

haps a useful application in obstetrics. It is needful, nevertheless, to make a judicious selection, keeping in mind that the ethers of the ethylic alcohol are inoffensive.

CEREBRAL ACCIDENTS FROM IODIDE OF POTASSIUM.—At the session of the Société de Biologie, Jan. 4 (Rep. in *Progrès Méd.*), M. Hallopeau gave an account of the case of a syphilitic patient, thirty years of age, who had been for a long time under treatment with iodide of potash. He had first a purpura hemorrhagica followed by an alternate hemiplegia, which M. Hallopeau believed could be attributed to a hemorrhage due to the action of the iodide. Particulars not given.

THERAPEUTIC USES OF THE BROMIDES.—Rosenthal, in an article (*Wien. med. Presse*, 1878, No. 46) on therapeutics, speaks thus of the bromides:

Bromide of potassium, on account of the adynamia of the heart which it sometimes causes, must frequently be suspended. In addition to weakness, retardation, and irregularity of cardiac action, the bromide of potassium, in large and long-continued doses, may give rise to præcordial pain and mental disturbance. Bromide of potassium, although it occasionally improves the appetite to a marked degree, yet more frequently disturbs digestion when this is not originally strong. In such cases it should be taken at meal-times, or after draughts of milk, which preserves the stomach from irritation. *Bromide of sodium* is a milder preparation, more easily borne by the stomach; it is therefore preferable in the case of nervous women, of old people, and of children, since it has a salty taste, not in itself unwelcome to children. Rosenthal mixes the powdered bromide of sodium to the amount of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 gramme ($7\frac{1}{2}$ to 15 grains) with bread-crumbs, and thus smuggles it in, so to speak, as part of the food. He employs it in various nervous affections, as convulsions, laryngismus, nightmare, and disturbed sleep, giving it once or more daily. The chief objection to the bromide of sodium is its too ready deliquescence. Where enough cannot be given in the form of small pills, it may be given in powders, making up only enough for one or two days, or in solution with syrup.

Bromide of ammonium is a more stable preparation. It has a salty ammoniacal taste in solution, which may be disguised by syrup of orange-peel. Rosenthal has given it in doses of 6 or 8 grammes (3 iss. to 3 ii.) daily, for months at a time, without mishaps. It acts well in epilepsy, whooping-cough, spasm of the glottis, and spastic laryngismus (in children as well as in hysterical persons), but no better than the other bromides. *Brominated camphor*, as appears from researches upon animals, affects the heart's action, and respiration, and the temperature, reducing them. Its formula is $C_{10}H_{16}BrO$, and it occurs in white crystals. It is not to be confounded with Laurent's "*bromkampher*," which occurs in red rhombic crystals, and the formula of which is $C_{10}H_{16}Br_2O$. It is useful in the milder forms of epilepsy and in alcoholic trembling; but Rosenthal does not consider it equal to the bromides of potassium and sodium. As an antidote to strychnia it has proved valuable given in doses of 1 to 2 grammes (15 to 30 grains) twice