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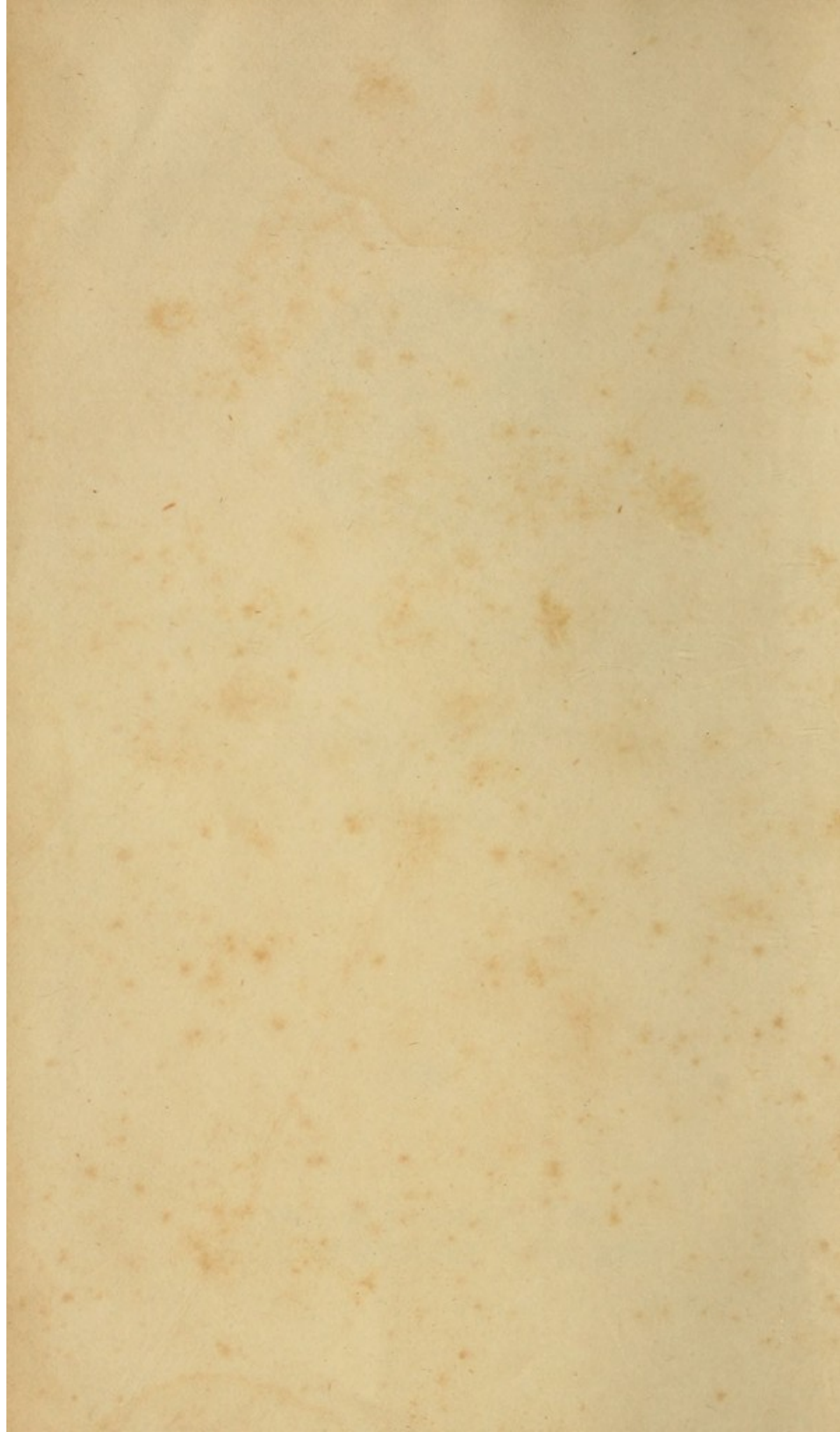



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HOMŒOPATHIC
DOMESTIC MEDICINE.

BY

J. LAURIE, M. D.

EDITED WITH ADDITIONS

BY

A. GERALD HULL, M. D.

NEW YORK:

WILLIAM RADDE, 322 BROADWAY.

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PREFACE TO THE AMERICAN EDITION.

Dr. Hering's Domestic Physician being entirely out of print, and the demand for a work of the kind in all parts of this country being very urgent, induced us to reprint the excellent little treatise of Dr. Laurie, of London.

We have taken the liberty to strike out the doses designated by the author, because the medicines to be had here are chiefly sold in tinctures and triturations; and because we deem it safer to rely on the aqueous dilutions from the tinctures of the wet medicines, and upon reliable triturations of the dry ones, than upon the higher dilutions, prepared according to Hahnemann's rules; at any rate this is the safer and surer course, so long as we must depend for these globules on the apothecaries of foreign countries, known to us only by name. Families who have no Homœopathic physician can use the remedies in the following manner:—

1. The wet ones. Put one drop of the tincture, or three or four drops of the first dilution, into a tumbler full of pure rain water, (or spring water, if very pure,) and give of this solution a teaspoonful for a dose, which is to be repeated according to the rules laid down by Dr. Laurie in the text. The dose may be increased to a dessert or tablespoon, or even more, if the pa-

tient be of a strong bodily constitution, and especially if he be of an insusceptible temperament.

2. The powdered remedies: the dose is one or two grains, according to the strength and susceptibility of the patient; and this quantity is to be mixed with twice or three times as much powdered sugar of milk, or even of common sugar, and folded up in a paper for half an hour or longer, if practicable, before being given. A grain is about as much as will lie on the point of an ordinary pen knife blade.

In cases of doubt, as to which of two or three remedies, named in this book in any given case, ought to be applied, we recommend a resort to *Jahr's Manual of Homœopathic Practice*. Turn to the Clinical Chapter (always in vol. 2,) which precedes the tabular exposition of the effects of the medicines upon the part affected in the case, and find the disease under which the patient is labouring; this chapter alone will often contain the desired information. But if it do not, the table following the clinical chapter must be studied; and if this do not suffice to determine the choice satisfactorily, the notices of the remedies in question contained in the 1st volume may be read.

This process will be as far as the domestic prescriber can go, and for the class of cases which should be treated in domestic practice it will generally be found sufficient.

The American Editor has taken the liberty to substitute for Dr. Laurie's text on Convulsions a paper on this important subject from his own pen.

496 BROADWAY,
June, 1843.

P R E F A C E.

IN presenting this little work to the public, the Author may be allowed to state, as briefly as possible, the motives that have led him to the undertaking.

Of these, the principal are, the present paucity of Homœopathic practitioners ; the refutation, by a plain statement of the treatment of *acute disease*, of the too prevalent idea, that Homœopathy is available only in *Chronic* affections ; and the hope that this work may, under proper restrictions, prove of service in cases of ordinary derangement, or where the advice of a Homœopathic physician is unattainable ; and by assisting in the selection of the proper remedy, save many from having recourse to Allopathic modes of relief, such as aperients, &c., which are so calculated to undermine the strongest constitutions, and convert trifling affections into permanent maladies.

From the first mentioned motive, (the present want of Homœopathic practitioners,) the Author has found himself compelled to include many acute diseases, which fall more particularly within the province of the physician ; in so doing, he has given a range of treatment that will meet a great variety of cases, and in almost all, so far obviate immediate danger, and place the malady in such a position, as to give time, when imperatively necessary, for seeking suitable advice.

In cases that require prompt and decided measures,

such as "Convulsions," "Croup," &c., the treatment has been pretty fully gone into. In others, such as "Inflammation of the Brain and Lungs," the course to be pursued to ward off all *immediate* danger, has been briefly, but it is to be hoped, clearly pointed out. Other acute or dangerous maladies, such as "Puerperal Fever," "Phlegmasia Alba Dolens," (puerperal tumid leg,) Epilepsy, Cancer, &c., have been either slightly glanced at, or wholly omitted; convinced, that to do justice to their several treatments, would carry the work far beyond its intended limits and purpose, and that an imperfect sketch would be rather productive of injury than benefit.

In many instances, Domestic Medicines do considerably more harm than good, by inducing individuals to rely too fully upon their own resources, and to omit having recourse to those who have made the diseases of mankind their peculiar study; but still greater injury results *from an ill regulated perusal of elaborately written medical works, which require the previous education of the physician fully to comprehend, and his practical experience properly to apply.*

To the Student, still at the threshold of our science, to the Allopathist, willing by *fair experiment* to put the system to the test, it is hoped that this little work may prove peculiarly valuable.

It may be here remarked, that the beautiful simplicity and harmonious uniformity of the Homœopathic system, conjoined with its invariable rule of administering only one medicinal substance at a time, have misled many into the idea, that it is so much easier of practice than the old system, as scarcely to require the qualification of a medical education; acting upon these false premises, many amateurs, after having studied a few of the leading medicines, although wholly destitute of other physiological or pathological knowledge, imagine themselves qualified to prescribe for every variety of ailments, and their presumption is generally in exact ratio with their ignorance. No

doubt, from the inherent excellence of the system, some of those zealous individuals have cured diseases that have defied the Allopathic mode; but generally, from the absence of a medical education, and of a perfect knowledge of the *Materia Medica*, by a circuitous route; whereas the practised mind of the physician, frequently detecting the *nature of the disease*, by the administration of a *specific* remedy directs the vital energies into their proper channel, and by so doing, saves the patient from a course of needless suffering.

If such be the case in Chronic, how much more so in Acute diseases; such, it is evident, no individual, not fully competent, should take upon himself the serious responsibility of treating, unless coerced by an imperious necessity, and then with the *closest attention to, and most minute observance of the symptoms*.

Under such conditions, the Author hopes that this work may prove useful; and when the symptoms are *perfectly* in accordance with those given under the different medicines, the administration of the latter will be always marked with decided benefit.

In conclusion, it may be observed, that from the unfair impressions of the science, that have been so industriously propagated, Homœopathy has been too frequently treated as a species of charlatanism, to which people resort only, when every other mode of promised relief has utterly failed. After enduring with patience a long and ineffectual treatment under the old system, they feel disappointed if Homœopathy does not work an *immediate* cure; nay, in acute diseases, when danger appears to threaten, some individuals fall back upon Allopathic measures, and undo all that the Homœopathist has effected; perhaps again seeking his assistance, when the mischief has been rendered irremediable by their own fatuity. Others, who have seen members of their families (whose diseases were beyond the power of medicine,) die during Homœopathic treatment, reproach the science with failure; whereas, their minds would have felt perfectly satisfied,

had such a misfortune occurred under the old system ; forgetting that, in many instances, the patient only sought Homœopathy as a last resource, in cases where the affection was of its own nature incurable, or had been rendered so by a long course of improper treatment.

What Homœopathy stands upon, is the simple fact of success in thousands of cases, in which every other mode has signally failed—upon the firm and irrefragable basis of a multitude of unimpeachable and incontrovertible proofs.

12 LOWER BERKELEY STREET,

PORTMAN SQUARE,

December, 1841.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE principal points we have to notice in this part are, the Regimen to be observed under treatment—Clothing and Habits—the Administration and Repetition of the Medicines—the Potencies in general use, and the terms Psora and Antipsorics.

REGIMEN.

The excellence of the Homœopathic system of regimen—the first really founded upon a principle in medicine—has wrested approbation even from our opponents, although at the same time, they disingenuously make use of it as a handle against the science itself, and ascribe the cures effected, to its observance, rather than to the efficacy of the medicines.

To individuals unacquainted with Homœopathy, the regimen is represented as extremely rigid; to that assertion, a plain statement of the course to be pursued in general cases, will prove the best refutation; and it may also be observed, that at first sight the self-denial imposed, seems more stringent than it will prove on being carried into effect, and that many individuals in the Author's own experience have pursued the same

system of diet, after they have had no further occasion for medical assistance, thus continuing from choice what they had begun from necessity.

The Homœopathic regimen consists merely of the avoidance of medicinal and indigestible substances during treatment, both as calculated to interfere with the action of the medicines, and the proper functions of the alimentary system. Consequently, among liquids, the proscribed articles are tea, coffee, malt liquors, wine, and stimulants of every description ; cocoa, unspiced chocolate, or in fact any non-medicinal beverage is allowable.

In animal food, pork, young meats ; such as veal, lamb, &c. ; and among poultry, ducks and geese had better be avoided, when derangement of the digestive function exists. Beef, mutton, venison, and most descriptions of game are allowable at discretion.

Fish is a wholesome article of diet, and may be partaken of without scruple, with the exception of the oleaginous species, such as eels, salmon, &c., which had better be avoided or used with extreme moderation.

Stimulating soups and made dishes, are so evidently opposed to Homœopathic regimen, as scarcely to require further notice.

Among vegetables, all of a pungent, aromatic, or medicinal description, are prohibited ; such as onions, garlic, eschalots, asparagus, radishes, horse-radish, celery, parsley, mint, sage, &c. ; but others free from such qualities, such as potatoes, French beans, green peas, &c., may be used, with the needful precaution of avoiding any particular

article of diet, whether of the animal or vegetable kingdom, that may seem to disagree with the individual. Spices, acids, and the ordinary condiments, such as pepper, mustard, pickles, &c., ought either to be sparingly partaken of, or entirely abstained from, particularly by the dyspeptic.

Sub-acid or unripe fruits, are clearly objectionable, and even ripe fruits should be used in extreme moderation, and by dyspeptic individuals not at all ;—most fruits possess a laxative property, even when preserved or cooked, and are particularly objectionable when in combination with pastry. We may observe that the strawberry should be avoided, from its being well known to possess medicinal properties.

