THERAPEUTICS AND INSTRUMENTS.

KILHAM.—Case of Cocaine Poisoning. *Lancet, January* 1, 1887.

A MAN, after accidentally taking $\frac{4}{5}$ gr. of cocaine at 12.10, was seized at 12.30 with cramps in the stomach, nausea, throbbing and bursting sensation of the head, failure of eyesight, loss of the use of his legs, incoherence of speech, confusion of ideas, and drowsiness, but could always answer questions if roused. No delirium; appeared as if drunk, and got quite helpless. Forty minutes after taking the drug, most profuse sweating, lasting some time, after which severe prostration, shivering, and sense of impending death. Stomach cramps, retching, and mucous vomiting followed. Seventy-five minutes after, face cyanosed, pulse intermittent, and cardiac suffocation. Half an hour after this, cramps in legs and feet, with numbness and tingling of the hands. The pupils also became dilated. Not until six hours after taking the drug did the patient begin to amend, but great weakness and head swimming remained all night. The loss of power (which appeared thirty-six hours after ingestion of the cocaine) in the legs, lasted three days, and numbness and tingling in the hands, for some time longer. The patient could not write a letter until the sixth day, being unable to feel a pen between the fingers. Severe sweating, intense prostration, and intermittence of the pulse were the most prominent symptoms.

CHAPIN, AMORY (New York).—**The Use of Cocaine in Coryza.** *The Medical Record, January* 15, 1887.

THE author has found the combination of "Dobell's Solution," with 4 per cent. solution of cocaine, warmed and used with a hand bulb atomizer, very successful in aborting "cold in the head."

RABOW.—Snuffs for Nasal Catarrh. *Deuts. Med. Woch.*, 1886, *No.* 5.

1.	Menthol pulv.	3 grains.	
	Coffæ tostæ,		
	Sacch. alb.	āā 50 grains.	To be used like common snuff.
2.	Cocaine hydrochlor.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ grains.	
	Coffæ tostæ,		
	Sacch. alb.	āā 50 grains.	To be used as snuff.

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STOCQUART (Brussels).—**On the Hypodermic Injection of Sub-acetate of Ammonia for the Cure of Aphonia and Hoarseness, recent and chronic. (Des Injections sous-cutanées d'Acetate d'Ammoniaque dans le Traitement de l'Aphonie et des Enrouments recents et chroniques.)** *Archiv Mens de Med. et Chir. Pratiques, October*, 1886.

On account of the absence of laryngoscopic examination, the author's diagnosis of "chronic laryngitis" cannot be said to have much value. The treatment, however, deserves a trial on account of the well-known repute of the salts of ammonia, more especially in Belgium and France, for the cure of throat complaints. The author comes to the following conclusions :—

1. Watery solutions of acetate of ammonia in the strength of $\frac{1}{10}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, or $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent., injected into the neck to the amount of one gramme, are without danger and are well supported by the patient.
2. The remedy is good for any case of aphonia or hoarseness, whatever the nature of the complaint. Capart.

RUAULT.—On the Employment of Benzoate of Soda in some Catarrhal or Congestive Affections of the Upper Air Passages (Note sur l'Emploi du Benzoate de Soude dans quelques Affections Catarrhales ou Congestives des premières voies.) *France Medicale, January*, 1887.

This drug having antithermic properties, the author conceived the idea of employing it in catarrh of the upper air tract, and has obtained good results. Four or six grammes at least must be given for a dose. The author has given it to a number of patients suffering from common colds, ending in tracheo-bronchitis. In many cases it has cut short the development of the complaint, and effected a cure in seven or eight days. In primary acute laryngitis the effects have been very marked : at the end of three days the mucous membrane was much less red, the cough diminished, and the voice better. Equally satisfactory results were obtained in a case of superficial erythematous angina. The chronic forms of the various catarrhal affections are also amenable to this treatment, especially simple chronic coryza with exaggerated secretion. Granular angina is also modified by benzoate of soda, which acts not only upon the granules themselves, but on the congestive element which accompanies them. Benzoate of soda would appear to have upon the mucous membranes of the upper air tract the same effect that balsams, such as terpine,

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have upon the bronchitic mucous membrane, and turpentine and copaiba upon the urinary channels. JOAL.

SEIFFERT (Munich).—**Iodol.** *Munch. Med. Woch.*, 1887, No. 4.

THE author has treated cases of tubercular laryngitis with insufflations of iodol, as recommended by Lublinski; and prefers it to iodoform because of its absence of odour. He has also used it in ozæna. MICHAEL (Hamburg).

SEHRWALD (Jena).—**Percutaneous Injection of Fluids into the Trachea, Extension of them into the Lung, and Effect on the Lung and the whole Organism. (Ueber die percutane Injection von Flüssigkeiten in die Trachea, deren Verbreitung in der Lunge, und Wirkung auf Lunge und Gesammtorganismus.)** *Deutsches Archiv für klin. Med., Bd.* xxxix., p. 163.

