

it is suggested that an explosive mixture of air and kerosene vapor was formed in the interstices of the hair, and was then ignited by an electric spark formed by the friction of the hair.—*The Lancet*, 1897, No. 3874, p. 1385.

**Capitol.**—DR. G. EICHOFF reports that this is a condensation product of tannin and chloral, which occurs in a dark-brown, hygroscopic powder, with difficulty soluble in cold, but readily in warm water and alcohol, and which is decomposed by alkalis. It combines the astringent action of tannin with the antiparasitic of chloral. It is used in seborrhœa in a 1 or 2 per cent. solution in alcohol, as a lotion for the hair twice daily. Within one or two weeks the scales disappear, the secretion from the sebaceous glands lessens, and the falling of the hair ceases. It apparently possesses no disadvantages and can be used as a prophylactic.—*Deutsche medicinische Wochenschrift*, 1897, No. 41.

**Hyoscine Intoxication.**—DR. AUGUSTUS A. ESHNER reports that after the hypodermatic injection of one-hundredth of a grain there was extreme muscular weakness, loss of consciousness, flushes of face, a hard, tense, full, and rapid pulse, noisy, rapid respirations, twitching of hands, moist skin, and cool and free perspiration. Nine hours later the patient was unable to recall anything of the events which had transpired. The urine contained no albumin, but numerous hyaline and granular casts, which had been noted on previous occasions.—*Therapeutic Gazette*, 1897, No. 10, p. 668.

**Poisoning by Trional.**—M. FONTOYNONT, in the course of a paper on the pharmacology of this drug, states that it is not very poisonous; about one and one-half times as poisonous as sulphonal. Two drachms in one instance and four in another have been taken without fatal results. There is, however, a chronic poisoning, perhaps more serious, which is brought about by too long duration of treatment without interruption, constipation, which favors its accumulation, sex (the female sex being more sensitive to the action of hypnotics), and finally the dose ingested. The symptoms are an obstinate constipation, diminished quantity of urine, nervous disturbances, and hæmatoporphyria. The last is recognized by the empyreumatic odor of the urine, which resembles that of acetone, and its dark-red color by reflected, and reddish-brown by transmitted, light. Yet it should be added that the presence of hæmatoporphyria in the urine is not necessarily a sign of trional-poisoning, for it has been observed when neither trional nor sulphonal has been absorbed.—*La Presse Médicale*, 1897, No. 95, p. 307.

**What Causes Copaiba and Other Symptomatic Rashes?**—DR. DAVID WALSH notes that this drug has often obvious effects upon the skin and that it is excreted by the lungs and kidneys. It is also an epithelial irritant, but its action appears to be greatly influenced by the susceptibility of the individual. Assuming that symptomatic dermatitis ensues as a part of a general excretory action, the practical conclusion is obvious that any drugs which cause mischief to the skin should be given with great caution, lest they injure other organs.—*Medical Press and Circular*, 1897, No. 3058, p. 607.