

An enema of Glycerine (one teaspoonful) is often useful to excite an action, but, if the motion is very constipated and hard, a soap and water enema is better.

Nutrient Enemata generally consist of peptonised beef tea or milk with egg and perhaps a little brandy. They are useful when a child cannot be fed by the mouth. The amount of fluid to be injected must be regulated by the age of the child; an adult can rarely retain more than four ounces and the amount given to a child must be proportionately small. For instance a child of ten years of age will rarely retain more than an ounce.

If beef tea is used it is well to strain it through fine muslin, so as to get rid of the fine particles of meat which float about in it, which as they cannot be absorbed by the intestines may cause irritation and diarrhoea. Nutrient enemata may be given every four hours. Before giving the first enema the bowel must be washed out by a cleansing enema of a pint or two of soap and water in order to remove all faecal matters from the lower part of the bowel and this cleansing enema must be repeated each twenty four hours to remove the debris of the nutrient enemata, which if left will set up irritation and cause rejection of the enemata.

Peptonized Beef tea may be made in the following way: Mince finely half a pound of lean beef, add to it a pint of water and twenty grains of bicarbonate of soda. Simmer the whole for an hour and a half. Allow it to cool down to 140° Fahrenheit, and then add one tablespoonful of Pancreatic solution. Keep the mixture warm for a couple of hours; stirring occasionally. Then strain carefully and without pressure, and boil it for five minutes.

Sometimes a starch and opium enema is ordered to stop obstinate diarrhoea. The starch must be prepared in the ordinary way by stirring with boiling water, and the required amount of about half an ounce to an ounce measured out and the number of drops of laudanum prescribed added. The mixture must be allowed to cool, and when lukewarm can be injected by an ordinary glass or indiarubber syringe.

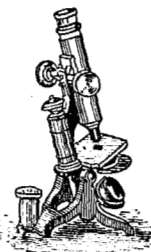
Enemata may be ordered to kill or remove threadworms: these should always be given after the bowels have been opened by a purge. The usual parasitic enema consists of infusion of quassia, or salt and water or turpentine, with a soap and water enema.

(To be continued.)

## Medical Matters.

### GRAFTING WITH CHICKEN SKIN.

Bianchi and Fiorani (*Gazz. degli Osped.*, Dec. 2nd, 1900) record a successful case of grafting with chicken skin in a woman of fifty. A scratch on the dorsum of the left foot became infected with erysipelas, and ultimately became gangrenous. Treatment secured a granulating sore, extending from two inches and a-half above the ankle joint to the roots of the toes, and right across the dorsum of the foot and anterior surface of the legs. First, five small grafts from a baby's skin were applied on September 5th along the lower margin, four of which took well. On September 15th a live chicken was taken, the head and feet wrapped in carbolic gauze, and the body well washed and brushed with soap and water, then with one per cent. carbolic, and finally rinsed with distilled water. From the breast 14 dermo-epidermic grafts were taken, each fully one-third inch square, and immediately placed on the wound. This was dressed with boiled water and a film of sterilised gauze, covered with sterilised wool and gauze. On September 19th most of the grafts had taken, and ultimately only three failed to grow. The growth was rapid and good, and the resulting skin had all the characteristics of human skin.



### THE MALARIAL MOSQUITO.

The Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases has issued a "memoir" which is full of interest as it relates the story of the practical attempt of a body of experts to solve the mystery of malaria. The following are the rules given as the result of the observations which have been made:

- (1) Avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.
- (2) Kill mosquitoes and their larvæ, especially *Anopheles*.
- (3) Invariably use mosquito nets.
- (4) Empty all pots and vessels containing stagnant water at least once a week.
- (5) Brush out with a broom all puddles containing larvæ.
- (6) Use punkahs.
- (7) Keep cisterns and wells covered.
- (8) If useless collections of water in which mosquitoes breed cannot be filled up or drained, recourse must be had to methods of killing the larvæ chemically, or, as the writers state, use *culicicides*.

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