

Sometimes the two first doses are rejected by vomiting, but the third must nevertheless be persevered in. It has been affirmed, that such doses of the bark are apt to produce serious consequences, but M. Bourgeoise never saw anything to induce him to lessen the quantity; indeed, he has given much larger doses. If the whole tenia has not been ejected, it will be necessary to continue the vermifuge decoction for several days in the same manner.

I am not aware that grenadia has yet been tried medicinally.

FATTY PRINCIPLE OF THE BUDS OF THE MALE FERN. (ASPIDIUM FILIX MAS.)

M. Peschier, apothecary of Geneva, and brother of the physician of the same name, read a paper to the Helvetic Society of the Natural Sciences, on the fatty principle of the buds of the male fern. He obtains it by digesting the buds in ether. (See *Bibliothèque Universelle*, t. 30.) Dr. Peschier says, that he has employed this ethereal tincture against tenia with uniform success. This preparation has an oily consistence, and is given in the form of pills in combination with some extract; each of these pills should contain a drop of the fatty matter. Eight of them are sometimes sufficient, but in other cases, it has been found necessary to augment the dose to 30 drops divided into small doses; such a quantity, however, should be extended over several days. Dr. Peschier asserts, that this medicine thus administered does not fatigue the patients, and that it destroys the worm, which may be brought away by any mild purgative.

I have made use of this oil for some years and have found it most effectual in expelling tenia: the dose should be very gradually increased, lest exhausting purging should ensue.

M. Caventou digested the root of the fern with sul-

phuric ether, and obtained by spontaneous evaporation a fatty viscid matter, of a brown colour, sickly odour, and acrid taste. A scruple of this matter in emulsion with milk of almonds and a little gum produced no vermifuge effects. I should, however, recommend further trials of it.

PHOSPHORUS.

The internal and local applications of phosphorus in medicine occupied M. Sedillot's attention for many years. In the second volume of the *Littérature Médicale Etrangère*, which he published in 1799; and in the *Journal Général de Médecine*, the first sixty volumes of which he edited, as many memoirs on this remedy may be found as would give its complete history. Of these the following is a brief summary.

Sedillot's first notions on the subject were obtained from a thesis in Haller's collection, entitled, *De Phosphori loco medicamenti, aliquot casibus singularibus conformatâ, Auctore J. G. Mentz, 1751*. Previous to this date very little is stated by authors concerning phosphorus. The first case quoted by Mentz was one in which, after a malignant petechial fever, an obstinate diarrhœa, with intense anxiety of the præcordia, delirium, and general prostration of the powers had supervened. Two grains of phosphorus made into a bolus with confection of opium, were administered, and immediately produced quietude, sleep, and gentle perspiration. At night and the following morning an addition of one grain was made to the dose. The transpiration was then copious, and had a sulphurous smell; and in a short time all the functions were re-established. The second case was one of extreme prostration after bilious fever. In this six grains of phosphorus in conserve of roses were given in two doses in the course of the day. An entire night's sleep and an abundant perspiration worked a cure. In the third case there was