

CHAPMAN'S NEURO-DYNAMIC METHOD.—Dr. B. O. Kinnear makes a strong plea for the wider employment of Chapman's "neuro-dynamic system" of hot and cold bags. The system, it will be remembered, is based on the theory that ice-bags properly applied over the spine dilate the arterioles, and arrest at the same time hypersecretion from the glandular system, check spasmodic and irregular muscular movements of voluntary and involuntary muscles, and arrest hypernutrition by its sedative action upon trophic centres. Heat applied in the same way acts in an exactly opposite manner. Neuralgias, colic, vomiting, diarrhœa, migraine, insomnia, are some of the diseases said to be controlled by these measures—in which we have no reason to place much faith.—*Boston Medical and Surg. Journal*.

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A PURE ALKALOID FROM GELSEMINUM.—The variability and uncertainty in the effects obtained from gelseminum are well known. The discovery of the method of obtaining a pure alkaloid is therefore to be welcomed. Mr. A. W. Gerraud has obtained a pure crystallizable *gelsemine*, which yields crystalline salts. It seems to be a stable body. Its dose is not yet accurately known.—*British Medical Journal*, Feb., 1883.

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NERVE-STRETCHING.—Dr. Ceccherelli gives a very complete résumé of this subject, but contributes nothing new.—*Lo Sperimentale*, 1882 ; *London Medical Record*, April, 1883.

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LIME-JUICE AS AN ANAPHRODISIAC.—Mr. Berdoo and an anonymous writer refer to the extensive use of lime-juice by sailors as an anaphrodisiac. Poor Jack is often sadly in need of such a drug, and ought to know when he has one.—*Lancet*, Feb., 1883, pp. 221 and 260.

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THE ACTION OF LEAD ON THE VAGUS NERVE.—Curci states, as the result of experiments on animals, that the salts of lead have an irritant action on the vagus nerve. The heart-beats diminish in frequency and become intermittent.—*Gaz. degli Ospitali*, March 25, 1883.

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THE WATERS OF LAMALON IN THE TREATMENT OF TABES DORSALIS.—Dr. Cot, of Paris, reports three cases of great alleviation in tabes from the use of the waters of Lamalon, and thinks that in very many cases they will be found beneficial. These waters are alkaline, ferruginous, and arsenical. M. Grasset, in his work on the "Diseases of the Nervous System," devotes a chapter to them.—*Journal de thérapeutique*, April 10, 1883.