

which were coming on very regularly. I made an examination per vaginam and found a thin, soft, dilatable os, about the size of a crown piece. In the course of an hour I made another examination and found the os dilated to its full size, after which the pains began to diminish and continued to do so for about an hour. I then gave her an enema and a dose of ergot which did not have much influence over the uterus, so I gave another 3ss dose, which had a decided effect.

Pains came on and in spite of all my efforts to prevent rupture, by smearing with olive oil, dilating with fingers, supporting the perineum, and shoving up the head, it was torn through the sphincter ani. Case lasted ten hours.

Treatment—After washing the part thoroughly I put in two silver wire sutures and tied the knees together, placed her on her side in which position she was kept. I kept the bowels confined for ten days by morphia. Drew off water for the first week twice a day, after that time she made it while lying on her abdomen. The vagina was washed out twice a day with a carbolic solution.

On the tenth day I gave her an enema and broke up the fæces with a pair of forceps. She then got an enema for the five following days. About the 13th day I removed the sutures and found good union. Have examined her twice since last time, about four weeks after the rupture took place. Diet consisted of beef-tea, chicken broth, and milk. No solid food whatever.

[If care be taken always to pass the sutures deeply, so as to restore the perineal body, we are satisfied the immediate operation will often prove successful as it did in the above case.—Ed.]

Joseph Skoda, formerly Professor of Medicine in the University of Vienna, and the last link between the old Vienna School, as represented by Oppolzer, Rokitsansky, and Hebra, and the present, died on the 13th June, last, after a lingering and painful illness, at the age of seventy-five. His chief work was on Auscultation and Percussion.

HYOSCYAMINE.

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So much having been said in praise of hyoscyamine as a sedative we determined to try it in this asylum, a few months since.

Mack's crystalline, was the only preparation used, and the patients treated, were cases of acute, chronic, and recurrent mania.

Case 1—J. S., male, aged 57. Admitted November 12th, 1880. Came in labouring under an attack of acute mania, was extremely violent, boisterous, and difficult to manage. Became so unmanageable during the day that it was found necessary to restrain him.

November 13th.—There was no improvement in the condition of the patient. One-tenth grain of hyoscyamine dissolved in alcohol was ordered, and had a wonderful effect, quieting the patient down until the 15th November. Upon that day he again became unmanageable and one-fifth grain was prescribed. The patient kept under the influence of the drug four days, receiving each day one-fifth grain. He received the last dose on the 18th November, and from that date until the 30th November, when he left our charge, remained perfectly quiet and was apparently very well, although we did not consider him perfectly recovered. After leaving the asylum, he returned to his home, the old exciting influences upset him, and he was brought back in two weeks time, nearly in the same condition as when first admitted. One-fifth grain hyoscyamine was immediately prescribed and the dose repeated next day, when our patient again quieted down and remained quite well until March 30th, 1881, when he was discharged perfectly recovered. Is working regularly, and at present date is as well as ever.

Case 2—J. R., male, aged 17. His aunt was insane. Patient has frequent attacks of recurrent mania, and when under their influence is extremely troublesome and dangerous. His attacks are generally of three weeks' duration at the very least.

The patient having been excited for a week, one-tenth grain of hyoscyamine dissolved in alcohol was given, but produced no effect. This