

work again, although I am aware that some men have gone to work with the ligatures still *in situ*.

As to the strength of the solution, it will be seen that I have employed comparatively weak ones, for Kelsey recommends 15 to 20 per cent. solutions, and even the pure acid; but then he only injects one hæmorrhoid at a sitting, which takes place weekly. Ball, in his recent work on the rectum, says that Dr. Matthews, of Louisville, declares this method to be painful, insufficient, and liable to cause death by peritonitis, embolism, and pyæmia. All I can answer is that, in these thirty-eight cases, extending over the past two years, I have been fortunate enough to meet with none of these things. I admit that the number of cases I have brought forward is but limited, probably not sufficient to allow one to form a definite opinion; however, I trust that I may be as free from accident in subsequent cases as in those I have already had. My colleague, Mr. Allingham, in the fourth edition of his work, throws cold water on the method, for he says he has "tried the plan in a few cases, but the result was much pain, more inflammation than was desirable, a lengthy treatment, and the result doubtful—certainly not a radical cure."

Only once have I met with anything deserving the name of pain; as a rule the prick of the needle only is felt. Excess of inflammation I have not seen. As to radical cure, it seems to me that many years must yet elapse before we can judge of that. As I have pointed out, three of my cases operated on two years ago are, I have reason to believe, still well.

I would that I could close this paper here; but it is only right that it should be known that the chief advocate of this method, Kelsey himself, is no longer so enamoured of it as he once was, when he had had a series of 200 successful cases. It appears that he has published a pamphlet, which I am sorry I have not been able to see, in which, having had some unsuccessful cases, he now recommends the operation (if such it can be called) in certain selected cases only.—F. Swinford Edwards, F.R.C.S., in *Br. Med. Jour.*

MEDICAL NOTES.

Sometimes an *infant's tongue* can be exposed to view by simply pressing the cheeks gently with thumb and finger. If necessary, hold the nose for a moment and the tongue will come in sight.

Dr. J. C. Da Costa prefers *silk ligatures* to any other form in operations upon lacerated cervix, as strong and never causing serious effects. In one case the suture accidentally remained six weeks without any evil results.

When *iodine or iodides* are to be administered for a long time, certain precautions must be ob-

served to prevent iodism, as occasional intermission of the drug, the use of eliminants, as large draughts of water, or combined with such drugs as atropine. (Bartholow.)

During pregnancy *hypertrophy and dilatation of heart* are common, but transitory; the flow from kidneys become more profuse especially the watery portions, and sometimes in latter part of pregnancy a little albumin appears in urine; a little sugar need not cause alarm if there be no renal disturbance.

Prof. Da Costa prescribed for a case of *chronic gastritis* due to excessive use of alcohol, accompanied by morning vomiting, pain in epigastrium and flatulency:—

R. Zinci oxidi,	gr. ij.	
Ext. belladonnæ,	gr. ʒss.	
Ft. pil. j.		M.

Sig.—One three times a day.

In the first stage of *hip disease* pain and swelling are absent and the patient does not complain; the second stage is the result of an injury, which may be slight and even unnoticeable, but an injury has been received in some form or other; the third and last stage is the destruction of the parts. Do not attempt to move the hip-joint if it is stiff; if you do, you will do harm.

The prognosis of *fatty heart* is unfavorable for a cure, but if there is no strain upon the organ, it can be benefited by treatment. Diet does not materially injure, but should be good and nourishing. Stimulus is the best treatment, given with meals in small quantities. Digitalis does not do very much good, but strychnine is valuable; also small doses of nitro-glycerin.

Prof. Bartholow recommends the iodides as among the best remedies for beginning *cirrhosis*, often adding arsenic to the prescription, whereby the efficiency of the iodide is increased:—

R. Ammon. iodidi,	ʒj.	
Liq. potas. arsenitis,	f ʒss.	
Tinct. colom bæ,	f ʒss.	
Aquæ,	f ʒ iss.	M.

Sig.—One teaspoonful three times a day, before meals.

The *ligatures* used in Jefferson Hospital are prepared by taking ordinary catgut, immersed in alcohol containing one per cent. corrosive sublimate and five per cent. tartaric acid for one hour. From this solution, immediately place in oil of juniper berries, where it must remain at least ten days before ready for use. When wanted for use, wipe the gut with a towel wrung out of a solution of bichloride of mercury, 1-1000, and place it in a similar solution, to which has been added twenty per cent. of alcohol; the alcohol prevents untwisting and swelling.