During fevers and inflammatory affections, the patient must of course be kept upon a low regimen ; gruel, barley-water, &c. ; a light pudding, with a little weak beef-tea or mutton or chicken broth, should form the whole of the nourishment given. Nature, however, is our best guide, and when she takes away appetite, thereby intimates the necessity of not taxing the digestive functions.

CLOTHING AND HABITS.

Upon the first point it were scarcely worth while entering into any observations, were it not simply to remark upon the impropriety of garments impervious to air, fitting closely to the shape, and the custom of exposing the extremities and chests of young children to the chilling

atmosphere of our peculiarly variable climate, under the absurd idea of making them hardy. The evil consequences arising from the check given to perspiration, by the first mentioned practice, are too well known to require any particular comment; but as the other is an error widely prevalent, we considered it our duty to mention it; and feel assured, that if mothers will only reform their system, and clothe their children in a more rational manner, they will make no slight advance towards the prevention of serious affections, not only during childhood, but in after life.

As regards habits, we may briefly observe, that a systematic course of life, avoiding late hours, dissipation, over study, anxiety, or other mental emotion, and taking sufficient air and exercise, are the best preservatives of health.

Excessive warm or cold bathing are injurious, particularly the former. The idea that sea-bathing is almost universally beneficial, is exceedingly erroneous; there are many constitutions on whom it produces far other than a salutary effect. Medicated baths, either natural or artificial, are, it is scarcely necessary to observe, strictly forbidden under Homœopathy. Bathing the whole frame with a sponge, with cold or scarcely tepid water, and the use of the flesh brush, is by no means opposed to treatment.

The use of any medicinal or aromatic substances in the arrangement of the toilet, such as medicated dentrifices, lip-salves, smelling salts, or cosmetics, is detrimental to the action of the medicines, and had therefore better be avoided.

The deleterious gas that flowers emit during night, renders their presence in bed-chambers highly reprehensible.

ADMINISTRATION AND REPETITION OF THE MEDICINES.

Upon this subject we will offer a few remarks, premising at the same time, that it is almost impossible to give any general rule that will serve in all cases, much more depending upon the discrimination of the administrator, and a careful observance of the symptoms, than routine.

In *acute* diseases, we must, then, carefully watch the symptoms, and when we feel assured we have chosen the proper remedy, if no perceptible medicinal aggravation or amelioration declare itself, but the disease seems to gain ground, we must *repeat* the medicine. In cases of high inflammatory action, *Aconite* has sometimes to be repeated every two hours, hour, or even ten minutes.

If a *medicinal aggravation* take place, followed by *amelioration*, we must let the medicine continue its action, until the *amelioration* appear to cease, and the disease again make head ; if new symptoms set in, we must then have recourse to the medicine thereby indicated. Should, however, no perceptible *medicinal aggravation* take place, but an *amelioration* follow, we may safely await its approach to its termination, ere we again administer. If new symptoms arise, we must have recourse to the medicines they point out.

In chronic and sub-acute cases, we may, when

we feel sure of the medicament being correctly chosen, allow it to continue its action for the space of eight days. The following medicines, however, possess a short-lived action, and may consequently be followed by another, or repeated, if necessary, at less protracted intervals; the briefness of their action corresponds with the order in which they are placed; *Aconite*, *Opium*, *Rheum*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Chamomilla*, and *Coffea*; of the first we have already spoken; the second may be followed by another remedy in the course of about twelve hours; to the rest we may, in general cases, allow an action of from one to four days, according to their order.

The distinguishing of the medicinal aggravation, from that of the disease, being a point of material consequence, we will here give the peculiar characteristics of each. The *medicinal aggravation* comes on *suddenly and without* previous amelioration; the aggravation of the disease more *gradually*, and frequently *following* an amelioration. Moreover, in the former, several of the *medicinal* symptoms, some of which we may meet under the *indications* for the remedy, and not *before* remarked, declare themselves.

In the SELECTION OF THE REMEDY, it is not necessary that *all* the symptoms noted should be present; at the same time taking care, that there are no symptoms not covered by the medicine, or more strongly indicating another.

When we find symptoms *not* covered by a remedy, which nevertheless appears indicated, we may, with advantage, avail ourselves of THE TABULAR INDEX OF THE MEDICINES, and see if the

symptom required to complete the diathesis, is given under the medicament in any other part of the work. In other cases, where different medicines are pointed out as useful in an affection, we may make use of the table, and by carefully noting the symptoms given under them elsewhere, thereby be enabled to select the remedy most clearly indicated.

OF THE MEDICAMENTS.

The high potencies are indicated for chronic, and the low for acute diseases. One of the best rules seems to be, to make use of the high potencies when the vital power appears to require stimulating; they may consequently be administered with great advantage, to very young children or aged individuals. The low are particularly serviceable when we have to contend with a *material* cause.

The physician, however, for many reasons of his own, may choose to vary his potency, to change from a high to a low, or *vice versâ*. We may, however, hope that the mode we have laid down will apply in general cases, and when the medicine has been judiciously selected, always with the highest success.

PSORA AND ANTI-PSORICS.

As we have frequent occasion, in the course of this work, to make use of the word PSORA, and to point out different affections requiring a course of ANTI-PSORICS, we may observe, that we

understand by the word, an inherent vice of constitution, generally hereditary, evincing itself in several, and called into action in other diseases. Although there are two other virus noted by Hahnemann, which form the source of numerous affections, we shall, nevertheless, content ourselves with classing them under the one general term, which although, strictly speaking, far from correct, will, in a work of this kind, answer every practical purpose.

By ANTI-PSORICS, we mean medicines particularly calculated to combat that virus, or miasm.

J. L.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC
DOMESTIC MEDICINE.

PART I.

ON THE SYMPTOMS, CHARACTER, DISTINC-
TION, AND TREATMENT OF DISEASES.

ERUPTIVE FEVERS.

SCARLET FEVER.

THIS disease, in its simple generic character, takes its name from the scarlet appearance of the skin, which is of a bright raspberry red colour, or of a hue resembling a boiled lobster, smooth and glossy, upon which the finger being pressed leaves a white imprint, which almost immediately disappears. However, in the present day, we seldom meet with it in this simple form, but more frequently accompanied with sore throat, and sometimes complicated with ulcerated sore throat, delirium, and congestive or severe inflammatory symptoms.

Scarlatina was formerly confounded with Measles, from the resemblance which the two eruptions bear to each other at their commencement; but they are easily distinguishable, even without taking into consideration the peculiar appearance of the skin above-mentioned—characteristic of the disease,—by the eruption in Scarlet Fever generally developing itself in forty-eight hours from the commencement of the fever, whereas that of Measles rarely sets in before the third or fifth day.

In those rare cases in which it appears in its simple form, *Belladonna* alone is a sufficient remedy. We may administer a teaspoonful of this solution every six or even three hours, if the fever run high, lengthening the intervals as it decreases in intensity, only repeating when a cessation of the amelioration takes place. We ought to watch carefully after each administration, for if the fever increase soon after, we may conclude it is a medicinal action, and avoid aggravating it by a repetition of the dose; with infants we may substitute a higher attenuation.

The next form which we shall treat of, is when the Scarlatina becomes a severe and dangerous disease, when the throat is affected, and inflammatory and high fever or congestive symptoms set in, which, if not properly treated, may assume the malignant type, attended with ulcerated sore throat, extension of the inflammation to the air passages, delirium, &c.

It has been always remarked that, the greater the efflorescence, the less the intensity of the other symptoms; it is when the disease appears

principally to attack the head and throat that it becomes dangerous.

Belladonna should be administered as soon as the eruption begins to declare itself, when the throat and tongue become affected with dryness and burning; desire, but complete inability to swallow even drinks, or saliva, with sense of suffocation; throat *bright red*, sometimes excoriated, with white specks, *or* stringy mucus, *or* appearance like thrush, tonsils swollen, internally and sometimes externally, the tongue of a bright fiery red, *sometimes* interspersed with dark red patches, generally appearing later in the disease, if at all; also when delirium is present.

If the disease have taken a favourable turn, we may allow the *Belladonna* to continue its action; but if we *clearly* perceive an appearance of *ulceration commencing*, with increase of mucus, and swelling of the throat, we must have immediate recourse to MERCURIUS, unless the ulcers present a *livid* appearance about the edges, emitting an offensive odour, with excessive thirst or gastric derangements; also if *great prostration of strength* be present, in which case we may exhibit ARSENICUM, to be followed by NUX VOMICA, if it fail to relieve the totality of the symptoms.

When the fever assumes a clearly inflammatory type, and the pulse runs high, we may administer ACONITE, to be repeated according to results; being guided by the same rules we have above stated, bearing in mind that this medicine is very prompt in its action, and therefore generally requires to be repeated more frequently than *Belladonna*. When the quickness of pulse and

other inflammatory febrile symptoms are subdued, and the affection of the throat again appears prominent, we may return to *Belladonna*.

OPIUM may follow the administration of *Belladonna*, when there is burning heat of the skin, drowsiness, stupor, stertorous breathing, open mouth, eyes half closed, restlessness with vomiting, or convulsions.

PULSATILLA, when derangement of the stomach and digestive organs is a prominent symptom, the face pale or red and bloated; constipation or looseness, especially at night, occasionally with pains in the bowels, and shivering; disposition fretful and sensitive, or melancholy.

We frequently find this affection in a complicated form, distinguishable from pure Scarlet Fever by the absence of the peculiar hue of the skin, of which we have spoken at the commencement. In such cases we may have recourse to the following remedies:

COFFEA, when the appearance of the skin closely resembles PURPLES, with extreme nervous sensibility to pain, sleeplessness from excitability, disposition to tears, with tossing and restlessness. ACONITE, may follow, if *Coffea* fail to relieve, particularly when a high pulse is present.

IPECACUANHA, when there is distressing tightness of the chest, and the fever heightens towards evening, with symptoms of nausea, or even vomiting; diarrhoea with colic, face sallow, rest broken and agitated, moaning, and disposition to weep; particularly if the clear Scarlatina hue is less defined, or the skin is studded with small elevations, perceptible to the eye and touch.

In *psoric* habits of body, or in instances when the disease has been allopathically treated from the commencement, many troublesome sequelæ are left. Against the following, *Belladonna* is extremely efficacious : puffiness of the face, swelling of hands and feet, lingering fever in the evening, glandular enlargements, chaps about the mouth, severe head-aches, stammering, &c.

Dropsical swelling of the whole body is not an unfrequent sequela, requiring a most careful and discriminating treatment.

Scarlet Fever is chiefly dangerous when the latent psoric virus is called into activity, and associates itself with the disease ; in such cases, the Allopathist finds himself baffled by an evil against which he possesses no specific remedy, and the utmost skill of the Homœopathic practitioner is called into play. Such, it is evident, are far beyond the sphere of a work of this nature, and were we to enter upon them, we might, with the purest motives, commit irreparable mischief by inducing many to attempt the treatment of those dangerous forms of this malady, which fall so immediately within the province of the experienced physician.

Belladonna is valuable as a preservative against *pure* scarlatina, when epidemic, and moreover greatly assists in modifying the character of the disease, in such individuals as do not wholly escape its attacks ; with children a dose may be given every week, and with adults or robust children, above ten years of age, every four or five days for three or four weeks, which will generally be found sufficient to obviate any risk ; should the

disease continue to rage, the treatment may be renewed at the end of about three weeks : if the ruling epidemic be Scarlatina in a complicated form, that is, not possessing the clear Scarlatina hue, we should alternate this medicine with ACONITE, allowing the latter an action of about twelve hours, and afterwards proceeding with the *Belladonna* as before. While taking these medicaments, the patient must adhere strictly to the Homœopathic diet, particularly avoiding *wine* and *acids*. *We must, in administering prophylactics,* carefully watch their effects, and if a medicinal action set in, discontinue immediately.*

MEASLES.

This disease generally reigns as an infectious epidemic, and for the most part confines its attack to children, in which case it is seldom, when properly treated, either severe or dangerous ; although adults sometimes suffer from its influence, when it generally assumes a more critical character. It rarely attacks an individual a second time.

Measles is not so much to be dreaded for itself, as for the deleterious consequences which, under an improper mode of treatment, it frequently entails, or to use the technical term, the *dregs* it leaves after it, in many constitutions developing an inherent disposition to consumption.

This malady is ushered in by the symptoms

* *Prophylactics*, medicines taken as preventives of infection.

common to fevers, alternate heat and chills, &c., preceding the eruption four or five days, with the distinction of a *catarrhal affection*, which generally runs its course to the termination of the disease.

The eruption in Measles consists of a number of small red spots (frequently papular), the skin in the intervals between them generally preserving its natural colour, and sometimes a faint reddish hue. We often find them in the shape of small irregular arcs; the eyes of the sufferer are generally red and watery. They for the most part make their first appearance on the face and neck, become confluent, and extend themselves gradually downwards over the rest of the frame.

Aconite has been regarded, in some instances, as almost specific against Measles, and in its mild form will frequently be found sufficient, in a few doses, to conquer the disease, or at least materially to shorten its duration; it is particularly indicated when the fever assumes an inflammatory form, attended with dry heat of the skin, heat in the head, with confusion and giddiness, redness of the eyes, intolerance of light, general weakness, and prostration. We may administer a dose every twelve, or in severe cases, every eight hours, and continue the treatment till we find an amelioration, should none of the symptoms, hereafter mentioned, indicate the necessity of having recourse to another remedy.

PULSATILLA, is also very efficacious, and even specific in this disease, and is frequently indicated in the commencement, from the strong resem-

blance which some of its pathogenetic* properties bear to the *catarrh* attendant upon measles, together with the characteristic exacerbation of the symptoms towards evening. As a general rule it may be administered every three days, while the same indications continue, until amelioration takes place ; or sometimes in alternation with the *Aconite*, which may always be considered indicated, when decidedly inflammatory symptoms set in. *Pulsatilla* is also valuable when any gastric derangement is present.

