

the cup, which was immediately pressed on the skin. Within a few seconds the air within the cup is exhausted and the skin is elevated into the cup, presenting much the appearance of a half apple with convex surface up. Nowadays the cups are fitted with a little exhausting syringe. The exhaustion of air is more tedious, but possibly on the whole it has its advantages. Certainly you will not blister the patient's skin, which often occurred under the old method by a careless operator. Whether the cupping be either dry or wet, that portion of the body to be cupped should be thoroughly washed, first with warm water and germicidal soap (P. D. & Co.), and then with plain warm water, the cups to be used being placed in boiling water.

When the skin has risen well within the cup, it is firmly held, so firmly as generally to defy removal, until the nail of a finger is pressed beneath the rim of the cup. A slight noise of entering air is heard, the skin, previously raised, falls flat, and the cup is in your hand. This is the operation of dry cupping, and in cases of lumbago it is not unusual to apply six or eight cups at one time. Within a day or two the seat of the cups is covered with echymoses, circular in shape, and which take in the neighbourhood of two or three weeks to disappear. In wet cupping a scarificator is used. This consists of twelve lances concealed in a small brass box, which must be firmly held against the skin. They are set off by a spring and perform the radius of half a circle. Care must be taken that the lancets are scrupulously clean and sharp. Before commencing the operation they must be graduated to suit the thickness of the patient's skin, which can be ascertained by pinching up a small piece between the thumb and forefinger. If the patient is fat care must be taken not to cut too deep or little fillets of fat will protrude, arresting the flow of blood. The cup is then applied in precisely the same way as in dry cupping. Just as soon as the skin rises in the cup, the blood commences to flow, trickling down to the dependent part. When about half full, remove the cup as I have already directed. Then sponge the cut surface with hot water and reapply a fresh cup, repeating till you have obtained the amount of blood which you desire. You then place a piece of dry lint over the cut surface, and with two or three turns of a bandage all further bleeding is arrested. There are one or two points I desire to impress