

of treatment leaves, as a rule, little to be desired, or that for this important advance in practical surgery we are chiefly indebted to the patient researches of our friends with the smock-frocks and the guinea-pigs.

5. I have failed to discover that iodoform is of any peculiar value in the treatment of tuberculous lesions. At any rate I have long since discarded it, and I have not noticed any falling off in the results of my practice in consequence. Iodoform is an irritant and a poison; it is apt to be septic, as germs can grow upon it, but I have no knowledge of the truth of the statement that mushrooms have actually been cultivated on it.

Sometime since a lady was sent to me for my opinion about a tuberculous ulcer of the anus which a practitioner had long been treating with iodoform. She earnestly begged me to consider if I could not recommend some other local application, as she said that the smell of the yellow powder rendered her "socially objectionable." This was for her a very serious matter, as she kept a fashionable boarding-house, and whilst many members of her household seemed to notice the peculiar odour, some few of her young men "paying guests" actually appear to recognize the drug itself.

I confess that I have a sort of feeling of sorrow for a surgeon who thinks that he cannot successfully carry on his practice without iodoform, just as I have for the lady who deems patchouli to be indispensable for her toilet.

THE FORCIBLE STRAIGHTENING OF CARIOUS SPINES.

The direct treatment of the angular deformity resulting from tuberculous disease of the spine is a subject that a few years ago was thrust somewhat vigorously upon us, not only by articles in the medical papers, but by the reproduction of photographic representations of ghastly clinical procedures in the pictured journals of the lay press. This is scarcely the way in which one would expect solid surgical work to be advanced. One remembers that there was a somewhat similar outburst in the lay press a few years ago, when the Koch treatment of tuberculosis was being boomed in Berlin. For this, however, the illustrious Koch must not be held respon-