THE author summarizes his experiments in this manner:—

1. The perforation of the trachea of a dog with a Pravaz syringe is not dangerous, is easy, and not painful.
2. The reaction of the entry of fluids is cough. This can be diminished by warming the fluids, by narcosis, and by custom.
3. The volume of the introduced fluid may be, for a dog, 750 gr.
4. Efficient fluids are sublimat., 1 : 5,000; acid bor., 5 : 100; acid salicyl., 1 : 100.
5. By varying the position, the fluid can be introduced into every part of the lung.
6. The fluid pervades the alveoli, the peribronchial region, the bronchial glands, and the kidneys.
7. The absorption by the lung is quicker than that of the tractus intestinalis, or of the subcutaneous tissues.
8. The lung can absorb in five days four times its own weight.
9. The effect of drugs is therefore quicker if they are introduced by the lungs than by any other way.
10. Injecting into the lung is like injecting directly into the circulation.

The author hopes that it will be possible to use this method for the treatment of lung diseases. MICHAEL (Hamburg).

WINSOR, L. C (Spirit Lake, Ja.)—**Three Cases treated by Inhalations of Oxygen Gas.** *New York Med. Rec., January* 29, 1887.

THE cases were:—

1. A boy with severe laryngismus stridulus and chronic bronchitis.

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2. A woman with capillary bronchitis, dyspnœa, and cyanosis.
3. A girl with anæmia, headache, &c.

In the boy's and girl's case, the inhalations were of equal parts of oxygen and nitrous oxide, and amendment seems to have resulted. In the second case, pure oxygen was inhaled; and after three inhalations of five breaths each, the patient was comparatively easy, and the cyanosis disappeared. Inhalations were afterwards given every fifteen minutes, and at the end of eighteen hours were reduced to once an hour. The inhalations were supplemented by ordinary routine treatment.

COAN, T. M.—The Therapeutics of Mineral Waters. *The Medical Record, January* 8, 1887.

In the course of a long paper, Dr. Coan refers to:—

1. Diseases of the respiratory tract, especially laryngitis, bronchial asthma, the earlier stages of phthisis, "and that ill-omened distemper, post-nasal catarrh." For this latter, the waters of Aix and Mont Dore are recommended, along with energetic local treatment.
2. The treatment of laryngeal and pharyngeal troubles. Aix, Ems, Royat, and the leading springs of Auvergne, and the Pyrenees, are the chief resorts. Dr. Coan recommends for "clergyman's sore throat," or laryngitis, the sulphur waters rich in sodium; or the alkaline, with chloride of sodium, such as Eaux Bonnes, Ems, Obersalzbrunnen, Neuenahr, Selters, and Sharon springs.
3. Beginning phthisis in nervous and sanguine temperaments. Mont Dore, Ems, Salzbrunnen, or Red Sulphur Springs, are to be preferred. In the phthisis of scrofulous temperaments, Salins, Kreuznach, Ischl, Kosen, Bourbonne-les-Bains, Rockbridge Alum, Greenbrier Springs; for irritable or "erethic" scrofula, La Bourboule, St. Nectaire, and other springs of Auvergne.

WATSON, SPENCER.—Three Instruments for the Removal of Polypi. *Proc. Med. Soc.* Vol. IX. 1886.

The author describes:—

1. A long slender polypus forceps, suitable for the removal of small polypi high up, or far back in the cavity, and more especially in those cases in which the operation is performed with the rhinoscopic mirror, and cocaine. The curve is so made that the point of the instrument can be observed all the time.

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2. Delstanche's snare, with piano-wire instead of watch-spring for the snare, which latter is apt to break.

3. An improved ring-knife, the blade being flat on one side, and the edge lateral. The cutting edge extends only along the distal half of the ring, and the proximal half has no cutting edge.

4. In using the cautery, he guards it with a shield of crowquills, extending to the base of the loop, and varnished with shellac, and thus diminishes the danger of scorching the vestibule or nostrils.

DIPHTHERIA.

MONTEFUSCO, Dr. A.—A Case of Maniacal Diphtheria. (Un caso di Difterite Maniaca). *Nota Clinica Archiv. Ital. &c. &c., Anno. VII., Fasc.* 1.

THE author, after having remarked that in the course of diphtheria, psychical disturbances are rare, and exceedingly so attacks of real mania, and having referred to the case of acute diphtheritic mania of C. Lombroso as the almost solitary one on record, in which, however, the mania appeared some days before the development of diphtheritic symptoms, relates the history of his own case, which has greater importance from the mania appearing subsequently to the local manifestations. The phenomena which overshadowed the ordinary symptoms were psychical disturbances, sometimes sensory, such as acceleration, and inco-ordination of ideation, with abolition of the will, delusions of persecution and magnitude, and erotism; sometimes motor, with contraction of different muscular groups, involuntary, but consonant with the aberrant ideation, such as masturbation, &c. This condition lasted four days, and was accompanied with reduction of the temperature to 1° C. below normal. The local symptoms ameliorated with the cessation of the cerebral disturbance. The patient was discharged from the hospital after fifteen days.

MASSEI.

CONCETTI, Dr. L.—A Case of Chronic Diphtheria. (Un Caso di Difteria Cronica). *Archivio di Patologia Infantile, Anno IV., Fasc.* 6.

THE author believes his to be a case of the rare condition, chronic diphtheria, since it remained as it began for four months, presenting during that time only two short febrile periods. Cases of other

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