food as the stomach will bear. Champagne can often be given with advantage when other stimulants are rejected. Less can be done to combat asthenia by alimentation and medication after abdominal section than after other operations, because as a rule the stomach is not available. The fate of the patient is decided, in general, when the operation is completed.

"PYOK'TANIN" AS AN ANTISEPTIC.

Read by Title in the Section of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women, at the Forty-second Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association, held at Washington, D. C., May, 1891.

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Among the remedies introduced as antiseptics lately, is one called pyoktanin, of which Prof. Dr. J. Stilling, of Strasburg, is the discoverer. The advantages claimed for this analine compound are that, 1, it is devoid of any injurious effect on the human economy or organism; 2, certainly and utterly destructive of all bacteria or other microorganisms absorbing it; and 3, that it is rapidly diffusible in, and permeant of, both healthy and diseased animal tissues or fluids, and perfectly penetrant through the enveloping membranes and internal substance of all bacterial colonies harbored by them.

The respective remedy, which is manufactured by E. Merck & Co., has been given a thorough trial by me in suitable cases for but a comparatively short time, but even with so short a trial, it has impressed me very favorably. The suppuration ceases more rapidly under its influence than under the use of other remedies, and that without producing any noticeable unpleasant effect on the system.

Stitch hole abscesses, two sinuses with thick pyogenic membranes, and purulent endometritis, were the conditions for which it has been put to use, employing a 1 per cent. watery solution, which is five to ten times stronger than recommended. Such strong solutions were used because those as recommended did not seem to me to do any better service, after a few trials, than some of our other antiseptics, which had the advantage of not discoloring everything with which they come in contact, that being the main disagreeable feature in connection with the use of pyoktanin—the discoloration produced being a deep purple, which can only be immediately removed from the hands by washing with soap liniment or javelle water. Clothing, etc., is destroyed by the stains, or the use of the javelle water required for washing them, hence some care must be exercised in its use. This unpleasant feature can, however, not come into consideration, if we remember that the conditions for which I have used

it are of very obstinate character, and withstand our ordinary remedies with a tenacity which sometimes brings us to despair, with pyoktanin applications I have seen them yield almost invariably with ten to twenty daily applications. In the more mild forms, as stitch hole abscesses, three or four days sufficed to bring suppuration to cessation.

In the form of endometritis mentioned, the remedy is injected directly into the uterus with a Braun syringe, and so far, none of the unpleasant effects have been noticed which we are apt to see from iodine, etc. 1, the cervical canal is always patent in such conditions, so that over-distension, if the injection is carefully made, never occurs; and 2, the remedy is non-irritant.

I have briefly stated my own personal experience, thereby hoping to stimulate my colleagues for a further trial. In carcinoma, for which it is also used very extensively, my experience is yet too limited to speak one way or the other.

IRON IN LARGE QUANTITY IN ANÆMIA.—In a very marked case of anæmia in a young girl of 19, H. Taylor, after being assured of the satisfactory condition of the digestive functions, prescribed for her a drink of a diluted solution of the perchloride of iron (v-xxv drops to 30 cc. (3j) of water). He gave her to understand that the more she took day and night, the better it would be for her, and the sooner would she recover. She entered heartily into his plans, and in twenty-seven days took almost 900 grams (3xxx) of tincture of the perchloride of iron (according to the British Pharmacopœia, instead of 100 grams, the maximum dose with most physicians. There were no unpleasant phenomena on the part of the digestive tract. To keep the bowels regular, he gave daily a pill of aloes and nux vomica. The result was complete cure after four weeks of treatment. The author recommends this mode of treatment, which allows the ingestion of large quantities of iron, without in any way interfering with the health of the patient. Should the iron commence to show any unfavorable effects (constipation, etc.), the patient should stop the medication, which no longer agrees with him.—*La Courrier Médicale; La Gazette Médicale de Montréal.*

UNIQUE PROCEDURE IN A CASE OF PHOTOPHOBIA.—A boy of 13 was affected with a panniform keratitis of both sides, with intense photophobia. Each time that the pupils were exposed to bright light, the boy was seized with violent sneezing. A pledget of cotton charged with a few drops of chloroform was introduced into the external auditory meatus and in a few minutes the eye could be opened without the occurrence of sneezing. The author (Gutteriez-Ponce) explains the effects of this local medication by anæsthesia of the Gassenian ganglion which is situated in the neighborhood of the auditing canal. This ganglion might be the center of the reflex action giving rise to the sneezing, consecutive to the impression on the retina by a bright light.—*Journal de Médecine de Paris.*

A BOUNTY of one hundred francs is offered to every married couple in France who shall add one more citizen to the State during 1892. It is hoped in this way to check the decrease in the French population.