BELLADONNA, when the inflammation attacks the throat, presenting many of the throat symptoms we have given for the medicine under SCARLET FEVER, attended with great thirst, which the patient is often prevented from indulging by the acute *shooting or pricking pain in the throat* produced by swallowing, and further, when there is a hoarse, dry, barking, and somewhat spasmodic cough, *worse at night*, with restlessness and high nervous excitement ; also in those cases of Measles where no eruption declares itself, but simply headache and catarrh, with inflammation of the eyes, which present a glassy appearance, are blood-shot or streaked, and watery.

BRYONIA is an excellent remedy when the lungs and chest seem affected, which discloses itself by shooting pains, increased by respiration and extending themselves between the shoulders.

This disease has frequently terminated fatally, from the eruption being driven in by sudden ex-

* *Pathogenetic* symptoms. Those caused by the action of the medicine upon a healthy individual.

posure to cold or change of temperature ; in such cases, *Bryonia*, as above, is generally found efficacious in re-evolving the eruption, and preventing this disaster ; if diarrhœa, with mucous discharge, follow the suppression, *PULSATILLA* is indicated ; if the *vomiting* be the more prominent symptom, *IPECACUANHA* should be substituted.

For the treatment of coughs that Measles, not carefully treated, sometimes leave after them, see *COUGHS*.

For the diarrhœa remaining under similar circumstances, see *DIARRHŒA*.

As a precautionary measure against the attacks of this disease, when epidemic, we may administer *PULSATILLA*, followed by *ACONITE* three days after ; allow the latter medicine to act for twenty-four hours, and continue the alternation for a fortnight, renewing it, when necessary, at the termination of a week or ten days. This treatment will frequently be found sufficient in warding off this disease, or, if taken, it will be in an extremely mild form.

SMALL POX.

This disease is, by pathologists of the present day, divided into two varieties—the *distinct*, when the pustules on the face are clearly defined, and do not run into one another ; the *confluent*, when they coalesce and form one continuous whole.

When the symptoms are less severe than those properly characteristic of the disease, and the eruption on the face slight, it is called the Modified Small Pox. We generally find this descrip-

tion in such persons as have been properly vaccinated, which precaution, although not always a preservative from the attacks of variola, greatly lessens its virulence, and gives a milder character to the complaint when taken.

This disease is frequently very sudden in its attacks, commencing with chilliness and shivering, followed by febrile symptoms, *with severe pains in the small of the back and loins*; the patient also complains of headache, oppression of the chest, and acute pain in the pit of the stomach, *increased by pressure*. The eruption makes its appearance at the close of the third day, first on the face and hairy scalp, then on the neck, and afterwards spreads over the whole body. Catarrhal symptoms, sneezing, coughing, wheezing, and frequently difficulty of breathing, accompany this disease, commencing when the pustules declare themselves, the second or third day from the commencement of the eruption, and also while they are coming out.

The eruption first appears in the shape of small hard pointed elevations, which become depressed in the centre as they enlarge, and contain a semi-transparent fluid with inflamed circular margin; about the sixth day the depression in the centre disappears, from the lymph in the pustule changing into pus. When the pustules have attained their full development, in most instances about the eleventh day, they generally burst, in mild cases emitting an opaque lymph, which dries into a crust and falls off; in severe ones, we find a discharge of puriform matter, forming scabs and sores, which leave, on their healing, permanent

marks or pits. Red stains, caused by increased vascular action, always remain for a while after the eruption; but if no ulceration has taken place, they disappear in process of time.

In Confluent Small Pox, all the precursory symptoms are more severe, the eruptive fever runs its course, the pain in the pit of the stomach, and difficulty of breathing, are more complained of, and in children the eruption is frequently preceded by convulsions and delirium; the latter symptom is frequently present with adults during the suppurative or secondary fever, which generally assumes a typhoid type, and if not properly treated from the commencement, sometimes carries off the patient on the eleventh day; indeed, some exceedingly rare cases in which we have a deeply rooted psora to contend against, require the utmost skill of the experienced practitioner to ward off a fatal result.

Before we come to the medicines to be administered in the different stages of this disease, we may say a few words upon the treatment of the patient.

The room ought to be kept at a moderate temperature, not allowing too great a quantity of bed clothes, yet not so low as to impede the proper development of the eruption. When the vesicles declare themselves, and begin to form into pustules, the room ought to be kept as dark as possible, to aid in preventing the risk of disfigurement, a precaution deducible from common experience, since we find that the parts of the frame exposed to the action of the light are always those most strongly marked by the ravages of the disease;

the exclusion of air seems also to be preventive of injury to the skin, and consequently many physicians have adopted a mask or plaster for the face, of different substances, such as gum mucilage, calamine, &c., to effect this desirable object. We have, however, in the general course of practice, found the specific action of the medicines sufficient to obviate all evil consequences of this nature, without requiring to have recourse to the last mentioned precaution.

We shall now proceed to the enumeration of the medicines which are generally administered in this disease.

In the first stage, that is, when the eruption is coming out, the best medicaments to assist the natural course of the distemper are *Coffea* and *Bryonia*.

COFFEA is valuable in allaying the nervous excitability generally present. ACONITE may either follow or precede this medicine, when the fever runs high, and threatens visceral congestion, and may be repeated after a short interval, according to the effect produced.

BRYONIA is especially intended to develope the eruption; also when considerable symptoms of gastric derangement are present, such as bitter taste in the mouth, foulness of the tongue, headache, *rheumatic pain in the limbs, increased by motion*, constipation and irritability of disposition, and is useful in the more advanced stages of the disease, when the pustules have declared themselves; also when an inflammatory action of the respiratory organs seems threatened, indicated by occasional shooting pains in the chest, especially

during respiration; it may be preceded or followed by ACONITE, should there be considerable fever, with dry heat of the skin.

BELLADONNA.—This remedy may follow *Aconite* when the latter has been indicated, should symptoms of cerebral disturbance have set in, characterized by flushed countenance, intolerance of the eyes to light, headache and delirium; to be continued until we have subdued the symptoms, care being taken not to repeat, as long as improvement is going on; and carefully noting the *medicinal aggravation*, if it declare itself, as another sign for a temporary discontinuance.

OPIUM is useful when there are symptoms of stupor or strong *inclination to somnolence*. Should the gastric symptoms be attended with diarrhœa and severe vomiting, we may administer IPECACUANHA. In children, CHAMOMILLA is frequently preferable to *Ipecacuanha*, and is useful for the convulsions that sometimes set in.

PULSATILLA. When there is a gastric derangement with nausea, but the vomiting not so severe, and when the symptoms are aggravated towards evening, particularly when the patient is of a mild or phlegmatic temperament.

If *Ipecacuanha* do not succeed, and the vomiting increase considerably, with *excessive thirst and dryness of the mouth, the tongue very foul and dark, attended with excessive prostration of strength*, we may administer ARSENICUM. The last symptom generally occurs after the maturation of the eruption and secondary fever (when present), in which case we may substitute a higher attenuation, which will generally sufficiently restore the

vital energy, without an injudicious alteration in nutritive diet, or having recourse to wine or tonics. STRAMONIUM is useful when some pustules are already formed, in forwarding the eruption and shortening its duration.

During the filling up of the pocks, a secondary or suppurative fever frequently sets in, particularly when the pustules are thick and evince a disposition to run into the confluent form ; when, moreover, there is inflammation of the eyes, throat, and nose, with salivation ; having, if called for, first attacked the more prominent febrile symptoms with ACONITE, we should administer on the same day, MERCURIUS.

While the disease is running its course, particularly during the distention of the pustules, should no other remedies be imperatively called for, and also towards the period of their bursting, we may safely administer an occasional dose of *Mercurius* as above, in the latter case followed by SULPHUR, to assist in the desiccation.

During the period of desiccation, continual laving with tepid water and bran, and gently drying it afterwards, will be sufficient ; cleanliness being then the great requisite, with a careful attention to diet.

Some physicians, in their treatment of this affection, divide it into distinct stages ; we have contented ourselves, when necessary, with slightly referring to them. To the practitioner they are sufficiently well known ; and the non-medical administrator must be guided by the *symptoms* that present themselves from time to time, in the selection of the remedy, by which mode he is less

likely to fall into error, than he might be were he to act by mere routine.

MODIFIED SMALL POX is merely a mild description of the above, and as we have before said, is the form the disease generally assumes, when it attacks those who have been properly vaccinated. We must regulate our treatment according to the symptoms, being guided in the selection of the remedies, by the indications before given.

CHICKEN POCK.

This disease bears a considerable resemblance in its external character to small pox, but differs symptomatically, being considerably milder, generally requiring no medical assistance, but merely attention to diet, and but rarely becoming dangerous, except when it extends itself to the lungs or brain.

When this affection attacks an individual, and small pox is epidemic, which is not unfrequently the case, it is often mistaken for that disorder, but it soon discovers its real character, by the rapidity with which the eruption declares itself; the pustules, (in many instances closely resembling those of the small pox,) being generally fully matured by the third day, and the whole eruption disappearing at the end of the fifth, without leaving any mark.

With regard to the treatment, when fever does exist, we should check it by the administration of ACONITE, or COFFEA, if there is simply extreme restlessness and anxiety. When cerebral symp-

toms threaten, *BELLADONNA* ; for the indications of this medicine, see *INFLAMMATION OF THE BRAIN*. When attended with convulsions in children, particularly during dentition, see *CONVULSIONS*.

MERCURIUS may be given when the lymph of the pustules becomes converted into pus, as in the small pox, and is also beneficial if strangury be present. In anomalous cases, where other symptoms supervene, more closely resembling Small Pox, we may consult the remedies mentioned under that disease.

MILIARY FEVER.

The characteristic eruption of this disease, consists of a great number of exceedingly small round transparent vesicles, or points irregularly scattered, of the size of millet seeds, (hence its name,) which, when the hand is passed over the surface, feel as if there were small grains of sand beneath the cuticle. This affection is sometimes idiopathic, but more frequently associated with fever, and even occasionally present in various chronic diseases, in which latter instance it may generally be considered as an evidence of some internal constitutional taint ; it is also not uncommon with women at the period of confinement, arising from the room being kept at too high a temperature—a frequent cause of this malady. This, like other cutaneous affections of the same nature, is generally preceded by febrile symptoms, the eruption appearing on the fifth or sixth day ; previous to the vesicles evolving themselves, there is a ting-

ling or itching of the skin, occasionally attended with a sensation of burning, together with a numbness of the extremities ; the patient complains of a sense of oppression at the chest, sometimes with cough and stitches in the side, and not unfrequently of severe, or fugitive rheumatic pains in the limbs and teeth. The skin is sometimes dry, at others perspires profusely with a sour smell ; low spirits are a frequent accompaniment of this affection.

With regard to the treatment, in consequence of the numerous diseases with which it is complicated, it requires a variety of medicaments. When it appears in a simple and apparently idiopathic form, and is attended with anxiety and restlessness, which seems to depend upon an accelerated circulation of the blood, with great internal and external heat, ACONITE is a specific remedy, and when the above seem more particularly to arise from high nervous excitability, and the feeling of anxiety is less, COFFEA is the remedy.

BELLADONNA, when the accelerated circulation is attended with considerable determination of blood to the head, and delirium.

When the disease is found conjoined with puerperal or other fevers, and is preceded by oppression, lassitude, anxiety, and a sense of weight about the chest, restlessness, sighing, &c. ; it is generally speedily subdued by a dose or two of IPECACUANHA, repeating the dose in two days if no action of the medicine declare itself ; or should the symptoms which precede the eruption be accompanied by *constipation*, or shooting pains in the chest, BRYONIA should be selected.

When this disease comes on in children, brought about by the same cause, viz., excessive warmth, or even errors in diet, attended with a greenish, or watery yellowish diarrhœa, we may administer CHAMOMILLA, followed, if no alteration take place, by SULPHUR.

NETTLE RASH.

This eruption is one in many points resembling the stinging of nettles, whence its name. It generally presents the appearance of red elevations of the cuticle, with a white spot in the centre; sometimes, on the contrary, these eminences have a red appearance, but it is easily distinguishable from other eruptions, by the suddenness with which it is evolved, disappearing in one place to re-appear in another.

This eruption is brought to the surface by various causes, not unfrequently arising from indigestion, caused by the use of improper articles of food. Before the eruption discloses itself, the patient is affected with restlessness, languor, oppression, and want of appetite, derangement of the digestive functions, and fever. When the eruption breaks out, the above symptoms become relieved, but considerable suffering arises from heat and itching; sometimes swelling of the parts affected; this being merely a development of Psora, or, in the words of the Allopathic physiologist, arising from a constitutional cause, requires for its total eradication, a course of antipsoric treatment.

In acute cases, the remedies found most useful,

are *Dulcamara*, *Aconite*, *Nux Vomica*, and *Bryonia*. The first remedy, is almost specific, when there is considerable fever, with bitter taste in the mouth, foul tongue, diarrhœa, pains in the limbs, and extreme itching, with a burning sensation after scratching.

ACONITE, when the febrile symptoms are more intense, the pulse high, the skin hot and dry, great restlessness and anxiety present.

NUX VOMICA, when there is considerable gastric derangement, particularly constipation, more especially when arising from wine, stimulants, or indigestible substances; and may, if necessary, follow *Aconite* in eight or twelve hours after the febrile symptoms are somewhat modified.

