

My attention has been called to a paragraph in *Chambers's Journal* of February 22nd, 1890, page 121, pointing out the value of petroleum in lung, throat, and bronchial disease. I have more than once heard an old gentleman give a vivid description of a hoarse, bad cough, a cold, or, as in his own case, a severe attack of catarrhal influenza during the last epidemic, has been cut short, and even cured, by one dose of petroleum. He had learned its use out in Texas. I should be glad to know if any of your readers have had any experience of this drug, or can inform me as to how the curative properties of the oil are exerted.

ITALY IN INFLUENZA.

DR. G. YEATES HUTTER (Retired Brigade-Surgeon Bombay Army) writes: I venture to invite your attention to the fact that haliva is of undoubted efficacy in influenza. I have experienced in my own case and have seen in the cases of others. Influenza, judging from the nature of the accompanying fever, the general *malaise*, the aching, and the intense prostration, would seem to be one of the numerous manifestations of malaria, hence probably the value of "kreat-haliva" in its treatment.

QUININE IN WHOOPING-COUGH.

DR. J. REYNOLDS (Brixton) writes: "In the SUPPLEMENT to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of May 9th (No. 421), 'Quinine in Whooping-cough,' Professor Emil Ungar, of Bonn, advocates the free use of quinine in this complaint, and advises large doses to be given; and further, states that the differences of opinion as to the value of this mode of treatment are due to the difference in the dose employed. This is exactly correct. In the *Lancet* for 1876, I advocated the treatment of whooping-cough by the administration of large doses of quinine, and have ever since that time (now fifteen years) treated every case of pertussis that has occurred in my practice in this manner, and with unvarying success. I usually order the quinine to be dissolved in hydrobromic acid, and add a little bromide of potassium, as this seems not only to help to allay the cough, but to prevent the unpleasant cerebral symptoms which large doses of quinine, when given in the ordinary manner, are apt to induce.

I feel sure that an extended trial of this remedy will prove that, of all the drugs which have from time to time been exhibited for the alleviation of this distressing malady, not one can compare with quinine in harmlessness, speed, and certainty of favourable result. As regards the dose: In the case of a child 3 years old, I give three grains every four hours; and have never yet seen any disagreeable symptoms arise from this. The only objection is, that the bitter taste is a minor objection, but so far as my experience goes, it is more overborne by a little firmness on the part of the mother or nurse.

DIFFICULT LABOUR OWING TO CORD ABOUT CHILD'S NECK.

Dr. A. F. L. (the father of the child) was about 40 years of age. I was called to Mr. MENTLER (the midwife) who, on April 23rd, at 6 P.M., found the child in labour, a multipara, who had been in labour for five hours. The presentation was tail to the head in the first position, and the labour progressed favourably until the head passed the vaginal opening. I perceived that the cord was wound once and a half round the child's neck. With every pain the child's face became cyanosed, and the tension on the cord became very great, but the child made no further progress. As matters were becoming serious for the child I tied the cord in two places and cut it between the ligatures at the neck, when the labour terminated naturally.

On measuring the cord it was found to be only eighteen inches in length, so that the twisting round the neck only allowed about six inches from the neck to the attachment of the placenta.

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Medico-Legal Experience in Calcutta. By S. Coull Mackenzie, M.D.
Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone.

Anatomy. Part IV. Abdomen. Catechism series. Edinburgh: E. and
S. Livingstone.

Application de la Méthode Antiseptique aux Accouchements. Par Dr.
Just Lucas-Championnière. Paris: A. Coccoz. 1891.

My Doctors. For a Patient. London: Skeffington and Son.

La Grande Chirurgie de Gvy de Chavliac, Chirvrgien, Maistre en Méde-
cine de l'Université de Montpellier, composée en l'an 1368. Revue
etc par E. Nicaise. Paris: Félix Alcan. 1890.

Des Déformations Ostéo-articulaires. Par le Dr. Albert Lefebvre. Paris:
Félix Alcan. 1891.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By John V. Shoemaker, A.M., M.D.
Philadelphia and London: F. A. Davis. 1891.

The Physical Signs of Cardiac Disease. By Graham Steell, M.D. Second
Edition. Manchester: J. E. Cornish. 1891.

Notes on Surgery for Nurses. By Joseph Bell, M.D., F.R.C.S. Edin.
Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd. 1891.

The Revelation of Trinity. By S. B. G. McKinney, M.A. London: Elliot
Stock. 1891.

Manuale di Terapia clinica delle Malattie veneree, sifilitiche e della
Pelle. Del Dottore Luigi Carusi. Napoli: Stab. Tipografico dell'
Iride. 1891.

Quain's Elements of Anatomy. Edited by Edward Albert Schäfer, F.R.S.,
and George Dancer Thane. Vol. I, Part II. General Anatomy. By
Professor Schäfer. Tenth edition. London: Longmans, Green, and
Co. 1891.

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