these cases, is the subjoined draught.* Should this, however, fail, four or five grains of tartar emetic, or from ten to twenty of the sulphate of zinc, should be introduced into the stomach every quarter of an hour, and vomiting excited and assisted by irritating the fauces with the finger, or the end of a feather. Large and strong clysters of soap, dissolved in water, or of thin gruel, into which a table-spoonful of salt may be put, should be speedily administered, to clear the bowels, and to assist in getting the poison dislodged, giving active purgatives after the poison has ceased; after which the strong coffee and diluted vinegar and water may be given, as above directed. If by these means the stupor and drowsiness, which is sometimes extreme, and the insensibility bordering on apoplexy, be not remedied, blood may be taken from the jugular vein, blisters applied to the neck and legs, and the sensibility roused by every possible means. If the heat of the body decline, warmth and friction must be perseveringly used to restore it. Vegetable acids are on no account to be given before the poison is expelled; and it is even desirable that as little fluid as possible, of any description, should be given. The stomach-pump, if it can be procured and adopted without loss of time, should precede these means, as the most effective in dislodging the poison.

POISONOUS MUSHROOMS.—Among these are the PEPPER AGARIC, DEADLY AGARIC, CHAMPIGNON, which are frequently mistaken for the edible mushroom.† The symptoms they produce are nausea, heat and pain in the stomach and bowels, with vomiting and purging; thirst, convulsions, and faintings; small and frequent pulse; delirium, dilated pupil, stupor, cold sweats, and often death.

TREATMENT.—In the first place, when any of the above symptoms arise, after eating mushrooms, an emetic of tartarized antimony, followed by frequent doses of Glauber or Epsom salts, and large stimulating clysters, are to be speedily administered. After the contents of the stomach are thoroughly evacuated, ether may be given in small quantities of brandy and water; but should inflammatory symptoms supervene, these and other stimuli must be laid aside, and means accordingly adopted to combat them. See MINERAL POISONS, &c. p. 342.

CHAP. XV.

POISONOUS FISH, &c.

OF this class are the YELLOW-BILLED SPRAT, SEA LOBSTER,

*Take Subcarbonate of Ammonia, 1 scr. Peppermint Water, 3 ounces.
Ipecacuanha Powder, ½ drachm. Mix for an emetic; to be taken immediately.
Tincture of Capsicum, 2 drs.

† Poisonous mushrooms may be distinguished from such as are eatable, by attending to their botanical characters; and by the following remarks: Poisonous mushrooms grow in wet shady places; they have a nauseous smell, are softer, more open and porous than the edible ones. They have also a dirty-looking surface, sometimes a gaudy colour, or many very distinct hues, particularly if they have been covered with an envelope They have soft bulbous stalks, grow rapidly, and very soon corrupt. ED.

LAND CRAB, CONGER EEL, MUSCLE, ROCK FISH, &c. In an hour or two after eating stale fish, or often in much less time, a sense of weight at the stomach comes on, with slight vertigo and head-ach, heat about the head and eyes, and considerable thirst; often an eruption of the skin similar to what is called the nettle rash; and, in some instances, death has been the consequence.

TREATMENT.—An emetic should be taken as soon as any of the preceding symptoms, after eating any of the above fish, begin to manifest themselves; and where it cannot readily be procured, vomiting may be excited by tickling the throat with the finger, and taking large draughts of warm water. After full vomiting an active purgative should be given to remove any of the noxious matter that may have found its way into the intestines. Vinegar and water may be drank after the operation of these remedies, with which also the body may be sponged. Water made very sweet with sugar, to which some ether may be added, may be drank freely as a corrective; and a very weak solution of alkali may be given to obviate the effects produced by the poison. If spasms come on after the evacuations, large doses of the tincture of opium are necessary. If inflammation arise, the usual means of removing it must be employed.—See ANIMAL POISON, p. 112, &c.*

CHAP. XVI.

VACCINATION.

As a preventive of the small-pox, the vaccine inoculation is now universally practised. This generally produces a very mild and safe disease, consisting of a single vesicle forming on the place where the inoculation was performed. On the third day, the scratch where the vaccine matter was introduced is slightly red, and, if pressed with the finger, feels hard. Next day, the red point is a little increased, and somewhat radiated. On the fifth day, a small vesicle appears, but it is more easily seen on the sixth. This gradually increases, until it acquires the size of a split pea. The colour of the vesicle is dull white, like a pearl. Its shape is circular, or slightly oval when the inoculation has been made with a lengthened scratch, acquiring about the tenth day a diameter equal to about the third or fourth part of an inch. Till the end of the eighth day, the surface is uneven, being depressed in the centre, but on the ninth day it becomes flat, or sometimes higher at the middle than at the edges. The margins are tinged and rounded, projecting a little over the base of the vesicle. The vesicle is not simple, but cellular, and contains a clear limpid fluid, like the purest water.

On the eighth or ninth day, the vesicle is surrounded with an areola or circle of intense red colour, which is hard and tumid. About this time an erythematic efflorescence sometimes takes

* See *New London Medical Pocket Book*, p. 234, to p. 249, for an excellent history of mineral, vegetable, animal, and aerial poisons, &c.