

are reported. In these cases the action is slow, so that for speedy relief other remedies must be resorted to. It can be stated, however, that it can be administered for neuralgias and habitual headaches for a long time without injury to the stomach.—*Correspondenzblatt für Schweizer Aerzte*, 1893, No. 18, S. 609.

THE TREATMENT OF DIARRHŒA.

DR. ALOIS PICK believes that opium plays a great rôle in the treatment. Next come the bismuth preparations, and especially the salicylate, not first in large doses in order that the powder may form a protective coating to the alimentary canal. In stomach disturbances, alum can be used with advantage. Tannin is seldom employed on account of its disordering the stomach. Sometimes the iron preparations are useful. The use of Glauber salts, as recommended by Trousseau, may be begun by the use of two and one-half drachm doses, dissolved in water, and continued for one or two weeks in one-half the dose. In many chronic cases a preliminary emptying of the bowels, followed by styptic treatment, is necessary. In diarrhœa secondary to constipation, to strengthen the intestinal muscles, massage, electricity, and cold-water cures may be indicated. In nervous diarrhœa (of women), the electrical treatment with galvanism, or a strong faradic current, is valuable in diminishing the increased excitability of the intestines.—*Centralblatt für die gesammte Therapie*, 1893, Heft 24, S. 578.

THE ABSORPTION OF SALICYLIC ACID BY THE SKIN.

DR. BOURGET reports nineteen cases of inflammatory rheumatism treated exclusively by external use of salicylic acid, and he concludes that it is absorbed in a sufficiently large quantity from the skin for a rapid and perhaps for a more rapid cure than when given by the mouth. It suppresses the pain with surprising rapidity, diminishes the swelling, and the fever gradually falls. The ointment containing the drug is applied over the circumference of the affected joints, and the limb is covered with a flannel bandage. The urine for the twenty-four hours was carefully collected and examined to determine the presence of the remedy. The following conclusions are presented: 1. The absorption of the salicylic acid by the skin is rapid and marked. The skin of the young absorbs better than that of old subjects, of blondes better than brunettes. 2. The rapidity and intensity of absorption depends upon the vehicle in which it is dissolved. Fatty bodies are the only ones which allow the greatest penetration, while with vaselin or glycerin it is absent or slight. 3. The treatment of acute articular rheumatism with a terebinthinated salicylic ointment is strongly recommended. 4. This ointment is less efficacious in other forms of rheumatism, but it may be of assistance in the treatment of these affections by massage. 5. It has no value in gonorrhœal rheumatism. The formula recommended is: Salicylic acid, essence of turpentine and lanolin, of each ten parts, of lard one hundred parts. The amount of salicylic acid which is eliminated by way of the urine in twenty-four hours varies from three to nine grains.—*Revue Médicale de la Suisse Romande*, 1893, No. 9, p. 567.

SALIPYRIN IN AMENORRHOEA.

DR. HORATIO R. BIGELOW reports an instance where, after two fifteen-grain doses with an interval of two hours, a facial neuralgia disappeared and menstruation was established. Zurbelle has found that this remedy is more efficient than ergot, but points out that it is contra-indicated in certain pathological changes of the uterus. Many neuralgic women are deficient menstruators and menstruate painfully. In administering to the diseased nervous centres, or to an impaired circulation, you restore the monthly function to normal. Too much blood, unhealthy blood, anæmia, predispose to neuralgia, and disturb the menstrual function. A rheumatic, neuralgic, gouty, or malarious individual never performs these functions satisfactorily. The uterus is quite rarely at fault; the impaired nerve nutrition must be attended to. For the same reason that salipyrin will cure neuralgia, it will also cure amenorrhœa; it addresses itself to nutrition. The treatment by salipyrin was continued for two weeks, in the same dose, given three times daily. The sleep was undisturbed, appetite was improved, and the relief of both amenorrhœa and the neuralgia was complete.—*Notes on New Remedies*, 1893, No. 5, p. 66.

THE SEDATIVE ACTION OF DUBOISINE IN CONTINUED DOSES IN INSANITY.

DR. E. MARANDON DE MONTYEL, in his service at Ville-Evrard, has administered this remedy as a sedative in continued doses during the day to thirty-five patients. The results have been marvellous, and in cases of agitation it often changes violent excitement into a perfect tranquillity. Unlike hyoscine, it does not paralyze the voluntary muscles, nor does it, like somnal, narcotize the patient. Its action is not immediate, for it may not be complete until the second, sometimes until the third day. When its effect has been obtained it persists quite regularly, so that ordinarily the patients do not experience regularly good and bad days. Further, it frequently happens that the improvement may continue for several days after the cessation of the medicine, and a period of calm, more or less prolonged, may be established. An important fact in its administration is, that when once a tolerance is established the patients ordinarily fail to be influenced by the drug, no matter how large the dose, and the marvellous sedation of the first days cannot again be obtained. The dose employed has been from one-thirty-second to one-sixth of a grain, in two equal portions at nine in the morning and at three in the afternoon, the patients receiving their food at seven and eleven in the morning and at five in the afternoon. The remedy appears to have an unfavorable action upon nutrition.—*Archives de Neurologie*, 1893, No. 79, p. 211.

THE ACTION OF TRIONAL.

DR. OSCAR COLLATZ reports the result of the use of this drug as a hypnotic in sixty-six cases of insanity, generally in fifteen- to thirty-grain doses. It does not interfere with either the circulation nor the respiration, and the digestion is not impaired. Albumin is not found in the urine, nor are blood-