

being in bed, she soon fell into a "delightful sleep," and, on awaking, found that the headache was almost gone; but she complained of dryness of the fauces and throat, although on the first occasion she did not experience either of these effects. Some months after the same lady suffered from headache, and did not receive any benefit from a similar dose; nor did another person experience any relief from toothache nor any other effect beyond slight dryness of the fauces, which soon passed off.

Convinced by the foregoing considerations that the medicinal properties of hyoscyamus reside exclusively in the plant of two years old, and that the plant of one year's growth is therefore useless, I sought to discover an easy test by which the age of the plant from which a given tincture had been prepared could be determined. The following has at least the advantage of simplicity: add a little of the tincture to a glass of water; if the mixture become slightly milky, the tincture was made from a two years' old plant; if it remain transparent, the plant was in its first year.

The *British Pharmacopœia* gives no information as to what shall be the age of the hyoscyamus from which the tincture is to be made; it is, therefore, a matter of chance whether it will have any effect or be powerless. Given in the dose of twenty or thirty drops, as is sometimes done, it is hard to believe it can have any effect in either case.—*Dublin Medical Press.*

ICE PER RECTUM IN CHLOROFORM NARCOSIS.

Dr. Baillie says (*L'Opinion Médicale*) that nothing is better in the narcosis of Chloroform than the introduction of a morsel of ice into the rectum. A slight pressure on the sphincter relaxes it, the ice slips in, and immediately a deep inspiration is produced. This is the prelude to natural respiration and a restoration of the cardiac functions. He also recommends the remedy being tried on children born apparently dead.

ARNICA IN PNEUMONIA.

Mr. C. C. Balding recommends strongly (*London Lancet*) the use of arnica (min. x strong tincture every two or three hours) in pneumonia. The pulse should be reduced by it to 60 or 70, and descends at times as low as 40 per minute. The relief is immediate and marked.