

white and glossy, and the object is ready to cut. No attention need be paid to the brine and freezing. Attention can be concentrated on the cutting. No brine is spilt, there is no splashing—all is neat and clean. When one is finished cutting, all that is necessary is to remove the box and transfer it to a basin of water. Rinse and thoroughly dry the instrument, and it is once more ready for work.

I have used both the ether method and this one in a number of instances, and perhaps a comparison of the results might not be out of place.

Expense.—Ether is expensive and none but the best ether must be used. The cost of the freezing mixture is practically *nil*.

Time.—Ether freezes slowly, and only after frequent exchanging of bottles. This method freezes rapidly, usually in from one to three minutes.

Thawing.—Ether frozen specimens thaw very rapidly; often the mere exchange of bottles is sufficient to bring this about. Using the above method, however, I have frequently kept specimens hard and fit for cutting for one-half to three-quarters of an hour.

Assistance.—In the ether method this is necessary to keep the specimen frozen while sections are cut. This is entirely obviated in the other process.

To some persons the *atmosphere of ether* is objectionable.

Cleanliness.—Some investigators have condemned the ice and salt freezing because of the splashing and slush attached to it, but as I pointed out above, it is because of faulty application and not because of the method. If this method is properly carried out, no such uncleanness should occur.

I have used this method a number of times, with good results. But one precaution is to be observed, namely, to keep the top of the corrugated plate especially free from salt; if salt gets on the object carrier, freezing will be inhibited.

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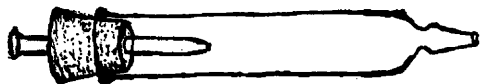
AN INSTRUMENT FOR ACCURATELY REGULATING THE AMOUNT OF FLUIDS GIVEN SLOWLY BY RECTUM.

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This instrument consists merely of the barrel of a medicine dropper fitted air tight, by means of a perforated stopper, into the barrel of a pointed glass urethral syringe as shown in illustration.

The tubing on a fountain syringe is cut near the bag and the apparatus is inserted between the cut ends. The liquid can be seen as it drops from the glass tip to the bottom of the air space in the syringe barrel. A small stopcock is put in the rubber tubing between the appa-



ratus and the rubber bag. One may readily adjust the stopcock so as to get a steady stream or only a few drops each minute. A small catheter is attached to the rubber tubing and inserted into the rectum as is usually done.

This apparatus has the advantage over the old style of partially grasping the tube with an artery clamp because after the tube is inserted in the rectum one does not know whether the liquid is flowing or not, or if flowing how fast.

By previously estimating the number of drops to the dram, one can thus get the total amount of fluid given each hour when this apparatus is used. Thus I have found it convenient to order forty drops a minute continuously for days.

This apparatus has been used for about eight months at the King's County Hospital, and was found singularly convenient in many cases in which the absorption of fluids by rectum was desired—postoperative cases, severe burns, severe infections, etc.

Theoretically, at least, it seemed better in the toxemias to use plain water in place of normal saline so that the osmotic pressure would increase the absorption; also by increasing the fluids of the body without increasing the sodium chlorid one better facilitates urinary secretion.

TRAUMATIC DISLOCATION OF THE HEAD OF THE FIBULA, CAUSED BY INDIRECT VIOLENCE.

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This case is reported simply that it may be added to the statistics of dislocation of the fibula. So far as I can ascertain, only four cases of this particular variety have been reported to date.

Patient.—A lad of 17 years received the injury by jumping from a bank of earth, four feet high, to the ground, his foot turning inward.

Examination.—On inspection, a prominence was noted on the outer side of the right leg, a little posterior to the normal situation of the head of the bone. The leg was flexed and the patient unable to walk.

Treatment.—The usual means of reduction recommended, that of simply applying direct pressure, failed. The leg was forcibly flexed in order to relax the biceps femoris, and the foot and toes extended so as to make tense the tibialis anterior, extensor hallucis longus and extensor digitorum longus. The former muscle, of course, aiding owing to part of its origin being from the interosseous membrane, the intermuscular septum between it and the extensor longus digitorum and from the deep surface of the fascia cruris. The operator facing the patient, the limb was grasped, thumbs in front resting over the spine of the tibia, for the fulcrum, palms applied over the head of the bone, the fingers being insinuated posterior to the upper extremity of the same, when the latter was drawn forward by the finger tips and at the same time slightly lifting it outward, it slipped into place without trouble.

A compress was applied over the head of the bone and secured in place with a few turns of a gauze bandage. The patient walked away and pursued his usual occupation, that of student, without interruption.

Farm Work for the Insane an Economic and Therapeutic Measure.—The value of a well-cultivated farm in connection with a charitable institution is strikingly illustrated by last summer's result of the management of the farm connected with the Dunning (Ill.) institutions. Besides providing fresh garden produce from early spring until late in autumn for the 3,300 inmate and employes, enough winter vegetables were grown to provide an ample supply until next May. Fifty-one varieties of vegetables were grown this season. All the work was performed by inmates of the insane hospital under the supervision of the farmer. Less than 100 acres were under cultivation, but the crop of vegetables produced was valued at \$7,000. Aside from the money saving which this large production from the institution farm assured, the benefits in the way of providing wholesome and steadying occupation for a large number of quiet insane patients were of importance.

—Cooperation.