

HYDRO-ELECTRO-THERAPEUTICS IN SOME  
NEUROSES OF CHILDHOOD.

Dr. U. Stampa in the "Archivo Italiano di Pediatria," November, 1890, proposes to substitute for faradic and galvanic currents hydro-electric baths in the treatment of some neuroses of childhood, especially as these are well borne by children. He prefers the bipolar bath, and lets both electrodes hang down into the bath-tub. He has obtained good results with this method of treatment in cases of infantile paralysis with already commencing atrophy, in nocturnal enuresis and in rachitis, which he thinks owes its origin to a trophoneurosis. He especially laid stress upon the improved nutrition of the children which underwent this treatment.

P. and P.

## URETHRAN IN TETANUS.

Dr. G. Maretti (Raccoglitore Medico, Sept. 30, 1890) was called to a case in which he made the diagnosis of rheumatic tetanus. The temperature was slightly above the normal; the pulse 120. Darkness, complete rest, chloral and subcutaneous injections of carbolic acid were without effect. It was finally ascertained that about fifteen days before, the patient had injured the big toe of his right foot, the skin being torn off in a spot. The diagnosis was changed to traumatic tetanus; local treatment was instituted (curetting of the lesion on the big toe, and a solution of phenic acid (30), and corrosive sublimate (3) in water (1000) was applied topically). Chloral was given three times a day, the daily amount being six grammes. The chloral was given for twenty days. Complete resolution of the opisthotonus was thus obtained, yet there remained a slight degree of trismus, with some rigidity of the pectoral and abdominal muscles. The writer then substituted urethran for chloral, its use being suggested by Prof. Coza, who remarked its manifest antagonism to the convulsions produced by strychnine, and hence recommended it in the treatment of tetanus and convulsions. The remedy was first given in the dose of two grammes a day, and finally carried up to three grammes, with total disappearance of the tetanic symptoms.

The writer claims this to be the first case of tetanus in which urethran was used.

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