

The drugs being too numerous, I have left them out.

The oil is administered in drachm doses twice a day, either by itself or in combination with some mercurial preparation. It is also used as an embrocation over the spine, the affected side of the body, and the extremities twice a day.

The action of the oil is said to be stimulant, anti-spasmodic, and counter-irritant. Dr. Ainslie remarks, in his *Materia Medica*, Vol. II., page 332, that "The juice of the fresh root of this beautiful tree, the ythians use for the purpose of cleaning foul ulcers, and consider it as particularly applicable in cases of fistulous sores, disposing them to close and heal. A fixed oil is prepared from the seeds of the legume, called in Tamil Poonganay, supposed to be an efficacious application for itch, and as an unguent in rheumatic affections." Dr. Dymock, in his *Vegetable Materia Medica*, page 243, observes that, "A poultice of the leaves is a popular application for foul ulcers. The seeds and oil are generally made into a paste for application." Gibson speaks very highly of the oil as a remedy in scabies, herpes, and other cutaneous diseases of a similar nature: "It should be mixed with an equal quantity of lime or lemon juice, and well shaken, when it forms a rich yellow liniment, which I have used successfully in *Porrigo capitis*, *Pityriasis*, and *Psoriasis*, in obstinate cases: *Hydnocarpus* oil, *Camphor* and *Sulphur* may be added with advantage."

(To be continued.)

ICHTHYOL IN ERYSIPELAS.

Dr. Nussbaum of Munich has recently obtained strikingly successful results in traumatic erysipelas by the use of an ointment composed of vaseline with 10 per cent, of ichthyol, a chemical substance rich in sulphur, obtained from mineral oil, which was introduced by Dr. Unna a few months ago, and which was found useful by Dr. Dubelir of Moscow in acute and chronic rheumatism (see *The Lancet*, Oct. 2nd, 1886), both as a medicine and as an external application. Dr. Nussbaum found, as indeed Dr. Dubelir also remarked, that the ichthyol had an irritating effect on the skin, so that it could not well be borne for more than three days, but as this was long enough to effect a cure in all the cases no difficulty on this head arose.—*The Lancet*.

ANTIFEBRINE IN TYPHOID.

Antifebrine has been used a great deal in professor Kotovshcheski's clinic in Kazan in typhoid fever cases with good results. After a single four-grain dose, the temperature sank in the course of an hour 0.9° to 2° C., the reduced temperature persisting for from an hour and a half to three hours. It was found that by repeating these four-grain doses every two hours, the temperature could be kept at the normal point all day. The frequency of the pulse was at the same time diminished, and its tension increased. The excretion of urea was also augmented. The patients liked the drug, and no ill effects were ever observed from its use.—*The Lancet*.

A Mirror of Hospital Practice.

UMBALLA CIVIL HOSPITAL.

A CASE OF RETENTION OF URINE.

By JAGENDRO NATH BISWAS,

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PATIA, Hindu male, aged 30 years, was admitted into the Umballa Civil Hospital, on the 18th October, 1886, with the following history:—

Previous history.—States that about a month ago he received a blow on his perineum, in consequence of which he passed bloody urine for three or four days after the injury. Then the blood diminished, the urine became clear, and the patient apparently congratulated himself on being cured. But subsequently he noticed that he could not pass urine in full stream. The stream diminished daily till it actually stopped, when the patient sought medical aid in the hospital.

Condition on admission.—Bladder over-distended, urine trickled out drop by drop when the patient attempted to empty it, and the patient lay suffering from symptoms of uræmic poisoning.

Treatment.—All attempt to pass the catheter failed, even when patient was anæsthetised. As his condition got worse, relief was given by *Cock's operation*, which was performed by Assistant Surgeon Duni Chand Rai. A female catheter was introduced into the bladder through the perineal wound and the patient put to bed.

Subsequent Progress.—On the second day of the operation, the patient was much better, all uræmic symptoms having disappeared.

On the 4th day of the operation catheterism was tried without success.

Two days afterwards I succeeded, after some failures, in passing a No. II catheter, which was tied in the bladder. But at night the patient took it out, and it could not be introduced the next morning. After a lapse of three days more, I was again successful in passing a No. III catheter, which was kept in the bladder for two days. When it was taken out, the urethra was sufficiently dilated, and a No. VI catheter introduced without much difficulty. The stricture was then dilated in the usual way, and the patient left the hospital quite cured on the 25th November 1886; the perineal wound healed, and urine passed through the urethra in full stream.

A CASE OF TRANSVERSE PRESENTATION, WITH PROLAPSE OF BOTH ARMS AND CORD, AND ITS SUCCESSFUL DELIVERY.

By JUGUT CHUNDER DAS GUPTA,

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In September last I was called to attend the labour of a Hindu lady of respectable class about four hours after the rupture of the membrane and complete escape of liquor amnii. I attended the case punctually, and on exami-