

out apparent cause, often lasted several hours, and produced severe prostration. All drugs were without effect. Finally vigorous kneading movements of the stomach were made and sounds could be elicited suggesting the passage of gas from the stomach into the duodenum. Later the gas was passed per anum. The explanation of the relief afforded is that the stomach was paralyzed by its extreme distention which was relieved by the kneading movements.

---

IVY POISONING.—E. S. McKee in the *Therapeutic Record* says he has found that considerable relief is afforded in this condition by the use of lead and opium wash, but more prolonged comfort is obtained by dusting the whole body with rice powder. Comfort may also be secured by the application of a thick lather of laundry soap. For stopping the burning and itching and checking the spread of the disease, a useful mixture is compounded as follows: alcohol, 53., distilled water, 47., lead acetate, enough to make a saturated solution. For the nervous symptoms, thirty-grain doses of bromide of sodium with two drops of Fowler's solution to each dose may be given four to six times a day. To protect the desquamated areas and aid the growth of new skin applications of olive oil and lanolin, saturated solutions of iodide of potassium, tartar emetic, and sodium bicarbonate weak carbolic acid solutions, and thymol iodide in powder or ointment, are all useful. When one has been exposed to the poison it is advisable to wash the parts several times with dilute alcohol.

---

OLDEST ARTIFICIAL LEG.—What is said by the *British Medical Journal* to be the oldest artificial leg in existence is now in the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. It was found in a tomb at Capua, and is described in the catalog as follows: "Roman artificial leg; the artificial limb accurately represents the form of the leg; it is made with pieces of thin bronze, fastened by bronzed nails to a wooden core. Two iron bars, having holes at their free ends, are attached to the upper extremity of the bronze; a quadrilateral piece of iron, found near the position of the foot, is thought to have given strength to it. There is no trace of the foot and the wooden core had nearly crumbled away. That skeleton had its waist surrounded by a belt of sheet bronze edged with small rivets, probably used to fasten a leather lining. Three painted vases (red figures on a black ground) lay at the feet of the skeleton. The vases belong to a rather advanced period in the decline of art (about 300 years B. C.)."