In this, as in every other cutaneous eruption, great care ought to be taken against driving in the eruption by external applications or lotions; their sudden suppression, as before noted under SCARLATINA and SMALL POX, being frequently attended with fatal consequences. When, however, from improper treatment, we have reason to dread this having taken place, we should administer BRYONIA, which will generally be found sufficient to bring back the rash, and prevent further dangerous consequences.

DISEASES OF ORGANS CONNECTED WITH THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.

TOOTHACHE.

When we find a *constant disposition* to this distressing malady, on the slightest exposure to cold, without any presumable cause, or what is generally called *rheumatic toothache*, we are warranted in concluding that a psoric virus lurks in the constitution, and until means are taken for its eradication, even the remedies most clearly indicated under other circumstances, fail for its relief, or at most, but temporarily alleviate its pains. Another obstacle to the selection of the proper remedy, is the difficulty we find in obtaining from the patient a perfectly clear description of his sensations. We shall, nevertheless, mention a few of the remedies which have proved most efficacious in the relief of toothache, and when the symptoms of the sufferer approximate closely to the indications given for the medicine, they will, in very many cases, afford a prompt relief; among these, *Belladonna*, *Chamomilla*, *Mercurius*, *Nux Vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, and *Sulphur*, hold a high rank. The medicine selected may be administered every half hour.

BELLADONNA is particularly indicated when the pains are very severe, of a *drawing, tearing*, or *shooting* nature, extending to the face and ears; *becoming aggravated in the evening*, and

especially at night, with gnawing or boring pain in the carious teeth, swelling of the gums and cheeks, *dryness of the mouth, with excessive thirst*, with, or without salivation; renewal of the pains from intellectual labour, or after eating; aggravation of suffering *when masticating, also in the open air; congestion to the head, with heat and redness of the face*, also pulsation in the head and cheeks.

CHAMOMILLA, when there are severe drawing, jerking, pulsative or shooting pains; *heat and redness, especially of one of the cheeks*; the pain becomes *almost insufferable, especially at night in the warmth of the bed*; shooting and pulsative pains in the ear and side affected, *the pains are aggravated by eating or drinking anything hot or cold, but especially the former*; great agitation and loss of sense from pain, *or excessive weakness*, sometimes amounting to fainting; great irascibility, and disposition to shed tears during the paroxysms. *Chamomilla* is useful in cases of toothache which have arisen from abuse of Coffee, in which affection *Nux Vomica* and *Pulsatilla* are also valuable, when indicated by the symptoms.

MERCURIUS is particularly indicated when *the pains affect carious teeth, or exist in the roots of the teeth*, and consist of *tearing, shooting* pains, occupying the *whole side of the head and face*, and extending to the ears; loosening of the teeth, and a feeling as if they were too long; the pain becomes almost insupportable towards evening, and especially *at night in the warmth of the bed*; aggravated when eating or drinking, particularly *after anything cold*, also by exposure to

cold or damp air; *swelling and inflammation of the gums*; nocturnal perspiration, peevishness, and inclination to tears; it is especially useful in persons who are subject to glandular swellings.

NUX VOMICA is useful for persons who are habituated to *wine, coffee, or other stimulants*, or addicted to *sedentary life or study*; of *lively or irritable temperament*, dark or *florid complexion*; sufferings increased by intellectual labour. The pains generally occur in *carious teeth*, and are of a *drawing and jerking or corrosive* description, occasionally diffusing themselves to the head and ears, sometimes attended with painful enlargement of the submaxillary glands; gums *swollen and painful*, accompanied with *throbbing and pulsation*. The toothache is more liable to come at *night* or on *awaking in the morning*, sometimes also *after dinner* or in the *open air*.

PULSATILLA is peculiarly adapted to persons of a *mild or phlegmatic* disposition. The pains are digging and gnawing, attended with *pricking* in the gums, extending to the *face, head, eye, and ear* of the side affected; this remedy is particularly efficacious in toothache, attended with *earache*, with *paleness of the face*, and when the toothache has been excited by taking cold, or *where* we find *shortness and difficulty of breathing*; the pains are sometimes of a *drawing, tearing, shooting, or jerking* description, and occasionally produce a sensation as if the nerve were drawn tight, and then suddenly relaxed; the pain is much aggravated in the *evening or after midnight*, generally *increased by warmth*, and when *at rest*, and mitigated by *cold air* or *cold applications* to the mouth.

SULPHUR. This remedy is particularly valuable in *psoric* constitutions, with a tendency to constipation; pain, sometimes attended with *swelling of the cheek* and *shooting pains in the ears*, *congestion of blood to the head*, and *pulsative headache*; the pain is of a *tearing, jerking, pulsative* description, affecting both *carious* and sound teeth; pains are aggravated in the *evening* and at *night*, or by exposure to the *open air*, also by the application of *cold water* or by mastication; loosening, sensation of elongation, and setting on edge of the teeth; the gums are *swollen*, attended with *pulsative pains*, and bleed easily.

BRYONIA is also a useful remedy in this affection, particularly with persons of a lively, choleric, and obstinate disposition. Its indications are *loosening* and *sensation of elongation* of the teeth, especially during or after eating; shooting in the ears, with *inclination to lie down*, pains aggravated by taking anything hot into the mouth, mitigated by lying on the affected side, or exacerbated by the contrary position.

Aconite, Belladonna, Chamomilla, Coffea, and Ignatia are useful in affections of this nature with children.

ACONITE. When the pains are difficult of description, attended with great agitation, feverish sensations, blood to the head, heat and redness of the face, and when the pains *are* described as of a pulsative, throbbing nature.

COFFEA. Against violent pains with great excitability and almost distraction in adults; also when the patient is conscious that the excitement is disproportionate to the pain suffered.

For *Chamomilla* we have already given indications ; if it prove insufficient, and the toothache has been caused by a chill, and is attended with diarrhœa, we may substitute DULCAMARA.

IGNATIA is suitable to those cases presenting similar indications to those of *Nux Vomica* or *Pulsatilla*, but more particularly applicable to mild or sensitive dispositions, with alternation of high and low spirits.

SORE THROAT OR QUINSY.

Quinsy is an inflammation of the throat, denoted by swelling and red colour of the back part of the throat, accompanied with difficulty of swallowing, and occasionally fever.

In the incipient stage of this affection, there is a sense of constriction about the throat, with a feeling of soreness, and sometimes of obstruction in the act of swallowing the saliva ; if it runs its course, the difficulty of swallowing and breathing increases, the tongue swells and becomes foul, the tonsils assume a redder hue, occasionally a number of small yellow eminences appear at the back of the throat and particularly on the tonsils, the patient complains of thirst, and the pulse is high, strong, and frequent ; sometimes the cheeks swell and become florid, and the eyes inflamed, and in severe cases delirium is not an unfrequent occurrence. This affection, occasionally, if not properly treated, dangerous in its simple form, becomes particularly critical when it puts on the putrid type ; in such instances the attendant fever generally assumes a typhoid character ; when this

takes place, we may always infer a psoric tendency.

When this affection is at the commencement attended with considerable fever, thirst, and dry heat, deep redness of the parts affected, painful and difficult deglutition, pricking sensation in the throat, with aggravation of the symptoms when speaking, we should administer one or two doses of ACONITE, in a powder, on the tongue, or in water.

The next medicament we shall mention, *Belladonna*, as may have been observed in the treatment of Scarlatina, Measles, &c., is one of the best remedies we possess against inflammation of the throat. When the above symptoms have been subdued by *Aconite*, or should the following symptoms have existed from the commencement, we should have immediate recourse to its administration.

Pain in the throat as if from *excoriation*, attended with a scraping sensation of enlargement, and burning or *shooting* pains, principally experienced during the *act of swallowing*; these pains sometimes extend to the ears. Other characteristic indications for this remedy are—sense of *spasmodic constriction* or *contraction* of the throat, with *constant desire to swallow saliva*; occasionally there is violent thirst, but a *dread of drink* from the suffering it occasions. Sometimes a complete inability to drink exists, and the liquid *returns by the nostrils*. On examination, the throat presents a *bright red colour*, with or without swelling of the palate, uvula and tonsils. In severer cases this remedy also continues valuable; namely, when

matter has gathered in the tonsils, and when we observe small ulcers forming and spreading rapidly, also accumulation of slimy whitish mucus in the throat and on the tongue, obliging the patient to spit frequently ; salivation, swelling of the muscles and glands of the neck, severe headache, chiefly confined to the forehead, sometimes determination of blood to the head, and delirium ; we may exhibit BELLADONNA, in two or three doses, at intervals, according to the effect. This remedy frequently succeeds in speedily removing the whole of the above group of symptoms, or at least, so far subdues them, as to enable Mercurius to complete the cure.

MERCURIUS, frequently valuable at the commencement of the disease, when so indicated, or in alternation with *Belladonna* in troublesome cases, is one of the most valuable remedial agents, following that medicine, when necessary to complete the cure. Its indications are *violent shooting in the throat and tonsils, especially when swallowing ; these pains extend to the ears, and glands before the ears and under the jaw ; inflammatory redness of the affected parts of the throat, burning in the throat, desire to swallow, attended with a sensation of an obstruction existing in the passage ; accumulation of thick and tenacious mucus in the throat, difficult deglutition, especially of liquids, which sometimes escape through the nostrils ; swelling of the posterior part of the tongue, occasional swelling of the gums ; unpleasant taste in the mouth, which is filled with saliva more or less inspissated ; throbbing of, and matter forming in, the tonsils ; ulcers in the throat which look indolent and increase slowly ; offensive odour from the*

mouth, aggravation of symptoms at *night*, when speaking, and in the *evening*, *chills* and *shivering*, sometimes alternated with heat.

MERCURIUS, after the bursting of the Quinsy, is useful in facilitating the throat's healing.

NUX VOMICA. This remedy is especially useful when the sore throat appears to arise from or to be accompanied by symptoms of deranged digestion, and when a sense of *scraping* or *excoriation* exists in the throat, also when a feeling of contraction is experienced in the upper part of the throat *during empty deglutition*, *swelling* and *elongation* of the *uvula*, producing a constant desire to swallow, at times only a *sensation of swelling*, with pressure and pains; when cold has been the exciting cause, attended with dry cough and headache, chiefly in the morning, and pains under the lower ribs during the cough, this remedy is also indicated, likewise when there are small offensive ulcers of the throat, or considerable debility is present; this medicine, in ordinary cases, may be allowed to continue its action for a day or two.

PULSATILLA. When there are symptoms of gastric derangement, and more particularly when a *dark livid redness* of the throat and tonsils appears, with a *sensation* of, or sometimes *actual swelling*; a feeling of an enlargement of the upper part of the throat, also excoriation and scraping, with dryness of the throat, *without thirst*, *shooting* pains in the throat when not swallowing, aggravation of the symptoms *towards evening*, attended with *shivering*; also *accumulation of adhesive mucus* in the throat. This remedy is

more particularly suitable for females, or for individuals of a mild and phlegmatic temperament.

CHAMOMILLA is a remedy particularly useful in the sore throat occurring in children, and especially when the disease has been brought about by *checked perspiration*, when there are shooting or burning pains, with sensation of a *swelling of the throat*, deep redness of the parts affected, inability to swallow solid food, especially when lying down; thirst, with dryness of the mouth and throat, swelling of the tonsils and glands before the ear and under the jaw; cough increased by *tickling in the throat*, attended with *hoarseness*; fever towards evening, with alternate heat and shivering, *redness of one cheek*, great excitability and tossing about.

IGNATIA is indicated when there is a sensation as of *a plug in the throat*, with red and inflammatory swelling of the tonsils, or palate; burning pains in deglutition, as if the substance were passing over an excoriated surface, or partially obstructed by some foreign body in the throat. Liquids are more difficult to swallow than solids; there are also *shooting pains in the cheeks, thence extending to the ears, when NOT performing the act of deglutition*, induration of the tonsils or evolution of small pustules upon them.

HEPAR SULPHURIS is valuable in bringing the matter to a head, when the Quinsy has attained to such a height, that its bursting is inevitable.

In conclusion we may remark that in all cases in which *Belladonna* and *Mercurius* appear indicated, yet fail in completely subduing this disease, LACHESIS has frequently proved successful. One

of the best indications for its exhibition is *when the pain* of the sore throat becomes aggravated from the slightest external pressure.

It is perhaps unnecessary to mention that all medicinal gargles, blisters, leeches, or other topical applications are rendered unnecessary by proper Homœopathic treatment. While we thus free the patient from a considerable degree of annoyance and needless suffering, we, at the same time, by a careful attention to the symptoms, and the exhibition of the proper remedy, effect a speedy cure.

BILIOUS COMPLAINTS.

BILIOUS COMPLAINTS have of late years become the popular term for almost all derangements of the digestive functions; and by common consent, all these disorders have been at once unhesitatingly ascribed to a superabundance or deficiency of the important secretion of the liver. This opinion, although sufficiently plausible on its first appearance, will, on a careful examination, be found erroneous; for although in the disease which is commonly denominated, in severe cases, liver complaint, this organ is powerfully affected, yet it is generally only by sympathy; and the real seat of the disorder is in the stomach and bowels. When we succeed in restoring them to a normal state, the liver will, in most instances, again resume its natural functions.

Having premised thus much, we shall proceed to the consideration of Dyspepsia, or Indigestion; under which will be found all of the symptoms

ascribed to the two imaginary and opposite causes of derangement, inactivity of the liver, and too great a secretion of bile.

INDIGESTION, OR DYSPEPSIA.

This disease appears in so many different phases, that we shall simply content ourselves with an enumeration of some of the principal exciting causes, and refer to the symptoms given under the different medicaments for its description. The following are among the principal exciting causes.

