

stroys the worms. Santonate of soda ought not to be substituted for santonine, as has sometimes been recommended, for it possesses no superiority over the latter, and is besides of a more disagreeable taste, and is poisonous in large doses.—*Brit. and For. Med.-Chir. Rev.*, July, 1861, from *Archiv für Path. Anat. und Physiologie*, &c., 1860.

9. *Therapeutical Employment of the Sulphate of Alumina and of the Sulphate of Alumina and Zinc.*—The sulphate of alumina (which is not to be confounded with the common alum, a double sulphate of alumina and potash) was introduced into medical practice by Dr. HOMOLLE. It contains an excess of acid, a small portion of iron, and a little of the double sulphate; and in order to neutralize the free acid, which may burn the linen of the patients and injure the steel instruments of the surgeon, M. Homolle has proposed to add oxide of zinc, thus forming a double sulphate of alumina and zinc. This latter has a more energetic action on heteromorphous tissues than the simple sulphate, and M. Homolle prefers it when it is desirable to apply it to a deep portion of altered mucous tissue, or to destroy an accidental growth. The affections in which it has been successfully employed are inflammations of the tonsils and pharynx, hypertrophy of the tonsils, polypus of the nasal fossæ, ingrown finger-nail, scrofulous ulcers, naevi and vascular growths, inflammatory affections of the neck of the uterus, displacements of that organ, and lastly, cancerous ulcers. In many cases where the tonsils were so much hypertrophied as apparently to require excision, M. Homolle has observed the chronic enlargement to yield to the daily use of the saturated solution of the simple sulphate of alumina. Membranous diphtheric sore-throat, before the larynx was attacked, yielding to the same application, and in a case of polypus of the nasal fossæ, where the morbid growth had sprouted out several times after removal, the patient was finally cured by the same agent. Scrofulous ulcers, touched every day with the sulphate of alumina, began to assume a healthy appearance, their fungous growths being reduced and the cicatrization being promoted; and hypertrophic engorgement of the neck of the uterus, and erythematous, granular, or ulcerous inflammation of its lips, was rapidly improved or cured by the direct application of the double sulphate with the addition of injections of the same salt. In its direct action it favours the exfoliation of the morbid tissue in successive layers; it diminishes the ichorous discharge of the ulcerated surface, destroys the smell, and causes the secretion to resemble healthy pus, and diminishes or completely removes the lancinating pains which are peculiar to cancer. M. Homolle's conclusions, in reference to the use of the sulphate of alumina and the double sulphate of alumina and zinc, are the following:—

1. These salts, used externally, may be ranked as modifying agents, occupying a place between cathartics and caustics. 2. They are particularly useful in inflammations of the tonsils and pharynx, and in the affections of the neck of the uterus; and 3. They possess, moreover, a special remedial power over cancerous ulcers, the progress of which they retard or modify, acting in this respect at once as caustics, disinfectants, and hæmostatics. They often succeed better than narcotics in relieving the pain peculiar to cancer, and they retard the development of the attendant cachexia.—*Brit. and For. Med.-Chir. Rev.*, July, 1861, from *Bull. Gén. de Thérap.*, March 30, 1861.

10. *Employment of Cajeput Oil.*—M. DELVAUX, after giving a historical statement of the therapeutical employment of this substance, next furnishes an account of his own experience of its use when combined with passive substances, admitting of its properties being readily judged of. He has found it of great use in advanced and painful dental caries. A drop or two is inserted into the cavity and retained there by some cotton which had been dipped in the oil. After some minutes a sense of cold and numbness ensues, and the pain rarely resists. Essential dyspepsia, accompanied by intestinal flatulosity is treated with success by the oil. A tablespoonful of a mixture of two or three parts of the oil with 160 parts of mucilage and 30 of syrup may be given every hour, or a pill containing half a grain of the oil mixed up with magnesia may be substituted. The meteorism met with in severe diseases may be combated by an em-

