filled to a height sufficient to admit of the immersion of the blades of the knives, the forceps, etc. The instruments were inserted and left over night. The next morning they were found quite clean and of a mat silver whiteness. Rinsing in water, wiping and rubbing with a chamois completed the operation. Chloride of zinc solution gave pretty good, but not nearly so satisfactory results.—F. L. J.

QUININE IN INFLUENZA.

In the Moscow bi-weekly *Meditsinskoe Obozrenie*, Nos. 9 and 10, 1888, p. 946, Dr. Pombrok says that quinine represents an excellent

remedy for influenza (*grippe*) in children, the statement being based on upwards of a hundred cases of his own, treated by the drug. In recent cases (of one or two days standing) the alkaloid is said to invariably cut short the disease, the temperature returning to the standard in twelve or twenty-four hours, never later than thirty-six hours. Nasal catarrh, cough, lachrymation and aural shooting pain strikingly subside after a couple of doses, while malaise disappears not less rapidly to give place to the sense of well being. In such cases which come under treatment at later stages (a week or so after the first symptoms), quinine proves powerless to abort the course of influenza, but still produces quite a peculiar favorable influence on the patient's general state, fever, and even on nasal and bronchial catarrhs. As to the dose, one grain of hydrochlorate of quinine was given by Dr. Pombrok twice daily to an infant of eight months, or three grains twice a day to a child of eight years. On the whole, Dr. Pombrok's experience is fully in accord with that of Professor N. F. Filatoff, of Moscow, who has emphatically recommended the quinine treatment of *grippe* in children in 1883.

HYPODERMIC INJECTIONS OF CORROSIVE SUBLIMATE AND CARBOLIC ACID IN ERYSIPELAS.

In the *Meditsinskoe Obozrenie*, Nos. 9 and 10, 1888, p. 948, Dr. M. Strizover, of Soroki, Bessarabia, highly recommends hypodermic injections of a solution of corrosive sublimate (one grain) and carbolie acid (ten grains in two ounces of distilled water) in erysipelas of all varieties. The method as it has been extensively practiced by him during the last two years, is briefly this: A Pravaz syringe of the solution is injected under the skin at several points, one or two drops at each. This procedure is followed by rubbing into the parts the same fluid by means of a piece of cotton wool for several seconds, after which the parts are covered with a piece of gauze or linen soaked in the solution, then with a layer of wadding, and ultimately bandaged with a gauze roller. The dressing is changed in six or eight hours. As a rule, a single injection proves to be sufficient to cut short the morbid process and to rapidly bring about a complete recovery. To adduce a brilliant illustrative case: A weaver of twenty was admitted with intense erysipelas of the whole left lower limb, high fever (41° C.), delirium, etc. Late in the evening the injection was made. On the next morning early the temperature was found to be 38° C., redness, tenderness, swelling strikingly decreased, the patient feeling comfortable. On the third day the limb was normal.