Irregularities in diet—such as an over-indulgence in the pleasures of the table, partaking of rich and indigestible food and stimulating soups, excessive use of wine, malt and spirituous liquors, tea, coffee, and other stimulants ; imperfect mastication of food, irregularity of, or too long fasting between meals, indolent or sedentary habits, exhaustion from intense study, keeping late hours, mental emotions, &c.

The foundation of this disorder is frequently laid in early life, by the baleful practice of the administration of large doses of Calomel, and other deleterious drugs ; and the evil is perpetuated in more mature age, by a continuance of the same absurd and dangerous system.

The principal Homœopathic remedies for the treatment of this affection are, *Nux Vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Bryonia*, *Chamomilla*, *Ignatia*, and *Cinchona*. Of these *Nux Vomica* and *Pulsatilla* are the principal.

Nux Vomica covers the following symptoms :

the head confused, with occasionally a *feeling* as if from *intoxication*, and *giddiness*, with sensation of turning and wavering of the brain; headache arising from, unfitting for, and increased by, mental exertion; tearing, drawing, or jerking pains in the head or cheeks, and pulsative pains, and a sensation as if *a nail were driven into the brain*; congestion of blood to the head, with humming in the ears. The headaches are often deeply seated in the brain, or in the back part of the head, frequently confined to one side, or over the eyes, and at the root of the nose, coming on chiefly in the morning, after a meal, or in the open air. EYES, yellowness of the lower part of the whites, with a mist before them, with a sensation as if one were about to fall; sparks, or small grey or black spots before the eyes; shortsightedness. FACE *pale* or *yellowish*, especially about the mouth and nose, frequent headache, and redness of the face. TONGUE foul, *dry*, *white*, or *yellowish*; *thirst*, with water-brash, particularly after acids or rich food, accumulation of slimy mucus, or of water in the mouth; *bitter*, *putrid*, *sour*, or *sweetish* taste, chiefly in the morning, or after meals; *bitter eructations*, or continued *nausea*, especially when in the open air. HEARTBURN, HICCOUGH, ACIDITY, FLATULENCE—frequent and violent vomiting of food, mucus, or bile, or ineffectual efforts to vomit. *Distention and fulness* in the epigastrium,* with excessive tenderness to the touch; a feeling of tightness of the clothes round the upper part of the waist;

* Upper part of the stomach, on each side of the pit of the stomach.

CRAMPS IN THE STOMACH ; CONSTIPATION ; sleep restless from suffering, with disagreeable dreams.

One of the most distinctive indications for the employment of this remedy in preference to the next mentioned, is the temperament, which is restless, irritable, lively, and choleric. A disposition to *Hemorrhoids* is also a good indication.

For *Pulsatilla* we have nearly the same range of dyspeptic symptoms, with the difference that it is particularly adapted to females, children, and to mild or phlegmatic dispositions. Amongst the characteristics, we more frequently find a *want* of thirst than thirst ; a repugnance to fat and rich meat, and *suffering* after *taking pork and pastry* ; frequent and loose, or difficult and loose, or slow evacuations.

BRYONIA. HEADACHE, *burning* or *expansive*, particularly after drinking, attended with bewilderment of the head and vertigo ; TONGUE dry, coated white and yellow ; sometimes the aversion to food is so strong, as not to be able to bear the smell of it ; loss of appetite, alternately with unnatural hunger ; great thirst, *insipid*, *clammy*, putrid sweetish, or *bitter* taste in the mouth ; ACIDITY and FLATULENCE, or *bitter* risings after every meal. HICCUGH, nausea, water-brash, *vomiting of food*, or bile, particularly at night ; tenderness of epigastrium to the touch, sensation of swelling in the pit of the stomach, pressure as if from a stone in the stomach, especially after a meal, or on walking ; *sensation of burning* in the pit of the stomach, and especially when *moving*. Constipation ; temper restless, irascible and obstinate ; also when anger has been the exciting

cause of the derangement. This dyspepsia is more apt to manifest itself in summer, or in damp weather, and is frequently accompanied by chilliness.

CHAMOMILLA. HEADACHE, with sometimes *semi-lateral*, pulling, shooting, and beating in the head; fulness, *giddiness*, and *staggering* in the morning when getting up; oppressive heaviness, vertigo, and sensation of a bruise; *headache sometimes felt during sleep*, with obscuration of the EYES, and yellow colour of the whites; TONGUE dry and cracked, with a thick and yellowish coating; mouth dry, sometimes with frothy mucus; *excessive thirst and desire for cold drink*; *bitter taste of the mouth and of food*; *want of appetite and dislike to food*. ACIDITY or sour risings, regurgitation of food, nausea, vomiting of food, mucus and *bile*; acute, *oppressive pain in the region of the heart*, distention at the epigastrium, pit of the stomach, and upper part of the waist, chiefly after eating, and at night attended with inquietude and terror; burning pain in the pit of the stomach, uneasiness and feeling of sinking in the stomach; CRAMPS IN THE STOMACH, especially when traceable to coffee; sometimes constipation, but generally *relaxation of the bowels*. This remedy is valuable in indigestion, brought on by a *fit of passion*.

IPECACUANHA. *Headaches attended with nausea and vomiting*; shooting pains, with heaviness and painful pressure on the forehead; FACE pale and yellowish, tongue sometimes clean, at others coated white or yellow; aversion to food, generally to fat things; vomiting of food, drink, mucus, or

bile, sometimes after a meal, or retching or easy vomiting, generally attended with coldness of the face and extremities, and sometimes alternating with watery diarrhœa; sensation of emptiness, flaccidity and sinking of the stomach. Both this and *Pulsatilla* are valuable remedies for indigestion in children, arising from imperfect mastication or improper food.

IGNATIA may sometimes follow *Pulsatilla* to complete a cure, or even supersede it, when there is a tendency to constipation, and particularly in temperaments alternating from high to low spirits, or *vice versâ*; it is especially indicated when *grief* has been the inducing cause of dyspepsia.

In Chronic cases, these remedies, as indicated, are chiefly valuable in the commencement of treatment, and may be required to be followed by anti-psorics. SULPHUR is especially useful after *Pulsatilla* and *Nux Vomica*, in removing any symptoms that may remain. We may also remark, that in cases where *Nux Vomica* seems indicated, but the disposition is of a morose or hypochondriacal turn, *Cocculus* may be substituted with effect; when the indications for temperament are not sufficiently distinctive, *Cocculus*, *Nux Vomica*, and *Pulsatilla*, may be advantageously alternated.

CINCHONA is a valuable auxiliary in the treatment of this derangement, and particularly when we can trace it to debilitating losses of fluids, such as to *abstraction or loss of blood*, too great a drain upon the resources during lactation, prolonged use of aperient medicines, &c., also disorders arising from abuse of tea.

With regard to the administration and repetition of the medicines, in dyspeptic cases we may take of each medicine, with the exception of *Nux Vomica*, one dose morning and evening for a week, and cease its administration as long as we find manifest improvement, or if a medicinal aggravation come on, await the result. Of *Nux Vomica*, we may take one dose each evening on going to bed ; or when people are in the habit of taking supper, from half an hour to an hour before that meal.

In some Chronic cases, this derangement sometimes takes a critical turn, vomiting becomes excessive, every thing taken is returned from the stomach, the skin is hot and dry, the patient becomes emaciated and the countenance cadaverous. Such cases, we need hardly say, require the aid of the physician.

An abuse of coffee and tea, is a frequent cause of many descriptions of sick and nervous headache, attended with excitement and dyspeptic symptoms, which will frequently disappear of themselves on the disuse of these beverages ; however, should not this speedily be the case, for the effects of coffee we may have recourse to *Nux Vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Chamomilla*, or *Ignatia*, under which the sufferer will find his symptoms indicated. Against the effects of tea, *Cinchona* will generally be found an antidote.

LIVER COMPLAINT.

This disease is divided into the Acute and Chronic ; the latter generally goes by the name

of Liver Complaint, although a careful diagnosis will generally discover, that the real disease is in the stomach and intestines ; however, in many cases, the liver itself becomes much affected from the cause, and in itself deserves considerable attention.

Inflammation of the liver commences generally by a feeling of tension and soreness on the right side, extending to the shoulder blade and sometimes to the tip of the right shoulder ; the patient finds a difficulty in lying on the left side ; it sometimes also makes its appearance with a short, dry cough, or commences with a sensation of chill followed by heat, the tongue foul and furred, pulse hard and frequent, skin dry, excessive thirst, nausea and sickness ; bowels irregular, generally constipated, and evacuations of unnatural colour.

When the disease has been for a long time unchecked, and the inflammation becomes deeply seated in the substance of the liver, an abscess frequently forms, bursting either externally or internally, in the latter case not unfrequently proving critical from bringing on hectic fever.

ACUTE INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.

This disease is much more common in tropical climates than with us. A high mode of living, exposure to heavy dews and damps in the evening, and the powerful rays of the sun by day, are among the principal exciting causes. With regard to the treatment under the acute form, the following remedies are among the most valuable.

Aconite, Belladonna, Mercurius, Bryonia, Chamomilla, and Nux Vomica.

ACONITE is especially indicated in the commencement of the attack, and may, *when* the following symptoms are present, always precede the other remedies, especially when there is violent inflammatory fever, attended with insupportable *shooting* pains in the region of the liver, with tossing, restlessness, and great anxiety and anguish. Sometimes it is necessary to give one or two doses of this remedy at short intervals, being always guided by the effects produced.

BELLADONNA may be advantageously administered after Aconite has subdued the preceding symptoms, or from the commencement, when the following indications present themselves: oppressive pains in the region of the liver, which extends to the chest and shoulders, distension of the pit of the stomach, sometimes extending across the epigastrium, producing a sensation of tension, with difficult and anxious respiration; determination of blood to the head, with cloudiness and giddiness, sometimes causing faintness; great thirst, tossing about at night and sleeplessness. When *Belladonna* fails to remove these symptoms, we frequently find that MERCURIUS will have the desired effect; this medicament is too well known as an Allopathic remedy in the cure of this disease, and the consequences produced by its abuse are frequently so great, as to render the disease almost incurable. It is frequently administered when not indicated, until its pathogenetic symptoms declare themselves, and consequently the patient, in addition to the original

malady, has to contend with a medicinal disease. The following are some of the principal indications for its employment.

Painful sensations in the region of the liver, with *shooting*, burning, or *oppressive* pains, not allowing the patient to lie long on the right side ; sometimes augmented by movement of the body or part affected ; bitter taste in the mouth, want of appetite, thirst, and continual shivering, with well marked yellow colour of the skin and eyes ; also when there is enlargement and hardness of the liver, and where we have reason to suppose the formation of matter.

BRYONIA, when the pains in the region of the liver are mostly shooting, or *oppressive*, tensive, and burning, increased by touch, coughing, or respiration, and especially during inspiration ; also much exacerbated by movement ; also when the symptoms are attended with violent spasmodic oppression of the chest ; rapid and anxious respiration, bitter taste in the mouth, tongue coated yellow ; *constipation* present.

CHAMOMILLA, when there are pressive pains, pressure in the stomach, oppression of the chest, and a sensation of tightness under the ribs ; *yellow colour of the skin*, pains *not* aggravated by motion, &c. ; tongue foul and yellow, bitter taste in the mouth ; *paroxysms of great anxiety*. *Chamomilla* is also almost specific when the above symptoms have been brought on by a fit of passion.

NUX VOMICA is particularly indicated when the pains are shooting and pulsative, and attended with excessive tenderness to the touch, at the region of the liver pressure in the epigastrium and

under the ribs, with shortness of breath; also when enlargement and induration occur; and in the chronic form, when there are marked symptoms of gastric derangement. *Vide Nux Vomica, art.* INDIGESTION.

SULPHUR is valuable to follow any of the preceding medicines, which, although apparently indicated, do not speedily declare a decided action, or when the disease continues, although in a diminished degree; it is particularly efficacious after *Nux Vomica*, to combat the sequelæ of the disease. We may also remark in conclusion, that we may alternate the preceding remedies according to the symptoms that present themselves.

LIVER COMPLAINT, OR CHRONIC INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.

In this form of the disease we find many of the foregoing symptoms, but in a modified degree; further, a continued pain or uneasiness in the right side seldom leaves the patient, who gradually falls off in flesh and looses strength; and there is not unfrequently present an occasional cough with expectoration; sometimes considerable perceptible enlargement of the liver, with a number of dyspeptic symptoms; the pulse generally quick but regular.

NUX VOMICA and SULPHUR are two of the principal remedies in this affection, which, however, frequently requires a careful discriminative treatment, and all the acumen of the practised physician to conduct to a happy issue.

For the indications for these remedies, see ACUTE INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.

HEPAR SULPHURIS is particularly useful in the chronic cases, to combat the ill-effects of Mercury, erroneously administered.

CONSTIPATION.

We have now to treat of an affection which so frequently baffles the skill of the practitioners of the old school; their leading cause of failure is their ignorance of the great curative principle, and consequent proceeding upon a system opposed to the operations of nature. This affection is generally sympathetic with some other derangement of the organism, and, consequently, in our treatment of different diseases, we have had frequent occasion to allude to it. One of the leading causes of aggravation and excessive obstinacy in the Constipation, most closely approaching to an idiopathic form, is the practice of flying to aperient medicines on the slightest appearance of costiveness, under the absurd idea that *keeping the bowels open* is a species of panacea against disease of every description. Many mothers are so possessed with this idea, that they are continually administering physic to their children, without the slightest apparent call for it, and thus lay the foundation of dyspepsia and other visceral derangements in after life. Many a slight case of costiveness, which, if left to nature, would have disappeared of itself, leaving no ill consequences, has, by an ill judged administration of aperients, been converted into obstinate Consti-

pation, embittering existence, and predisposing the constitution to a variety of diseases in after life. To prevent misconception upon this point, we may remark, that we, by no means, undervalue a regular state of the bowels; but when costiveness shows itself, we happily possess remedies calculated to restore the balance of the system, and in obstinate cases do not content ourselves with simply alleviating the symptoms, but mainly direct our attention to the permanent removal of the affection.