brocation formed of equal parts of olive and cajepnt oils. In algid cholera the oil is quite useless, but this is not the case in cholericæ, or the disturbance of the digestive organs which so often precedes the cholera. A great number of such cases, when the pulse has been small, feeble, and slow, have been treated advantageously by the following mixture, aided by low diet and tepid drinks: R.—Mucilage 140, cajepnt 3, syrup 30 parts. A tablespoonful, first every quarter and then every half hour. It is usefully employed for the expulsion of ascariæ, either as an electuary made with honey (1, 2, or 3 parts to 60), or as an enema, one part being mixed with 30 of distilled water by means of yolk of egg. In chronic affections of the respiratory organs, as laryngitis, bronchitis, slow phthisis, accompanied by asthenia, the cajepnt leads to a diminution of the dyspnœa and cough, and an easier expectoration while the appetite returns. It is of use in nervous palpitation. In two cases it was given in doses of from 15 to 45 grains in the 24 hours. In chronic vesical catarrh, the oil without curing the disease gives rise to great amendment by facilitating the emission of urine and diminishing the production of mucosities. As to its employment in rheumatism, M. Delvaux has always found it without effect while acute inflammatory action has been present. In the chronic articular rheumatism, when the pain and swelling are slight and the colour of the skin is normal, it is always useful, employed internally and by friction; but when the affection is attended with much swelling, or by deformity, or tophus, it is of no avail. In chronic myorheumatism and endorheumatism it is always of great service; while in epirranial rheumatism, in which the fibro-muscular layer of the cranium is affected, it has often effected a complete cure after numerous other remedies have failed. The same good effects have attended its employment in chronic pleurodynia and lumbago. For the muscular rheumatisms observed in those who have been exposed to the fatigue of prolonged voyages or residence in hot and humid climates, which are attended with emaciation, and in which digestion has become difficult, painful, or even impossible, in consequence of the fibro-muscular portions of the digestive canal having become involved in the rheumatism, cajepnt proves a true specific, the pain disappearing under its influence and the patient recovering his health. In various *affections of the skin* this remedy is very efficacious, as acne rosacea, pityriasis, and psoriasis. In acne rosacea the oil must be applied over the whole diseased surface by means of a pencil three times a day, placing the patient in the horizontal posture lest the vaporization irritate the eyes. The epidermis scales off and the close network of vessels becomes atrophied, so that in persons with fresh complexions the skin to which the oil has been applied becomes whiter than that of the rest of the face. Furfuraceous desquamations of the scalp, eyelids, and beard, may be successfully treated by ointments containing the oil, and patches of psoriasis may be treated by imbibing them with the oil. This soon excites sharp inflammation and supuration of the dermis, which excites a modifying influence upon the skin. The oil must then be replaced by soothing topical applications. Cajepnt prevents the fall of the hairs, and favours their reproduction in alopecia when there is atony of the dermis or bulbs. It has proved especially useful in cases in which the eyelashes have fallen after having been dyed. In the painful atony of a joint with tumefaction and œdema met with after *sprain*, especially when the starch bandage has been used, frictions with embrocations of olive and cajepnt oils soon re-establish the vigour of the part.—*Med. Times and Gaz.*, Aug. 17, 1861, from *Presse Médicale Belge*, 1861, Nos. 12, 13, 17, 23, 25, 30.

11. *Preparation of a Stearate of Iron in the Treatment of Phagedenic Chancres.*—For some months M. Ricord has employed an ointment and an adhesive plaster of stearate of iron, which appears to be a valuable agent for dressing chancres which are complicated with phagedœna. This new therapeutical agent was employed for the first time on a patient who had been the subject of experiments in syphilization, and who had, when he came under M. Ricord's care, his thighs covered with phagedenic ulcerations, which had been treated without success by several able practitioners. M. Ricord conceived the idea of making use of an adhesive plaster of stearate of iron, with which he dressed the ulcerations on the right side, and dressings, by way of comparison,