

TRAUMATOL.—Ladevie (*Allgem. Wien. med. Zeitung*, September 1st and 8th, 1896) records a large number of observations made by himself and others upon the antiseptic and therapeutic properties of this new drug. It appears to have been used with great success in the treatment of varicose ulcers, eczema, metritis, gonorrhœal vaginitis, soft chancres, and wounds both infected and surgical. Bacteriological researches also prove its antiseptic power. The author states that in contrast to iodoform, which is both irritating and poisonous, traumatol is absolutely harmless and non-irritating, both locally and generally, properties which he considers sufficient to give it a high rank in the long list of antiseptics. Internally, its antiseptic action on the respiratory tract is as potent as that of creasote or iodoform. Furthermore, it exerts a most favorable influence on that ordinary intractable complaint, tuberculosis diarrhœa, a property which is said to be shared by no other drug hitherto tried for the purpose.—*British Medical Journal*.

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GNOCOCCUS AND MENINGOCOCCUS.—Kiefer (*Centralbl. f. Gynak.*) demonstrated in June before a German Society, the strong resemblance between the gonococcus and the diplococcus intracellularis, the germ found in epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis. Specimens of the latter were procured from the spinal canal of a case of meningitis and also from a case of pure rhinitis caused by bacteriological examination of the diplococcus of meningitis. The germ is clearly an active promotor of suppurative inflammation of mucous membranes. It grows freely in glycerine agar, in which it can be cultivated with ease. The gonococcus does not readily propagate in that medium. Hence Kiefer suggests that many cases of purulent discharge from the mucous membrane of the mouth and nasal fossæ in children hitherto attributed to the gonococcus are really set up by the diplococcus of meningitis. The glycerine agar test is necessary in order to distinguish the two germs, so closely do they resemble one another in microscopical appearances.—*British Medical Journal*.

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THE EFFECT OF LAPAROTOMY ON TUBERCULOUS PERITONITIS.—Dr. Gatti (*Il Policlinico*, March 28, 1896) has experimented on dogs, guinea-pigs, and rabbits in order to determine the value of laparotomy in the treatment of peritoneal tuberculosis. He concludes that the laparotomy has little effect when the tuberculosis is quite initial. The tuberculosis presents no macroscopic changes in the first three to five days after operation, but a small quantity of reddish serum is thrown out. From seven days to nearly a month the tubercle was almost