

Physiologist.—According to M. Robin, the possibility exists of lessening the activity of respiration without diminishing the quantity of air entering the circulation. This may be accomplished by administering large quantities of coffee, or antiseptic substances, as tar-water, arsenical preparations, &c., which by their combinations with proteinoid matters give rise to compounds indestructible by oxygen in the moist state.

Dr. M'Gregor, (Glasgow.)—Next week.

M. R. F., (Stepney.)—The *Acarus scabei* may commonly be detected by the aid of the microscope in cases of itch. This insect has the power of communicating the disease.

Dr. Pidduck complains that in the abstract of his paper on Cholera, in our last impression, we omitted the part relating to the inertness of calomel in true Asiatic cholera, and also the caution against the danger of arresting the premonitory diarrhoea by opiates and astringents.

A Constant Reader.—There are two books on the subject, by Mr. Kesteven and Dr. Gairdner.

TREATMENT OF ACNE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Can any of your readers oblige me with a suggestion for the treatment of a very troublesome case of acne, which confines itself to the forehead, and that portion of it only which is exposed to the pressure of the hat? My patient is a gentleman of sanguine temperament, with a very active skin, and I have no doubt the cause is to be found in the pressure upon the pores during exercise. I have tried all the usual remedies, but with no beneficial effect.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,

November, 1865.

A YOUNG SURGEON.

H. W. W., (Northamptonshire.)—The communication forwarded places the subjects in question in a very fair and distinct light; but as the matters have been so frequently discussed in THE LANCET, we regret to be under the necessity of declining to publish the article. Our correspondent's request with reference to it has therefore been acted upon.

B. B. may try it in the form of suppository instead, or let it be introduced directly into the vagina.

Jean.—The remedy in question consists of three grains of camphor and fifteen of aromatic confection.

THE obituary notice of Mr. William Jeaffreson, of Framlingham, will appear in our ensuing number.

Mr. Charles Rogers.—In Portland-road, Marylebone-road.

TINCTURE OF PERCHLORIDE OF IRON.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In reply to numerous correspondents, allow me to state, through your extensively circulated journal, that the tincture of perchloride of iron of the British Pharmacopœia cannot be used as a substitute for the neutral liquor ferri perchloridi recommended by me in the treatment of tubercular phthisis. A well-prepared solution of the neutral salt may be obtained at the General Apothecaries' Company, Berners-street, W.—Your obedient servant,

Harley-street, November, 1865.

JAMES JONES, M.D.

C. T.—C., under the circumstances, was bound to meet B., particularly as he was unacquainted, at the time of making the appointment, with the position of A. with respect to B. As C., however, knew before he saw the patient that A. had been in attendance, he should have suggested to B. the propriety of A. being present at the consultation.

M.D. says—"In the second of Dr. Chambers' very interesting lectures on the Climate of Italy, when estimating the rate of mortality in various forms of disease at Genoa and London respectively, no reference is made to the total rate of mortality in each case. A very simple calculation shows that in London it is 2.4 per cent., and in Genoa 3.5 on the total population—a fact that will speak for itself."

CHILBLAINS.

Dr. Rathray (Portobello) remarks:—"We all know the proverb, 'Prevention is better than cure.' If 'A Chemist's Assistant,' who seems to be in torment with the above annoyance, will only bear in mind the indispensable necessity of guarding against severe and sudden alternations of cold with heat, whether in toes or fingers, I am sure he will be much relieved; at the same time not forgetting to abstain from the common and vulgar practice of exposing the part so affected immediately to the fire. But besides he should wear wash-leather socks, and gloves lined with wash-leather, or woollen socks or gloves, as the case may be. Soap plaster spread on linen is an excellent means to keep the chilblains unbroken. Should they ulcerate, the red oxide of mercury will be about the best remedy to heal these ulcers."

Dr. Henry B. Spencer (Oxford) says:—"According to my experience in the treatment of chilblains, the best thing to do locally is to strap them with strips of plaster equally and rather firmly all over. I find that this, by the support it gives to the distended capillaries, hastens the cure more than any form of liniment. As chilblains generally occur in those whose circulation is languid, plenty of exercise in the open air, good living, and often quinine and steel, are required to prevent their recurring again and again."

Mr. H. S. W. Benison (Maitland Park) observes:—"Rub gin on the inflamed part for some time, and wrap the foot in linen saturated with it. Of course it should not be applied to any broken places; but if applied to the parts affected before, it will effectually cure them. Wear slippers with warm lining as well, and get as much exercise as possible."

Mr. Frank Argles (West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone) "strongly recommends the following, having always found it most efficacious:—Tincture of opium, tincture of cantharides, soap liniment, compound camphor liniment, of each two drachms: to be rubbed in night and morning."

