

- (2) That it at first increases then decreases the frequency of the heart-beat. (3) That the latter effect is not due to stimulation of the cardio-inhibitory centre, but to an effect upon the heart-muscle. (4) That the drug causes clonic spasms.

Dr. Ott's conclusions, practically, are in harmony with those of Troitzky, the latter designating as a local-inhibitory centre that which Dr. Ott refers to the cardiac muscle itself.—*Archives of Medicine*, February, 1883.

THE SLEEP-PRODUCING POWER OF OZONE.—Binz has reported additional experiments with ozone gas as a hypnotic. He made forty-three trials upon twelve persons. In six experiments the results were nil; in the remainder, more or less sleep was produced. The ozone was produced by two of Grove's cells. As it is irritating to the air-passages it was freely mixed with air. The sleep produced was unaccompanied by any disturbance of function. Binz states that ozone brought in contact with brain tissue acts upon it much as do certain narcotics. He recommends the use of ozone in asthma, as its inhalation is accompanied with greater ease in respiration.—*Berlin. klin. Week.*, No. 43, 1882.

PARALDEHYDE AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR CHLORAL HYDRATE.—Dr. V. Cervello reports the results of his experience with paraldehyde. He claims that this has a hypnotic power equal to that of chloral hydrate, without the disadvantages of the latter drug.

Paraldehyde is a colorless fluid, boiling at 124° C.; sp. grav., at 15° C., 0.998; it crystallizes when cooled, melting again at 105° C.; it is slightly soluble in water. The formula is $C_6H_{12}O_3$.

As a hypnotic its action is somewhat like chloral; yet in ordinary doses it does not depress the respiratory centres or the heart-action. Paraldehyde acts chiefly upon the cerebral hemispheres, but to a less extent upon the medulla and cord. In large doses it paralyzes the respiratory centres.

The exact dose is not laid down. In some cases one to four grammes were sufficient; in others, 10 grammes were given without disturbance. The drug is best given in syrup solutions containing three per cent. The taste is not unpleasant.—*Archiv f. exp. Path. u. Pharmacolog.*, October, 1882.

[Morselli and Bergesio, at the meeting of the Italian Medical Association, September, 1882, reported upon the use of paraldehyde among the insane. They found it a safe and efficient sedative and hypnotic in cases of mania, etc. The dose used was two to three grammes.]

THE HEADACHE OF ADOLESCENTS.—Charcot has given a clinical picture of the headache which attacks boys between the ages of eleven and sixteen. Aside from rest and general hygienic