may be employed when it is well borne. For umbilical hernia the usual dressing of a compress retained by a band of adhesive plaster generally suffices; or, if this fails, an elastic bandage of rubber should be used.

The Value of Koplik's Spots in the Diagnosis of Measles.—Further testimony to the diagnostic value of Koplik's spots is offered by the recent Yale thesis of WILLIAM J. MARONEY (*Yale Medical Journal*, October, 1900, p. 133), who reports a study of 140 cases of measles observed at the New York Foundling Hospital. In 53 cases the spots were noted at the beginning of the eruption, a large majority of these patients having been examined for the first time after the appearance of the eruption. In 51 cases the spots were observed twenty-four hours before the appearance of the eruption; slight fever, ranging from 99° to 101° F., was present in all, and slight coryza and conjunctivitis in 35. In 20 cases the spots were seen forty-eight hours before eruption, and slight fever but no coryza was noted; while in 4 cases they were detected three days and in 2 cases four days before the rash, slight fever being noticeable, without catarrhal symptoms. Spots without eruption were observed in two very delicate children, but the patients undoubtedly had measles and died in a few days without development of the rash. No spots were observed in 8 cases, in 4 of which the children were marantic, with very dry mouths.

The author points out that some elevation of temperature was observed in all cases showing the spots, and he considers this condition as almost necessary for positive diagnosis. Another fact to which attention is drawn for the first time, is that the spots are seldom recognized in the mouths of marantic children; which is ascribed to the dry condition of the mouth in such cases, or to the fact that these children do not react well to the infection.

[Dr. Maroney's experience adds further convincing testimony to that already adduced in reviewing the observations of recent Continental writers in abstracts published in this department in the issue of December, 1900.—ED.]

Pathological Alterations of the Gastro-intestinal Mucosa in Primary Atrophy.—FEDE, of Naples, in a communication to the Thirteenth International Medical Congress (*Revue mensuelle des Maladies de l'Enfance*, August and September, 1900, p. 400) reports a study of the anatomo-pathological changes artificially produced in the digestive tract of puppies rendered atrophic by different diets. He is thus led to distinguish in the human infant a primary athrepsia produced by insufficient, bad, irregular, or premature feeding from a secondary athrepsia caused by tuberculosis or other profound alterations of the digestive apparatus, by hereditary syphilis, and also by divers cachectic maladies.

Five series of experiments were made with different diets so as to produce an atrophy comparable to that seen in young infants. The gastro-intestinal alterations were then studied.

In the five series the results obtained were constantly the same, and, as compared with the organs of normal animals, showed thinning of the gastro-intestinal walls and an atrophy of the tissues with diminution of the cellular protoplasm.