Many of the principal causes of this affection, besides that mentioned, are the same with those particularised under INDIGESTION or Dyspepsia.

When attended with dyspeptic indications, we must also have recourse to the remedies then noted. The following are particularly efficacious when the Constipation is more prominent than the dyspeptic symptoms.

Opium, Bryonia, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Platina, and Sulphur.

OPIUM is chiefly to be selected in acute cases, when Constipation is not habitual, but when there is a want of power to relieve the bowels, with a feeling of constriction; pulsation, and sense of weight in the abdomen, dull heavy pain in the stomach, parched mouth, want of appetite, *determination of blood to the head*, with redness of the face, and headache; if no amelioration takes place, we may repeat the dose in twenty-four, or at the farthest, forty-eight hours.

BRYONIA is especially useful in constipation occurring in warm weather, and in persons of an irritable or obstinate disposition, with a tendency

to be easily chilled, and subject to rheumatism ; it is further indicated when constipation arises from disordered stomach, and is attended with determination of *blood to the head, and headache*.

NUX VOMICA. This remedy is particularly useful when constipation results from too heavy a meal, indigestible food and stimulating liquids ; it is peculiarly adapted to persons of irascible and lively temper, with *determination of blood to the head and headache*, unfitness for exercise, disturbed sleep, and a feeling of general oppression or heaviness ; frequent and ineffectual efforts to relieve the bowels, attended with sensation of contraction in ano. It is, as remarked under dyspepsia, particularly indicated for individuals subject to hemorrhoids.

PULSATILLA has nearly the same indications as *Nux Vomica*, with the characteristic distinction of temperament before noted under Dyspepsia. It is also partly indicated in cases of indigestion, brought about by rich or greasy food, and when accompanied with moroseness and shivering.

PLATINA is a useful remedy when constipation has been brought about by travelling, when opium has failed, or especially when the constriction is attended with straining.

SULPHUR is one of the best remedies for the relief of habitual constipation, and particularly when hemorrhoids are present, or a disposition to them exists. There are several other remedies useful in obstinate and complicated cases of this affection, the treatment of which, however, is too serious to be entrusted to non-medical hands.

HEMORRHOIDS.

This common and well known affection is generally divided into Blind and Open Hemorrhoids, from the difference of character, and Internal and External, from that of situation. The predisposing cause is attributable to a psoric taint ; among the exciting causes, are habitual costiveness, severe exertion on horseback, prolapsus, use of drastic medicines, stimulating diet, and suppression of long continued discharges, sedentary habits, &c. With regard to the remedies,

ACONITE, although not specific in its curative action, is a valuable remedy when considerable and distressing inflammation exists, and may in such cases precede the administration of each of the following medicines, which are among the principal curative agents in this disease—*Nux Vomica*, *Sulphur*, *Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*, and *Capsicum*.

NUX VOMICA, as we have before had occasion to remark, is a most valuable remedy in this affection ; it is equally efficacious against both descriptions ; it is particularly indicated for individuals who lead a sedentary life, or who indulge in the use of coffee or stimulating liquids, and for females during pregnancy. When hemorrhoids are present, attended with shooting, burning, or itching pains ; shooting and jerking pain, as if from bruises in the loins, rendering it difficult to rise, or walk in an erect position, and when they are accompanied by constipation and the other symptoms described under INDIGESTION OR DYSPEPSIA.

SULPHUR may follow the administration of *Nux Vomica*, and an alternation of these remedies frequently effects a cure in cases of long standing.

ARSENICUM. Hemorrhoids accompanied by *burning* and *shooting* pains, heat and agitation, and sometimes prostration of strength.

BELLADONNA. Moist hemorrhoids, with an insufferable pain in the loins, as if the back were rent asunder.

CAPSICUM. When a burning sensation exists, attended with considerable itching and diarrhœa.

CINCHONA is valuable when there has been much loss of blood and consequent debility.

PROTRUSION OF THE INTESTINE.

The principal remedies in this affection, are *Ignatia*, *Nux Vomica*, *Mercurius*, and *Sulphur*.

IGNATIA is particularly efficacious in mild or sensitive temperaments, attended with constipation.

NUX VOMICA is indicated for persons of irritable or lively disposition, and addicted to high and stimulating diet, with a tendency to hemorrhoids and constipation.

MERCURIUS is particularly suited for children, in whom the disease is attended with hardness and swelling of the abdomen, and where the straining is excessive.

SULPHUR is one of the best anti-psorics for the permanent removal of the disease. When the affection is obstinate and in a psoric habit, we must have resource to a regular course of anti-psoric treatment.

COLIC.

Colic is a griping, tearing, gnawing, or shooting pain in the bowels, chiefly confined to the region of the navel, generally attended with a painful distention of the abdomen, with spasmodic contraction, and sometimes accompanied with vomiting and costiveness. The exciting causes of this complaint are, acid fruits and indigestible substances; cold in the feet, drinking cold beverages when heated, constipation, worms, &c. We shall here content ourselves with giving the symptoms under the different medicines, without entering upon the different varieties of this affection. One of the distinctive characteristics between this malady and internal inflammation, is the pain being somewhat relieved by pressure. The principal remedies in its treatment are, *Nux Vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Chamomilla*, *Belladonna*, *Cocculus*, *Colocynth*, and *Coffea*.

NUX VOMICA is a valuable remedy in either flatulent or hemorrhoidal colic, and is particularly indicated when there is a sensation of *fulness and tightness* at the upper part of the waist; deep seated or cutting pains in the abdomen, with *acute and hard, pressive, and bearing down* sensation, forcing the sufferer to bend double; respiration short and difficult: flatulence, aggravation of the pains on the slightest motion, generally disappearing when at rest; violent pain in the loins, and sensation of internal heat and obstruction; *constipation*, coldness and numbness in the hands and feet during the paroxysm.

PULSATILLA is more useful in the affection occurring in females, when coming on periodically in the evening; also when there are present a disagreeable *tightness and distension* of the abdomen and of the upper part of the waist; pulsation in the pit of the stomach, *aggravation of the suffering when at rest or in the evening*, attended with *shivering*, which increases with the pains, and is mitigated by motion; severe bruising pains in the loins, especially when rising up; inclination to vomit, *flatulence*, diarrhœa, paleness of the face, livid circle round the eyes, and headache.

CHAMOMILLA. Sensation as if the intestines were gathered into a ball, and as if the abdomen were empty, with *tearing and drawing* pains, attended with excessive anxiety and restlessness; *distention under the lower ribs and in the pit of the stomach*; incarcerated flatulency, sometimes nausea, *bitter vomiting*, followed by desire to relieve the bowels, and *bilious diarrhœa*; livid circles round the eyes, alternate paleness and redness of the face; the pains come on particularly at night, at other times early in the morning or after a meal. This remedy, as before stated, is particularly adapted to children or irritable temperaments. *Pulsatilla* is frequently valuable to follow this remedy.

BELLADONNA, when there is *protrusion of the transverse section of the great intestine*, which becomes distended like a *pad*, attended with colic-like pain, doubling up the body, which is relieved by pressure on the part; also severe bearing down pains, aggravated by motion; at other times there is a sensation as if the above swelling had been

removed downwards, deep into the abdomen, with feeling of bearing down of the whole intestines ; also *spasmodic constrictions* in the abdomen, with burning pain lower down or in the small of the back ; or, pain under the ribs, as if a *number of nails were holding the intestines*. The symptoms are also attended with a liquid or puriform species of diarrhœa, and swelling of the veins of the head ; the pains are sometimes so violent as almost to deprive the patient of reason.

COCULUS is indicated when there are severe constrictive or spasmodic pains in the *lower part of the abdomen*, with great flatulence, fulness, and distension of the entire abdomen, with nausea and difficulty of breathing ; also when there is a sensation of emptiness, tearing and burning pains in the intestines, sometimes with squeezing, tearing and pulling pains, excessive anguish and nervous excitement, and constipation.

COLOCYNTH. In the majority of violent and obstinate cases, we find this a valuable remedy ; it is indicated when the pains are excessively violent, and of a *constrictive* or *spasmodic* character, or resembling stabbing and cutting, *as if from knives* ; sometimes a sensation of clawing and pinching, tenderness of the abdomen, with a pain as from a blow ; or *distension* of the abdomen ; at other times a sense of emptiness is experienced, cramps and shivering, or tearing pains in the legs ; during the continuance of the attack, excessive restlessness, agitation, and tossing about from the violence of the pain : when the pains come on, they continue without any apparent intermission ; after their disappearance, a

sensation of bruising remains, and the sufferer feels as though the intestines were held together by thin threads, likely to break from the slightest motion. Both this remedy and *Chamomilla* are particularly efficacious in the so called bilious colic, being indicated by the diarrhœa and bilious vomiting attending it, and in cases where poison has been the exciting cause.

COFFEA is valuable when we have to deal with colic with excessive pains, attended with great agitation, anxiety, and tossing about, grinding of the teeth, convulsions, suffocative, oppressive despair, and coldness of the extremities. In cases of colic arising from indigestible food, a cup of black coffee, without milk or sugar, will frequently afford relief, by causing the stomach to free itself from the cause of annoyance; in such cases as that article has not been made one of ordinary beverage. For colic arising from worms, see WORMS.

As regards the administration of the medicaments, when an amelioration takes place, we may quietly await the result; or if other symptoms declare themselves, have recourse to the remedy thereby indicated.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BOWELS.

In Inflammation of the Bowels, we find the following indications, which must be carefully borne in mind, in order to avoid mistaking this affection for Colic, and treating it accordingly.

An acute burning pain, chiefly in the region of the navel, with extreme heat, tightness, and dis-

tention ; the pain increased by any food or liquids taken into the stomach, which, when that organ is the principal seat of the affection, are almost instantly rejected. *The pain is increased by even the slightest pressure*, and sometimes confined to one spot ; there is sometimes straining, sometimes vomiting, or both ; the vomiting consists of dark mucus, bile, or fetid matter ; hiccough is also a frequent symptom ; the pulse is generally hard, accelerated and contracted, frequently varying even in the course of the day, with great prostration of strength. When the inflammation more particularly attacks the *stomach*, the pain appears more highly seated, the hiccough and vomiting increase in severity, and the prostration of strength is considerably greater.

This disease being exceedingly dangerous and rapid in its progress, sometimes terminating in Gangrene in an exceedingly short space of time, we do not feel justified in entering upon its full treatment in a work of this kind. We shall simply confine ourselves to recommend the immediate administration of ACONITE, to subdue the inflammatory symptoms, repeating it every four or even two hours, until the fever begins to abate, taking care not to repeat so long as amelioration goes on ; this precaution, by holding the disease in check, will give time to consult the physician, which should be done without delay. In slight cases, *Aconite* frequently checks, and completely vanquishes the disease.

DIARRHŒA, OR LOOSENESS OF THE BOWELS.

This affection is simply an increase of the peristaltic action of the intestinal canal, and is so well known under its different forms, that we shall simply allude to the principal exciting causes, and then proceed to the treatment.

The exciting causes are acid, indigestible food, a check of perspiration, sudden changes of temperature, the prolonged use of powerful purgatives, which, although still more frequently the cause of constipation, nevertheless, by producing irritation of the intestinal canal, predispose to attacks ; worms, &c.

The principal remedies in this affection are *Dulcamara*, *Chamomilla*, *Cinchona*, *Rheum*, *Mercurius*, *Pulsatilla*, and *Sulphur*.

DULCAMARA should be administered in Diarrhœa, occurring in summer from cold, produced by wet feet or exposure to rain. Particular indications for its exhibition are when the Diarrhœa is attended with colic, or cutting pain, chiefly in the region of the navel ; when the evacuations are liquid, *slimy* and *yellow*, generally coming on at night, and attended with nausea or vomiting, want of appetite and great thirst, paleness of the countenance and lassitude.

CHAMOMILLA is a remedy as already stated particularly useful in children, either at the period of teething, or at a more advanced period, when the affection has been excited by checked perspiration ; it is further particularly indicated, when

the evacuations are *watery, bilious, green, yellow, or slimy*; when there are *fulness at the pit of the stomach*, severe colic or spasm, pain in the abdomen, distention and hardness of the abdomen, bitter taste in the mouth, foul tongue, thirst, want of appetite, *bilious vomiting* and flatulency, and in infants, attended with restlessness and screaming, and drawing up of the limbs towards the stomach.

CINCHONA, when the evacuations are very profuse, and sometimes attended with but little pain, and when the discharge comes on immediately after *partaking of food, or at night*, evacuations liquid and *brownish*, sometimes containing portions of undigested food; it is in some instances also indicated, when considerable spasmodic or colic-like pain are present, with flatulence, want of appetite, thirst, and great weakness; it is also valuable after improper treatment of this affection, when considerable debility remains.

RHEUM, when the symptoms, in a great measure, resemble *Chamomilla*, but the pain not so violent, and the evacuations have a *sour* smell.

MERCURIUS. When the diarrhœa is *watery, slimy, frothy, bilious, or greenish*, when also there is painful straining before, during, and after evacuation; severe cutting pains, also nausea and eructation, cold perspiration, trembling or shivering, and shuddering, and great lassitude; IN DYSENTERY, OR BLOODY FLUX, this remedy is almost specific.

SULPHUR is a most valuable remedy in diarrhœa occurring in psoric habits, or in very ob-

stinate cases. In adults predisposed to Hemorrhoids, or in children, when the diarrhœa is attended with excoriation and papular eruptions, it is particularly efficacious.

