

Human nature appears to contain elements naturally antagonistic to cleanliness. Children, as a rule, appear to revel in dirt on every opportunity. Many adults appear to have a holy horror of the bath tub. Some carry enough septic dirt in their finger tips to slay thousands, if judiciously used with that end in view. It is pleasing to know that antiseptic habits assist ordinary cleanliness. After the adoption of what we call Listerism in Germany, some of the greatest enthusiasts stated, in discussing their methods, that they always washed themselves before performing any surgical operations. By some in England this was thought to be a great blessing for Germany.

NOTES.

In febrile affections, and in all cases where there is heart weakness, the administration of sulphonal is to be guarded against.

A CELEBRATED Homœopath of New York announces to his patients that he can cure every disease that flesh is heir to, except the last illness.

THE Royal College of Surgeons of England has passed a resolution censuring Dr. Mackenzie for publishing his book on the case of the late Emperor Frederick.

RECTAL SALINE INJECTIONS IN POST-PARTUM HÆMORRHAGE.—Mr. R. F. Gill (*Lancet*) recommends rectal injections of saline solutions as a substitute for transfusion where the latter is impracticable. He would inject three or four ounces at a time, and repeat the injection every ten or fifteen minutes, using a tepid solution. He speaks of a case in which he thinks life would have been lost but for recourse to this measure.

Dr. Stetzner of Dresden reports in the *Journal de Médecine de Paris*, November, a case where he removed the whole larynx and the suprasternal portion of the trachea from a young man, aged 27, for epithelioma, resulting in complete cure, the patient afterwards wearing Gussenbauer's artificial larynx. The operation

was performed on Feb. 9th, 1887, and up to the present there has been no return of the disease.

ON the recommendation of the Executive Committee of Trinity University, a by-law was passed, January 10th, to enable students of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Kingston, who are under-graduates of Trinity, under certain circumstances, to take the written part of their examination at Queen's University, Kingston. Students of the third and fourth years, on registering before the 15th of March next, are to obtain the benefit of this arrangement.

EXECUTION BY ELECTRICITY.—The committee of the New York Medico-Legal Society has made a report on the best method to be followed under the law for execution by electricity. It is to secure a stout table covered with rubber cloth, upon which the prisoner is firmly bound; one electrode is inserted in the table in such a manner as to impinge upon the spinal column between the shoulders; the other electrode is pressed to the back of the prisoner's head. A dynamo generating an electro-motive force of at least 3,000 volts is recommended to pass alternately for thirty seconds.

ENCYSTED SEROUS PERITONITIS.—At a recent meeting of the British Gynæcological Society, Dr. Oliver reported two cases of definitely cystic swellings resulting from inflammation of the pelvic peritoneum, which both disappeared gradually. The societies in Great Britain don't appear to meet simply for the purposes of mutual admiration, and some of the members present intimated pretty plainly that they doubted the correctness of the diagnosis arrived at. Dr. Bantock, according to *The British Medical Journal*, thought that Dr. Oliver had failed to produce any satisfactory evidence of the correctness of his views. Mr. Lawson Tait agreed with Dr. Bantock, and believed that, with the increased light from abdominal surgery, encysted serous peritonitis "must take a back place." He thought that one of the reported cases was really a congenital cyst such as he had previously described at length.