3, examination of the larynx in children (*post-mortem*). — *British Medical Journal*, March 14, 1885.

TWENTY-THREE TÆNIÆ EXPELLED FROM A PATIENT IN ONE DAY.—A. LAVERAN, in referring to the mistake of relying upon the term tænia solium as meaning a solitary parasite, gives the case of an army officer who had been on duty at a post where the water was provided from two cisterns, one of which was near some privies and also a waste pipe for dirty water. Two of his comrades had passed tæniæ. As he gave all the symptoms of the presence of tæniæ, he was treated with the ethereal oil of the male fern, which resulted in the passage of twenty-three tæniæ. Twenty-two of these tæniæ were perfect with their heads, the twenty-third either came away without the head or it was lost in the discharges. Each tænia was 2 m. 30 in length; they were the tæniæ inermis, and no hooklets were found.—*Archives de Médecine et de Pharmacie Militaires*, March 1, 1885.

MATERIA MEDICA AND THERAPEUTICS.

BALSAM OF PERU COMBINED WITH VARIOUS METALLIC OXIDES AS AN ADHESIVE DRESSING FOR MANY LESIONS OF THE SKIN.—DR. GEORGE HENRY FOX made some remarks on this subject at the meeting of the New York Dermatological Society on March 24.

He said that he had lately been experimenting with certain applications for the purpose of obtaining a new form of adhesive dressing. The one that he had used chiefly was a preparation containing one part of precipitated oxide of zinc to three of balsam of Peru, which he had found the least stimulating of all the balsams. It formed a very soft ointment, was readily applied to the skin, and easily hardened, thus completely protecting the parts. Ether and chloroform were added to some of the preparations, but they were too stimulating, as was balsam of fir, although Dr. Jackson informed him that in one case under his observation the latter balsam was milder. He (Dr. Fox) has applied this preparation over moist and exuding surfaces, even in children, without producing any more pain than an ordinary ointment. The objection to the use of an ointment was that it became dry, and was then friable. He had tried adding oil to the preparation, but found that it was too liquid. When the parts become dry and there is a tendency to fissuring, the surface could be made smoother and the cracks filled up by applications of oil. He had obtained the most gratifying results from the use of these preparations. The various metallic oxides, such as zinc, bismuth, magnesia, etc., could be employed in combination with the balsam of Peru. He had prescribed the balsam and oxide of zinc separately, and had them mixed afterward. The effect of these preparations was to relieve the congestion of the skin, and it was accomplished more quickly than by the application of the ordinary oxide of zinc ointment.—*Journal of Cutan. and Vener. Diseases*, May, 1885.

BATHS OF PERMANGANATE OF POTASSIUM.—DR. HÜLLMANN, of Halle, first used this remedy in 1879, for a two-year-old child that was suffering with a scrofulous eruption—eczema and impetigo. After other means had been tried without benefit, he ordered a full bath of permanganate of potassium solution, so strong that the color of the water was between a dark rose and a violet. The child was kept in the bath until the water began to take on a brownish tint. After two weeks of this treatment the eruption entirely disappeared, leaving a slight yellow color to the skin, which disappeared in a few days. Since then Dr. Hüllmann has used it with success in the so-called scrofulous exanthemata, in prurigo and eczema, in intertrigo, and during the desquamative period of measles, scarlet fever, and varicella—with the latter, as a preventive against infection. He found it of most benefit when used after free washing and the use of the brush to remove all scales, scabs, and other accumulations. The proportion of the solution required is about grs. xv to ℥x. It is put into hot water, which is then allowed to cool in the bath tub.—*Archiv. für Kinderheilkunde*, B. VI., Hft. 3.

MEDICINE.

THE SEMIOLOGICAL VALUE OF NEPHROZYMASE IN RENAL AFFECTIONS.—DR. E. BALTUS has demonstrated experimentally, with M. A. Béchamp, that nephrozymase is formed in the kidney itself and that its proportion in the urine decreases after reaching the bladder. This name is given to a substance which was first isolated in 1865 by M. A. Béchamp, as an albuminoid substance which possessed the general properties of soluble ferments, capable of liquefying and saccharifying the starch of vegetable matters. Its presence must relatively be considered as of importance as it exists in the proportion of 0 gr. 60 in the healthy man and 0 gr. 33 in the woman; that is, in the extractive principles of the urine. To separate this nephrozymase, the urine is carefully filtered with three volumes of alcohol, the precipitate settles gradually for several hours—sometimes 24 hours are necessary. The supernatant liquor is decanted in great part, and the precipitate is collected on a filter. It is then washed with alcohol at 75° C. until it will no longer dissolve. The resulting precipitate, when mixed with a little water, will liquefy and saccharify vegetable starch in a few hours. To separate all the mineral matter, it is necessary to repeat the manipulations several times and to increase the alcoholic precipitate by a very small quantity of acetate of soda.

From a physiological point of view, it is interesting to find the kidney, which has been generally considered to be only a simple filter, furnishing a veritable product of secretion, that is to