PULSATILLA is useful in diarrhœa arising from errors of diet, attended with dyspeptic symptoms. *Vide* INDIGESTION.

OPIUM, in diarrhœa arising from fright. For other indications, *vide* MENTAL EMOTIONS.

CHOLERA.

By the term Cholera Morbus, was formerly understood a disease attended with nausea, and griping, purging, and vomiting, generally prevalent during our summer months, and at the season when fruit was plentiful. But it has now become a generic term, under which are included two varieties—the Cholera Morbus, properly so called, and the Asiatic Cholera.

The first named, sometimes called the Sporadic Cholera, generally commences with a sudden feeling of nausea and griping, followed by purging and vomiting; in severe cases, accompanied with coldness of the body, particularly the extremities, and anxious and hurried breathing, excessive thirst, a feeling of cramping in the legs, sometimes in the arms, with spasmodic contractions of the abdominal muscles, shrinking of the features, and a hollow expression about the eyes; pulse weak, sometimes scarcely perceptible, thin, watery, and fœtid, or bilious evacuations, sometimes with dark bilious vomiting.

In ASIATIC CHOLERA, the disease generally

commences by vertigo, headache with singing in the ears, a sensation of flatulence in the stomach, with griping pains, and a feeling of weight and oppression in the region of the heart.

In some, but not all, cases of Asiatic Cholera, we find the lips, nails, and sometimes the whole skin, of a blue colour, but in almost all the frame loses its power of generating heat ; the pulse and pulsation of the heart are almost unfelt, and the circulation of the blood becomes stagnant.

Patients who have escaped through the second stage, are frequently carried off by a typhoid fever in the third.

In the treatment of Cholera in its sporadic form, (*i. e.* when the disease arises from occasional causes, such as cold, fatigue, &c.) the following remedies will be found to be the most efficacious : *Chamomilla*, *Colocynth*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Veratrum*, *Arsenicum*, *Cinchona*, *Pulsatilla*.

CHAMOMILLA is chiefly useful at the *commencement* of the disease, and when given on the slightest threatening of an attack, may prevent its development. The following are the symptoms which particularly indicate its employment : acute colic-like pains, or heavy *pressure* in the region of the navel, sometimes extending to the heart, and producing a sensation as if that organ would be found out of its proper position ; *diarrhœa*, cramps in the calves of the legs, excessive anguish ; tongue coated yellow, and sometimes vomiting of acid matter. This remedy is almost specific when the attack has been excited by a *fit of passion* during the prevalence of the disease.

COLOCYNTH is still more appropriate in the

latter case, when the fit of passion is attended with indignation.

IPECACUANHA may be administered after the above, should the attacks of vomiting become more prominent; or it may be selected from the *commencement*, should *vomiting predominate*, or at least assume as marked a character in the complaint as the diarrhœa. Other indications are, sensation of weakness, or softness (flaccidity), coldness in the face and limbs, sense of shivering in the abdomen; cramps in the calves of the legs, and in the fingers and toes. Should the disease increase, notwithstanding the administration of this remedy, and assume the following characteristics, *violent vomiting with severe diarrhœa, excessive weakness, and cramps in the calves of the legs*; countenance pale, and expressive of *acute suffering and intense anguish*; coldness of the breath and tongue, *excruciating pain in the region of the navel*, tenderness of the abdomen when touched; dragging pains and cramps in the fingers, shrivelled appearance of the skin on the palms of the hands,—we must have immediate recourse to VERATRUM, a remedy which is extremely valuable in both varieties of this disease.

ARSENICUM is indicated when this malady assumes a severe character from the beginning; but it is more particularly indicated when the disease is attended with *rapid prostration of strength, insatiable thirst*, excessive anxiety, with fear of approaching death, *burning sensation* in the region of the stomach, almost constant discharge from the bowels, or *renewal* of the discharge on every occasion that the desire for drink is gratified;

violent and painful vomiting, tongue and lips dry, cracked and blueish, or black; hollow cheeks, pointed nose, pulse almost imperceptible, or small, weak, intermittent, and trembling; severe spasms in the fingers and toes; clammy perspiration.

CINCHONA is particularly indicated in cholera with diarrhœa, containing *undigested food*, with *vomiting of food*, oppression of the chest and eructation affording relief; severe pressure in the abdomen, especially after partaking of the smallest portion of food; great exhaustion, sometimes amounting to fainting. This remedy is particularly marked when the disease has been excited by indigestible substances, such as unripe fruit, &c.

PULSATILLA, in cases where there are *mucous* diarrhœa and dyspeptic symptoms (*vide* INDIGESTION.) It is also useful when the disease has been excited by the cause noticed under the preceding remedy.

ASIATIC CHOLERA. When the premonitory symptoms of this disease, as above noted, exhibit themselves, the complete development of this disease is *frequently prevented*, by the administration of the SATURATED SOLUTION OF CAMPHOR, in one part of Camphor to twenty of spirits of wine; giving one or two drops of this in a spoonful of water every two minutes. But when cholera sets in in all its frightful forms, we should have immediate recourse to VERATRUM. CUPRUM is found to follow *Veratrum* with manifest advantage, when severe convulsive movements of the extremities declare themselves.

These last are the two principal remedies in

this form of the disease ; when it assumes other symptoms, similar to those of the medicines mentioned in the treatment of Sporadic Cholera, we must have recourse to the remedy thereby indicated.

Although we have thus far noticed the medicines generally most called for in this affection, in order that no time may be lost at the commencement of the attack, yet we would most earnestly dissuade any non-medical individual from attempting its treatment, unless the extremity of the case imperatively demanded it.

As regards the exhibition of the remedies, we should administer a tea-spoonful every hour, half hour, or even two minutes, according to the urgency of the symptoms, and thus continue until we find amelioration.

As preventives against the Asiatic Cholera, *Camphor* taken internally, alternated with *Veratrum* and *Cuprum*, every four days, has in most instances proved sufficient, even with individuals exposed to the influence of the epidemic.

JAUNDICE.

This disease frequently declares itself, without being plainly referable to any exciting causes, among which, however, mental emotion is not an uncommon one. The predisposing causes are, a too sedentary or irregular mode of life, indulgence in spirituous liquors, or a frequent use of aperients.

MERCURIUS and CINCHONA are two of the best remedies in the treatment of this disorder, par-

ticularly the former; but in cases when the patient has suffered from the abuse of the first, we give a preference to *Cinchona*, especially when we can trace the disease to have arisen from partaking of indigestible substances, such as fat pork, &c.

In cases which have been excited by a fit of passion, as we have before noted—no unfrequent cause—we should have recourse to CHAMOMILLA or NUX VOMICA, should the bowels be confined, or alternately confined and relaxed.

NUX VOMICA is also indicated when sedentary habits or over study appear the predisposing, or partly the exciting causes.

In children, CHAMOMILLA, followed by MERCURY, if insufficient, will be found to obviate the injurious consequences arising from the abuse of the latter.

WORMS.

The presence of these troublesome animals in the intestinal canal, evidently arises from a psoric cause.

The three species most generally met with in the human subject are, the ascaris, lumbricus, and tænia or tape worm; of the last there are two varieties, the solitary tape-worm, composed of long and slender articulations, which has been known to exceed the length of thirty feet; and the common tape-worm, which varies from three to ten feet, seldom comes away entire, but in joints, which are considerably broader and thicker than those of the variety first mentioned.

Although no period of life is wholly exempt from Worms, infants and children appear to be much more subject to the affection than adults, and with them an ill-regulated diet is by far the most frequent exciting cause.

The presence of Worms, unless when passed, is not always easy of detection, since sub-acute inflammation of the mucous membrane from other causes will frequently present nearly the same range of symptoms; but here, (as in the treatment of many of the most serious acute diseases,) Homœopathy presents two manifest advantages over the old system. In the first place, if acting upon the presumption of the existence of Worms, we administer a remedy specific to the affection. In the next, when we are *uncertain* as to the true character of the complaint, and select a medicament *distinctly indicated by the united symptoms*, it will be found applicable to the affection, from whatever cause it arises, and a careful observance of the known pathogenetic powers of the remedies selected, will materially assist us in tracing the disease to its proper source.

The symptoms that generally indicate the presence of Worms are, pallor and sickly appearance of the countenance, headache or vertigo, irregularity of appetite, fœtidity of breath, nausea, and foul tongue, tensive fulness of abdomen, with a sensation of gnawing and burning in the intestines; slight febrile symptoms, and nocturnal wakefulness, with low spirits or irritability of temper, and gradual emaciation; we also generally notice an inflammatory redness of the nostrils, with great disposition to picking or boring at the

nose, especially in children, with sudden screaming when awaking, and grinding of teeth. In addition to the above general symptoms of this affection, we frequently meet with severe colic-like pains, with vomiting, and slimy or bloody evacuations; convulsions in children, and epileptic attacks, combined with cerebral affections in adults; these last, when attended with cramps, rigidity of the frame, and sensation of coldness and fluctuation at the lower part of the abdomen, are a frequent accompaniment of *tænia*. The principal remedial agents against the two first named species, are *Aconite*, *Cina*, *Nux Vomica*, *Mercurius*, and *Sulphur*.

ACONITE. When considerable febrile irritation exists, or cramps or convulsions threaten to set in.

CINA is particularly indicated when there is frequent boring at the nose, great perverseness of temper, constant inquietude and restlessness, with, in children, a desire for things which are rejected when offered; fits of crying when touched, paleness of face, with livid circle round the eyes; constant craving for food, even after a meal, griping in the abdomen, with discharge of thread and round worms. This medicine is particularly indicated for **COLIC** produced by worms.

NUX VOMICA is a valuable adjunct in cases of worms, in which considerable derangement of the digestive function is present, with irritability of temper and constipation.

MERCURIUS, when we find diarrhœa, induration and distention of the abdomen, hardness in umbilical region, with increased secretion of saliva.

SULPHUR is very efficacious in obstinate cases,

to assist in the completion of a cure, although many such require a regular course of anti-psoric medicaments. In the repetition of this medicine, should no satisfactory action declare itself, we may with advantage have recourse to a different attenuation or dilution of the medicine.

For the Tape Worm, SULPHUR alternated with MERCURIUS at intervals of eight days will generally be found of essential benefit in effecting a cure ; should the affection, nevertheless, refuse to yield to these remedies, we may with great benefit occasionally administer *Filix Mas* ; if the affection still continue obstinate, or has been of long standing, the practitioner will have to exercise his discrimination, in selecting among the anti-psorics, such remedies as appear best constituted to combat the virus.

DISEASES OF THE ORGANS CONNECTED WITH THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

CATARRH, OR COMMON COLD.

This term is given to an affection which consists of a mild degree of inflammation of the lining membrane of the nostrils, windpipe, and occasionally also of the ramifications of the latter ; induced by exposure to sudden changes of temperature, or to a damp or chilly atmosphere with INSUFFICIENT CLOTHING, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS CHILDREN. This complaint is characterised by slight fever, impaired appetite, sneezing, HOARSENESS, and COUGH ; generally preceded by

transitory chills or shiverings; there is also a slight degree of wheezing and difficulty of breathing. When the disease is confined to the nose and sinuses, it is termed A COLD IN THE HEAD, of which form we shall treat hereafter. In many instances this affection runs to a salutary termination in a day or two; but in others, and especially in *mis-managed* cases, it is liable to entail serious consequences. The following are the principal remedies employed in the majority of cases:—*Dulcamara*, *Aconite*, *Chamomilla*, *Belladonna*, *Nux Vomica*, *Hepar Sulphuris*, *Pulsatilla*, *Hyoscyamus*, and *Ignatia*.

DULCAMARA is a remedy of great value in the treatment of a variety of affections produced by exposure to wet, and is also, when timely administered, an excellent preventive against the evil effects which frequently result from such exposures, especially during those raw, damp seasons so common to this climate. It is therefore an important medicament against the treatment of catarrh or COUGH excited by the above causes.

ACONITE is sometimes of considerable service, especially at the commencement of the attack, when there is *quickness of pulse, with a hot dry skin; short, dry, and frequent COUGH, with scanty expectoration*.

CHAMOMILLA. When there is a short, dry COUGH, *worse at night*, and occasionally continuing during sleep; sense of rawness or burning in the chest, or frequent tickling in the throat and chest, which excites the cough, and is aggravated by speaking. HOARSENESS, cold in the head, fever towards evening, sometimes with redness

of the face or of one cheek, and paleness of the other; thirst, *ill-humour, and impatience*. This remedy, as will be observed in various parts of this work, is of great importance in the treatment of children.

BELLADONNA is particularly indicated in cases of *dry, short, hollow, barking, spasmodic cough, chiefly at night*, and sometimes coming on during sleep; attended with redness of the face, rattling of mucus in the chest, HOARSENESS or sore throat; the COUGH is frequently excited by an insupportable tickling in the throat, and brought on by the slightest movement. The paroxysms of coughing, are often so severe as to threaten suffocation, and are sometimes followed by fits of sneezing; disposition irritable or sad. With children, other indications for the employment of this remedy are, wakefulness, or sleep broken by sudden fits of starting or screaming.

NUX VOMICA is a valuable remedy in cases of dry, hoarse, deep COUGH, excited by a sensation of *dryness, tickling, or scraping* in the *throat*; sometimes attended with HOARSENESS, and a feeling of roughness in the chest, with accumulation of *tenacious* mucus. The cough is always *exacerbated towards morning*, and continues throughout the day; it is sometimes aggravated after meals, and again towards evening. The fits of coughing severely affect the head, sides of the chest, pit of the stomach, and umbilical region; producing in the latter a pain resembling the effects of a *bruise or blow*. This remedy is also useful in Catarrhs attended with shivering on the slightest motion, followed by flushes of heat; or,

coldness, with shivering and shuddering, chiefly confined to the back and extremities, which find relief from the warmth of a fire. It is further indicated in this affection when we find foulness of the tongue, deficiency of appetite, nausea, vomiting, bleeding from the nose and mouth, thirst, constipation, and irritability of temper.

