bers of the learned professions in England and this country is certainly a matter for congratulation, and it is pleasant to know that the influence of our valued English contemporary is for peace and good will."

Antiseptic Value of Subnitrate of Bismuth.—Since the introduction of naphthol, salol and salicylate of bismuth, our old friend, subnitrate of bismuth, is being neglected and some even assert that its action is merely plastic or mechanical, and declare that its action is valueless. But they are mistaken; it is a powerful bactericide; applied to wounds it heals them; arrests inflammation, suppuration and all putrid conditions, and owes to its microbe-destroying properties its recognized efficacy in gastrointestinal disorders. These properties have been proved in many experiments, especially those of Gayon and Dupetit with the ferments of new wine. Its fine effects in fistulas and urethritis are evidently due to this cause also. The moment it comes in contact with moisture it seeks to resolve itself into its elements, oxid of bismuth and nitric acid, which readily explains its antiseptic action, for, as Duclaux remarks: "The presence of even a trace of nitric acid in an organic solution arrests the development of a host of microbes." The oxid also has germicidal properties. And this is not all. As soon as the subnitrate of bismuth reaches the intestines, it meets sulphohydric vapors which transform it into black sulphur, and thus liberate another acid and generate nitric vapors, which have a special antiseptic action on the putrid gas producing bacteria, as is well known. But in order to be effective it must be absolutely pure, not mixed with carbonate like the kind known in trade as "light subnitrate." Another important point is that it should be very finely pulverized; large grains become coated with the black sulphur and the inside remains intact, which accounts for the fact that the same dose to the same patient often produces different effects.—CARLES in the *Archives Clin. de Bordeaux*, February.

AN ALBUMIN TESTER FOR URINE.

BY JOHN W. ONEILL.
CHICAGO.

This Albumin Tester is designed to simplify and to increase the delicacy of the nitric acid test for urine. The apparatus is blown from glass tubing and bent in the form of the letter U. One limb, two inches in height and five-eighths of an inch in diameter, is practically a test tube. To the bottom of this and

curved upward to form the second limb of the U is a capillary tube, the open end being enlarged to form a small funnel. A narrow strip of black one-quarter of an inch wide extending from the top to the bottom of the large tube, for a background, will be an advantage. This can be painted or a strip of black paper fastened to the glass.

The urine to be tested is poured into the large tube until it reaches the level of the bottom of the funnel in the capillary tube ("A" in cut). The nitric acid is then dropped into the funnel; it passes down the capillary tube and up under the

urine in the large tube without disturbing or mixing—lifts it up, so to speak. If albumin be present it is shown by a delicate white line.

1421 North Clark Street.

NECROLOGY.

WINTHROP SARGENT, M.D., who was at one time a prominent physician of Philadelphia, died March 16 at Roxbury, Mass., where he had resided and practiced his profession for several years. He was born in Gloucester, Mass., on July 8, 1822, and received his education in Dartmouth College, and subsequently studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated in 1847. He entered upon the practice of his profession in Montgomery County, where he remained until 1855, when he removed to Philadelphia. He was for many years secretary and afterward president of the Montgomery County Medical Society. While in Philadelphia he was school director for six years. He was appointed surgeon in charge of the Government Hospital in Kingsessing in 1862. Not long after that his wife died and he removed to Boston.

WILLIAM SAVERY, M.D., died at his residence in Philadelphia March 13. Dr. Savery was attacked with the grippe about Christmas, which brought on rheumatic gout, to which his death is ascribed. Dr. Savery was born in Philadelphia Oct. 20, 1832. He was graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1854, and was appointed resident apothecary and medical registrar at the Friends' Asylum for the Insane, and served in that capacity till 1860. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in the medical class of 1861, and was resident physician in the Wills Eye Hospital from 1861 to 1862. From April, 1862, to October; 1863, Dr. Savery was resident physician in the Pennsylvania hospital. He was also volunteer surgeon in the United States Hospital at Fredericksburg, Va. From 1870 to 1871 Dr. Savery was physician to the Winnebago tribe of Indians in Nebraska under appointment of General Grant. From 1872 until 1888 he was attending physician to the Hospital of the Good Shepherd near Bryn Mawr, where he engaged in private practice. Since that time he led a retired life.

JOB SYMMES CRANE, M.D., who died at St. Augustine, Fla., on March 26, was the senior practitioner of Elizabeth, N. J. He was in active practice until about two years ago, when he was taken with an apoplectic attack. Paralysis resulted, and he was lately sojourning in Florida, in the hope of receiving benefit to his health. He was a native of Elizabeth and a graduate in arts at Princeton College, and in medicine at the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, class of 1849. He was a member of the New Jersey State Medical Society and of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION as long ago as 1871. Dr. Crane was for many years one of the directors of the National State Bank and was one of the founders of the Union County Medical Society and an ex-president of the same. He was at the time of his death, president of the Union County Savings Bank, and one of the directors of the Home for Aged Women. He was also ex-president of the staff of the Elizabeth General Hospital and Dispensary, institutions which he helped to inaugurate in 1877.

THOMAS M. FRANKLIN, M.D., who died at Greenwich, Conn., March 22, was a graduate of the medical department of the University of the City of New York, class of 1847. He was one of the physicians to the Eastern Dispensary from 1847 to 1851, and a ward cholera physician in the early summer of 1854. He afterward held office in the Thirty-fifth Street Cholera Hospital. He was assistant physician at the Government Hospital for the insane in Washington from 1865 to 1872, and medical superintendent of the New York City Lunatic Asylums on Blackwell's Island and Hart's Island from 1878 to 1886.