

the middle, with the head downward, should be applied to the spine. A little later, the clergy strongly recommended a collection of domestic remedies made by Madame Fouquet, among which was an ointment of horse-dung and fresh hog's lard for dressing bruises; the dung being that of a black horse which had been at grass for fifteen days during the month of May. The monks were in the habit of prescribing such remedies as the following: For quinsy, apply a poultice made of the faces of a healthy boy who has been fed three days on rabbit with well-baked bread, containing little leaven and salt. In cases of difficult micturition, apply to the penis, or near it, a poultice or liniment of fleas, caught in beds, in oil of sweet almonds; or, what is better, introduce two or three bed-bugs or fleas into the urethra.—*The British Medical Journal*, February 10, 1877.

CARBOLIC ACID IN SIMPLE ANGINA, DIPHTHERIA, AND CROUP.

According to Lemaire, carbolic acid water ($\frac{1}{2}$ or 1 part to 100), used as a gargle, is an excellent means for combating simple anginas. The sensibility of the mucous membrane and the other abnormal symptoms are promptly extinguished under the influence of this remedy. In the more severe throat affections, such as diphtheria and croup, the same agent is recommended as a gargle ($\frac{1}{2}$ to 100), as a cauterizer (2 to 100), as an inhalation, and as a drink. Declat tried the same remedy with good result internally, externally, and as a hypodermic injection, using in the last method 5 grammes of a solution of the strength of 1 part to 100. The observations reveal that the false membranes separate, and the subjacent mucous membrane is modified by the treatment.

The carbolic acid does not act as a cauterant, for dilution produces beneficial action; and it is not demonstrated that it exerts any chemical action on the false membranes, as some have thought. It appears most reasonable that it acts as a parasiticide, destroying the proto-organisms which constitute the fundamental part of the false membranes, and which exist in the circulatory system, since the local alterations are no more than the expression of zymotic influence.—*O Correio Medico*, Lisbon, 1876, p. 274.

CHLORAL AND CHLORATE OF POTASH IN DIPHTHERIA.

Dr. Ciattaglia strongly recommends the local application three or four times a day of a mixture of chloral (one drachm) and glycerine (five drachms). Since he has employed this he has met with remarkable success. He gives internally chlorate of potash in doses of two and a half to four drachms for children and five drachms for adults per diem, dissolved in thirty-

five drachms of water. He had already derived great advantage from the chlorate, but since he has combined with it the local use of chloral his success has been much greater. The development of the diphtheritic patches is arrested, and the disgusting odor of the disease disappears, if not at the first, at the second application. The chloral, also, is much more manageable in glycerine, the burning sensation being less, while it is longer retained in contact with the parts than when dissolved in water. It is also harmless even when clumsily applied.—*Presse Med. Belge*, August 13.

SIROP MAGISTRAL.

This syrup, which is mentioned in D'Espine and Picot's *Manuel des Maladies de l'Enfance*, is much used at Geneva as a tonic for emaciated anæmic children. The formula for it is as follows: Cream of Tartar, 500 parts; Iron Filings, 96 do.; Cinamon, 16 do.; Sugar, 2000 do.; Orange-peel, Rhubarb, each 32 do.; White Wine, a sufficiency. A spoonful night and morning. A. SHEWEN, M.D.—*The London Medical Record*, February 15, 1877.

CANCER: INJECTION OF BROMINE.

We saw, also, with Dr. W. Williams, a woman, aged 50, whose cervix uteri had been amputated for epithelial cancer, by Mr. Baker Brown, eight years before. The actual cautery had been applied later by Dr. Routh, and, later still, Dr. W. Williams had injected bromine at three sittings, after which the whole of the affected part came away, and complete healing took place. The parts were now quite sound. There was apparently only an inch of uterus left. The solution used is one part of bromine to three of rectified spirits. This develops heat, and should be prepared before being carried for use. From five to ten minims are injected into the tissues by means of a long syringe with platinum nozzle and india-rubber piston. It is desirable to remember that it may destroy the sense of smell in the operator; but this loss may be prevented by alkalined cotton-wool placed in the nostrils.—*British Medical Journal*.

PICRIC ACID FOR SORE NIPPLES.

Picric acid has not hitherto been much used in medicine. Dr. Charrier, in the *Courier Médical*, recommends it in sore nipples. After washing well with tepid water, he paints, by means of a camel-hair brush, the chapped surface with a solution of picrid acid 4 grs. or $4\frac{1}{2}$ grs. to 1 oz. This is repeated every day. Besides which he directs the nipple to be held after each time of suckling in a glass filled with a weaker solution—2 grs. to 1 oz.—of picric acid. ☞