Miles (Dundalk) states:—"I and all my brothers and sisters suffered for years from very bad chilblains. Remedies of all kinds were tried, but failed to give relief. An old lady, remarkable for her common sense, who was visiting our house, suggested the free use of a skipping-rope. The prescription answered beyond all expectation. In a few weeks all our chilblains had disappeared, and never returned. Persons suffering from this complaint should wear thick woollen stockings, and avoid warming their feet by the fire."

Mr. H. Clark, (Southampton.)—The paper by M. Bitot, read at the Congress of Bordeaux, has not been published. All the papers will be contained, either *in extenso* or in abstract, in a book to be brought out by the Committee of the Congress. Our correspondent had better write to the Secretary, M. Charles Dubrenilk, Médecin à Bordeaux, to order a copy. M. Dubrenilk will also, if desired, furnish the address of M. Bitot.

CARBUNCLES.

A Clergyman and a long and regular Subscriber to THE LANCET, desires information as to whether carbuncles have not been general this year. He states that he as well as some of his parishioners have suffered much from this painful affection.

Students.—It is better not to argue with the deluded persons who believe in homeopathy.

EFFECT OF TINCTURE OF ACONITE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Some few weeks since I applied tincture of aconite for facial neuralgia, which produced numbness, which up to the present time remains, and leaves a most unpleasant sensation. Will any of your readers inform me, through THE LANCET, how to remove the numbness, and oblige,

November, 1865.

A BROTHER CHIP.

J. W.—Brown-bread for diabetic patients should be made with prepared bran, which may be obtained of Mr. Blatchley, of Oxford-street. Ordinary bran contains far too much starch for this purpose. Dilute hydrochloric acid and bicarbonate of soda should be used, and not yeast. Milk and a little butter will also be required.

THE publication of the second Report on the Old Cholera Haunts and Modern Fever Nests of London is unavoidably postponed until next week.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, &c., have been received from—Dr. Chambers; Mr. Bryant; Mr. Napper; Mr. Shaw; Dr. Taylor, Scarborough; Dr. Pauli; Mr. Kempster; Mr. Lattey; Mr. Bailey; Mr. Buckell; Dr. Birch (with enclosure); Dr. Richards, Aberdare; Mr. Benison; Mr. Baxter Langley; Dr. Deamer, Christchurch; Mr. Nell, Gloucester; Mr. Browne, Newport; Rev. C. C. Layard; Mr. Wight; Major Meig, Sierra Leone; Mr. Suckling; Mr. E. Davies, Swansea; Mr. Rogers, Retford; Mr. J. Brown; Mr. Wilson, Horsforth (with enclosure); Mr. Child, Malden; Dr. Flynn; Mr. F. Argles, Maidstone; Dr. Plumbe; Mr. Hill (with enclosure); Dr. Lockley, York; Mr. Reid (with enclosure); Mr. Ward; Mr. Pritchard (with enclosure); Dr. Jones; Mr. Clark; Mr. Heaton, Leeds; Mr. Bottomley, Huddersfield; Mr. Grewcock; Dr. Hilditch, Greenwich; Mr. Symmons (with enclosure); Mr. Burn; Mr. Jessop, Leeds; Dr. Lay, Peasenhall; Dr. Madge; Mr. Freer, Stourbridge; Mr. Dwyer, Port Louis; Mr. G. Smith, New Deer; Mr. Jones; Dr. Slight; Mr. Trible; Mr. Newhouse; Doonghur Singh; Mr. N. Smith; Mr. Walker, Blakesley; Mr. Farrow; Dr. Mitchell, Thetford; Mr. Vosper; Dr. Pringle, Paramatta, New South Wales; E. J.; P. Q. (with enclosure); C. T.; Muck; R. P. (with enclosure); A. B. (with enclosure); &c. &c.

Medical Diary of the Week.

Monday, Nov. 20.

ST. MARK'S HOSPITAL FOR FISTULA AND OTHER DISEASES OF THE RECTUM.—Operations, 9 A.M. and 1½ P.M.
METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.
MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—8 P.M. Clinical Discussion.—Dr. Anstie, "On some Clinical Results of the Investigation of the Pulse in Disease by Marey's Sphygmograph."

Tuesday, Nov. 21.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1½ P.M.
WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.
NATIONAL ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.
ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—8 P.M. Mr. Thomas Wright, "On the true Assiguation of the Bronze Weapons, &c., supposed to indicate a Bronze Age in Western and Northern Europe."
PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—8 P.M.

Wednesday, Nov. 22.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1 P.M.
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1½ P.M.
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1½ P.M.
ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1½ P.M.
GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.
LONDON HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.

Thursday, Nov. 23.

CENTRAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1 P.M.
ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1 P.M.
LONDON SURGICAL HOME.—Operations, 2 P.M.
WEST LONDON HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.
ROYAL ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.

Friday, Nov. 24.

WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1½ P.M.

Saturday, Nov. 25.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.—Operations, 9½ A.M.
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1½ P.M.
KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1½ P.M.
ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL.—Operations, 1½ P.M.
CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL.—Operations, 2 P.M.