

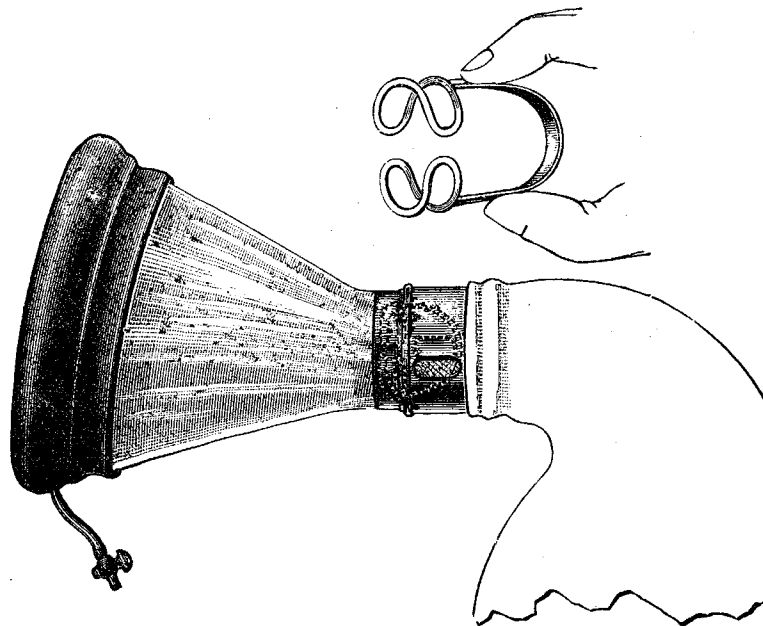
orbital unstriated muscle; this effect was absent after extirpation of the superior cervical ganglion and degeneration of the fibres passing from it to the Gasserian ganglion. There is no evidence of the presence of vasodilator fibres either in the fifth or in the sympathetic nerves. The effects of adrenalin and nicotin on the eye vary with the preponderance of local or general effects on the blood-vessels. 2. The Influence of Fasting and Feeding upon the Respiratory and Nitrogenous Exchange, by M. S. Pembrey, M.D. Oxon., and E. I. Spriggs, M.D. Lond. This article gives the results of numerous experiments on the metabolism of the body in rats during successive periods of fasting and feeding. 3. The Protective Value of Proteids and their Decomposition Products on Trypsin, by H. M. Vernon, M.D. Oxon. The method employed was to expose a known percentage of the substance for one hour at 38°C. to pancreatic extract with 0.4 per cent. of sodium carbonate and then to determine the amount of trypsin destroyed. Dr. Vernon finds that when no proteid is present 56 per cent. of the ferment is destroyed, but only 7 per cent. in presence of 4 per cent. of proteid. 4. On the Action of Oxygen at Low and High Pressure upon the Corneal Endothelium, by G. Bullot, assistant in physiology at the University of California, with eight figures in the text. The figures show the curious differences which result in the vitality of the endothelium after enucleation and scraping off the epithelium from the cornea, loss of vitality commencing at the periphery and proceeding towards the centre with low pressures and in the opposite direction with high pressures. 5. The Union of Different Kinds of Nerve Fibres, by J. N. Langley, F.R.S., and H. K. Anderson, M.D. Cantab. 6. The Elasticity of Animal Tissues, by J. B. Haycraft, M.D., with 23 figures in the text. Dr. Haycraft finds that all of the simple tissues of the body follow Hooke's law when they are stretched within physiological limits. The relaxing appears to vary and Hooke's law is not always observed. 7. On the "Sham Death" Reflex in Spiders, by T. Brailsford Robertson, with one figure in the text. Mr. Robertson finds that with the nervous system intact "sham death" is a complete tetanus and is not due to the conscious volition of the animal, but is a reaction necessarily consequent on the structure of its nervous system. In some species it can be carried out by the thoracic segments alone, in others the head ganglia require to be intact. 8. On Autogenetic Regeneration in the Nerves of the Limbs, by J. N. Langley, F.R.S., and H. K. Anderson, M.D. Cantab. The experiments of these observers, so far as they go, are decidedly in opposition to the autogenetic theory. This number of the journal also contains the Proceedings of the Physiological Society.

The Phonographic Record, September, 1904.—In this issue the lecture by Sir W. R. Gowers on Chorea and its Neuronic Aspect is concluded. The lecturer states that "if we grasp the idea that multiplicity is the equivalent of size, and that common function involves a common constitution, identical through a vast series of minute structures, and also a common liability to suffer from the same influences, much of the difficulty of conceiving chorea as a dendritic disease will disappear." Mr. Norman Porritt describes chloride of ethyl as the anæsthetic *par excellence* for minor operations and discusses a form of apparatus made by Messrs. Down Brothers at his suggestion for the administration of the drug. Dr. E. B. Gray has written a note on a variety of kidney (a single kidney of double size) found at the post-mortem examination on a woman who had been run over. Another note relates to the case of a woman, aged 63 years, who left off eating fruit and vegetables for 12 months because she had "suffered from indigestion" and at the end of that time had well-marked scurvy which was cured by five weeks' remedial feeding in hospital.

New Inventions.

A NEW INHALER FOR ETHYL CHLORIDE.

THE accompanying illustration shows a modified form of wide bore ethyl chloride inhaler. As there is no lint in the face-piece the patient's face can be seen throughout the administration. The neck of the bag fits over that of the face-piece and can be freely rotated about it. Corresponding openings are made in the inner and outer necks and when these coincide the anæsthetic can be sprayed through them into the bag. Within the neck of the face-piece is a bit of lint fixed (opposite the aperture) by a clip so as to form a pocket which is open towards the bag; just as an aortic valve forms a pocket open towards the aorta. The



lint minimises reflux of the spray into the face-piece and economises the anæsthetic. When a gag is used the inhaler can be applied *uncharged* the moment the gag is adjusted and then can be charged during a convenient expiration. After a breath or two the air-way is closed by slightly rotating the neck of the bag. This inhaler is especially useful in dealing with the large numbers of children met with in hospital practice, as about 18 cases of adenoids and tonsils can be operated upon per hour when anæsthetised as described. The inhaler is made by Messrs. Allen and Hanburys, with one face-piece, for a guinea. A smaller size face-piece can be supplied, the two sufficing for all cases.

Burwood-place, W.

A. BERESFORD KINGSFORD.

A NEW INGUINAL COLOTOMY BELT AND A MODIFIED HERNIA TRUSS.

A VARIETY of expedients have been adopted for securing the dressings and coverings requisite in the treatment of colotomy. Some of these are, no doubt, more successful than others and I find that an inguinal colotomy belt, which has been made at my request, fulfils all requirements. The usual indiarubber bag or pouch has been dispensed with and replaced by a wire vaccination shield affixed to a light abdominal belt, which is well shaped to grip the pelvis. The shield is lined with the ordinary green protective and can be filled with absorbent tow or wool, either carbolised or charged with charcoal, thus providing a cleaner and more efficient method of dealing with the fæces than the usual pouch. In order to prevent the belt slipping upwards and so displacing the receptacle buttons are sewn along its lower border and these fix it to tightly fitting bathing drawers or pants furnished with button holes and drawn up over the belt. In this way perineal bands are avoided and great comfort is obtained. In my earlier cases of colotomy the belt was always a trouble and my thanks are due to Messrs. James Woolley, Sons, and Co., Limited, Victoria-bridge, Manchester, for carrying out suggestions and producing a very efficient belt at a moderate cost.

The same firm have also at my suggestion made a specially soft and flat pad for hernia trusses.

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