THERAPEUTICAL.

Contribution to the Action of Thyroidin. Dr. Becker, (*Deutsch. Med. Wochenschr.*, Sept. 12, 1895).—Reports a case of a two and a half years old child, that ate ninety thyroidin tablets (0.3 gramme each) at one time, without any alarming consequences following. The tablets were prepared by Dr. Döpper according to Leichtenstein's order. The child retained the tablets, not vomiting, and only after the administration of a laxative, its bowels moved. The condition and appearance of the child were unchanged afterwards, and nothing abnormal in the heart or circulation was found. It lost no weight, the appetite was good, and the urine showed nothing abnormal. Four weeks later, the child was still as healthy as ever. Based on this observation, the author is of the opinion that the fear entertained by the French doctors, especially of the thyroid containing a dangerous cardiac poison is unsustainable. On the other hand, he advocates Leichtenstein's interpretation, viz., that the cause of the disturbances, sometimes observed, is the result of tissue changes, produced by continued administration of the thyroid. MACALESTER.

Saline Baths in Graves' Disease. in Claude Wilson (*The Practitioner*, September, 1895), reports a case of exophthalmic goitre in an unmarried lady of fifty, in which saline baths gave remarkably good results, after rest and drug treatment. (Nerve sedatives, tonics, strychnine, digitalis and strophanthus had been tried for months and failed utterly.) The baths given were prepared in such a manner as to imitate the natural waters of Nauheim as closely as possible. The chief rules for the administration of these baths are put down as follows:

1. Begin with weak baths (1 per cent. common salt, or 1 lb. to each 10 gallons of water, and 1 per thousand of chloride of lime, or $1\frac{1}{2}$ ℥ to each 10 gallons of water), free from carbonic acid and slightly below blood temperature.
2. Gradually increase the strength (up to 3 per cent. Na Cl and 3 per mille. Ca Cl), and duration of bath, and lower the temperature to 85° $\pm$.
3. Add free carbonic acid (by adding bicarbonate of soda and muriatic acid) to the stronger baths.
4. Have the patient lie down for an hour after each bath.
5. Never give baths for more than four consecutive days without an interval.

The carbonic acid is not necessary in all cases, nor is it equally well borne by all patients. STIEGLITZ.