HEPAR SULPHURIS is an exceedingly efficacious remedy in cases when the catarrh, and more particularly the COUGH and HOARSENESS accompanying it closely approximate to the indications given for the exhibition of *Nux Vomica*; but in which the last mentioned is extremely severe and *obstinate*, and attended with difficulty of breathing, or swelling of the glands.

PULSATILLA may be had recourse to when the COUGH is of a *moist* or *loose* description, excited by a sensation of roughness, dryness, tickling, or scraping, in the throat; sometimes with a feeling of pain in the throat and chest as if from excoriation; expectoration of whitish or yellowish, bitter or saltish mucus; also when HOARSENESS, sneezing, or lachrymation are present. The COUGH, and other symptoms, become aggravated *towards evening*, or when lying down. The other indications for this remedy are, languor, loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting, mildness of disposition, or melancholy.

HYOSCYAMUS is useful for that description of COUGH which comes on only at night, or on assuming a recumbent position, and disappears on rising up; also when the cough is of a convulsive nature.

IGNATIA for dry, hoarse COUGH, continuing day

and night with but little cessation, and when the sufferer is of a mild and placid disposition, but subject to sudden alterations from high to low spirits.

One or more of the foregoing remedies, when judiciously selected, will generally be found sufficient to effect a cure in all ordinary cases of catarrh. When one medicine proves inadequate to combat the whole of the symptoms, recourse must be had to any other that seems indicated against the remainder; in neglected or very obstinate cases, the aid of a physician is necessary. In many such, however, MERCURIUS will be found efficacious in completing the cure, if considerable HOARSENESS remain, with or without a disposition to swelling of the glands.

COLD IN THE HEAD is a very general attendant upon catarrh. When it is the leading symptom, or exists independently of those already mentioned; the best medicines for its removal are—*Nux Vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Chamomilla*, *Mercurius*, and *Arsenicum*. The general indications for the selection are as follow.

NUX VOMICA. Dry obstruction, especially *during night only*, with pressive heaviness in the forehead, and confusion in the head; heat in the face, increasing towards evening. If in combination with other *catarrhal* symptoms, see the indications already given for its exhibition. This direction equally applies to the other medicaments here quoted.

PULSATILLA. The discharge thick, fœtid, or mixed with clots of blood, loss of smell, headaches, sneezing, chill, especially towards evening, disposition to weep, lowness of spirits.

CHAMOMILLA. The affection having risen from checked perspiration, acrid discharge from the nose, causing redness of the nostrils, and excoriation or soreness under the nose; chapped lips; *shivering, with thirst.*

MERCURIUS. Dryness of the nose, with obstruction; profuse discharge producing excoriation, swelling or redness of the nose. This is a valuable remedy in the generality of *ordinary cases* of cold in the head.

ARSENICUM. *Obstruction of the nose*, with, at the *same time*, discharge of thin, acrid, excoriating mucus. *Suffering relieved by heat*; pain in the back, feeling of general debility, or prostration of strength.

INFLUENZA.

When catarrh appears in an epidemic form, and is attended, in addition to the symptoms described at the commencement of the preceding article, with *extreme oppression and prostration of strength*; sleepiness, followed by shuddering and general chilliness; rheumatic pains in the head, back, and limbs; and slight redness of the eyes, painful pressure, and sensibility to light; the disease is known by the name of Influenza. The principal medicine in the treatment of this affection is ARSENICUM, and in most cases, if not administered too late, it will be found specific.

The following are the characteristic indications for its employment: heaviness and rheumatic pain in the head; *profuse watery and corrosive discharge from the nose*, causing a disagreeable

burning sensation in the nostrils ; violent sneezing ; shiverings and shuddering, with severe pains in the limbs ; *oppression at the chest* ; difficulty of breathing ; thirst ; anxiety ; restlessness ; GREAT PROSTRATION OF STRENGTH ; with aggravation of sufferings at night, or after a meal ; inflammation of the eyes, with sensibility to light. These symptoms may be attended with a deep, *dry*, fatiguing cough, exacerbated in the evening, at night, or after drinking, or sensations of dryness and burning, with mucus in the throat, which is difficult to detach.

When the throat is much affected, BELLADONNA or MERCURIUS may be administered, according to the symptoms. Vide SORE THROAT.

NUX VOMICA, when there is constipation, with obstruction of the nose, especially at night.

ACONITE, when much fever exists.

CINCHONA will frequently be found of great service in removing the weakness that remains after improperly treated cases.

There are few complaints that tend more to develop latent disease in the lungs than Influenza, and it is almost unnecessary to repeat here what we stated at the conclusion of common catarrh, viz., that assistance ought to be sought in every case that threatens to become protracted, and especially in families where there is a known hereditary taint.

CROUP.

This well known disease is one that requires the promptest and most discriminating treatment,

to avert the danger. From the moment we are assured of the nature of the complaint, recourse must be had to the remedy most clearly indicated by the assemblage of the symptoms, so that not an instant be lost in arresting its further progress ; since, if not skilfully kept in check, it frequently runs to a fatal termination within twenty-four hours ; although in the generality of cases, when such an event does take place, it happens about the fourth or fifth day.

Croup consists of a peculiar inflammation of the lining membrane of the windpipe, causing the secretion of a thick, viscid substance, generally opaque, of about the consistency of the boiled white of an egg, which adheres to the interior of the windpipe, and takes the form of the parts it covers ; when this, generally denominated the *false membrane*, has been allowed to form, the case becomes extremely critical.

This complaint generally commences with the symptoms of a common Catarrh, such as cough, sneezing, and hoarseness, with a greater or less degree of fever ; in a day or two the cough changes its character, and becomes shrill and squeaking, or deep, hoarse, or sonorous, attended with a ringing sound during speaking and respiration, as if the air were passing through a metallic tube ; as the disease progresses, the cough becomes more shrill, and when long continued, resembles the crowing of a young cock. There is seldom much expectoration, and when any matter comes up in coughing, it has a stringy appearance, resembling portions of a membrane. After inflammation has set in, considerable fever

and restlessness continue, occasionally varying in intensity, but never wholly remitting; the countenance expresses great anxiety, and alternates from a red to a livid hue; the paroxysms are followed by a profuse and clammy perspiration of the whole body, more particularly of the head and face. When danger threatens, the pulse is hard, frequent, and occasionally intermittent; the breathing, particularly during inspiration, difficult and audible; the features become livid, and almost purple, from the sense of suffocation; the head is thrown back; the cough assumes a veiled and husky tone; the voice sinks to a whisper; the eye has a dull, glassy, or dilated appearance, and the whole system seems in a state of utter prostration.

That Croup arises from inherent constitutional taint is evident from the fact of some families having a peculiar tendency to the affection. The principal exciting causes seem to be, exposure to cold or damp, and derangement of the digestive functions. It seldom attacks adults, though we occasionally see exceptions to this rule, and is not unfrequently found in complication with other affections of the lungs and windpipe.

The medicines upon which the greatest reliance is to be placed in the treatment of this affection, are *Aconite*, *Spongia*, *Hepar Sulphuris*, and *Lachesis*.

ACONITE should commence our treatment, and may be exhibited every hour, until the febrile symptoms begin to abate; after which we may administer

SPONGIA, when there is a *hoarse, ringing,*

hollow, and *squeaking* cough, with slow wheezing, respiration, or *fits of choking*; it may be given every one, two, or three hours, according to the intensity of the symptoms.

HEPAR SULPHURIS, when these symptoms are partially subdued by *Spongia*, the cough *moist* or *loose*, with *accumulation of mucus in the respiratory organs*. This remedy is particularly useful against the formation of the *false membrane* of Croup, and in warding off the risk it occasions. It may be advantageously alternated with *Spongia* at intervals of three or four hours, the administrator carefully noticing the effects of each medicine.

LACHESIS, in very serious and difficult cases, in which there is a *swelling and tenseness* in the throat, with hoarseness; great sensitiveness to the touch, the slightest pressure affecting almost to suffocation; voice very low and hollow, with a sound like that of a person speaking through the nose; fainting; nausea; swooning; loss of sense; *rigidity of frame*; great prostration of strength, especially towards evening; cough unattended with expectoration, and a feeling of mucus in the throat. This medicine may be administered every half-hour, or two hours, according to the intensity of the symptoms, and their abatement.

After having subdued these threatening symptoms by the administration of the last mentioned remedy, we may, if the disease is not wholly vanquished, again fall back upon *Spongia* or *Hepar Sulphuris*, according to the indications given for those remedies.

There are many other remedies which afford valuable assistance in the treatment of complicated cases of this affection; but which require the judgment of the physician in their selection.

HOOPING COUGH.

This is *almost* peculiarly a disease of childhood, and one which few individuals escape during that period; it generally appears as an epidemic, and is, by the majority of physiologists, acknowledged to be communicated by contagion; we seldom find an instance of a person suffering a second time from its attacks.

Over many, the affection passes lightly, but in the majority of cases it proves a distressing, and in some, a fatal malady, baffling all the ill-directed efforts of the Allopathic physician to conduct it to a favourable termination.

Under the old practice, not only was a great deal of valuable time lost in endeavoring to *subdue inflammation* by anti-phlogistic measures, but the patient's vital energies were weakened and rendered less capable of contending with the disease, when it assumed the spasmodic type.

On the contrary, we have it in our power, by the administration of remedies *specific* to the affection, to check the inflammation at its outset, subdue the other distressing attendant symptoms, and shorten the duration of the complaint, without allowing it to leave after it any of those evil consequences, such as debility and emaciation, which oblige the patient to endure a tedious and protracted period of convalescence.

This affection is generally preceded, some two or three weeks, by the symptoms of common catarrh, with its commonly attendant fever, which sometimes run high. When the disease becomes developed, it declares itself by several rapid and violent expirations made in coughing, after which a loud *whoop* is heard, caused by a strong inspiration of air; the cough then again sets in violently, until terminated by the expectoration of a quantity of mucus, or a fit of vomiting; after which the attack ceases for a time, leaving, if severe, hurried respiration and considerable debility, although, in some cases, the patient at first suffers but little between the paroxysms.

From the peculiar sound emitted during the attacks of coughing, the disease derives its name; it is also known under the denominations of the Chin Cough, Kin Cough, or Kink Cough.

It is easily distinguishable from common cough, even before the whoop declares itself, by the swelling of the features during the fits.

Other symptoms attendant upon this affection we shall indicate under the different medicines, the principal of which are *Aconite*, *Nux Vomica*, *Chamomilla*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Dulcamara*, *Belladonna*, *Pulsatilla*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Cina*, *Drosera*, *Veratrum*, *Cuprum Metallicum*, *Bryonia*, and *Arnica*, the indications for which are as follow.

ACONITE, febrile or inflammatory symptoms. This remedy may be had recourse to from time to time when such symptoms are present, bearing in mind, that its action is of short duration, and may be followed in a few hours by any other of the remedies which may appear more particularly indicated.

NUX VOMICA, *precursory* catarrhal symptoms present ; for the indications for its employment, see CATARRH.

For *Chamomilla*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Dulcamara*, and *Belladonna*, see CATARRH.

PULSATILLA, when in addition to the symptoms given under CATARRH, (which consult,) there are, vomiting immediately after coughing ; diarrhœa, *especially at night* ; excessive anxiety ; face livid, with danger of suffocation.

IPECACUANHA. Violent and rapid succession of coughs, so as almost to check respiration, renewed after the inspiration or whoop ; generally followed by a fresh attack, terminated by *vomiting* ; also when *Nux Vomica* appears indicated, but fails to relieve ; especially useful after *Cuprum Metallicum* in dissipating such symptoms as that medicine may have left.

CINA. Indications of WORMS present (which see ;) cough dry and spasmodic ; a chuckling noise passing downwards, heard during the attacks ; paleness of the face during the paroxysms ; rigidity of the body, and bleeding at the nose and mouth, after the cough has ceased. This remedy frequently proves very efficacious in alternation with *Belladonna*, when the latter seems indicated.

DROSERA. This medicament has generally been found *specific* to Hooping Cough, and may be considered the *principal* remedy in this affection, when prevailing as an epidemic, especially when the *whoop* is clearly defined, and the coughing, alternated with whooping, rapid, violent, and threatening suffocation ; after the inflammatory

symptoms have been held in check by *Aconite*, *Drosera* may, in most cases, follow, and will frequently be found sufficient to dissipate the remaining group of symptoms; the dose may be allowed to act uninterruptedly for a week, should not its repetition appear called for by a cessation of the amelioration, or the indications present imperatively demand the assistance of some other medicament; in some such cases,

VERATRUM will frequently succeed in conquering the disease, and may follow *Drosera*, when in addition to the above symptoms there are, great debility; slight fever; pulse small, weak, and accelerated; *cold* and *clammy* perspiration, especially on the forehead; excessive thirst; involuntary evacuations during the paroxysms; vomiting after the attack; weakness in the nape of the neck, rendering it incapable of supporting the head; pain in the chest and groins; miliary eruption on the face and hands, and sometimes the whole body; sighing; and repugnance to motion or speaking, between the paroxysms.

CUPRUM METALLICUM, may be substituted for *Drosera*, at the commencement of the development of the whoop, if the following indications are present; rigidity of frame, with apparent deprivation of consciousness; *severe vomiting* during restoration to sense and respiration, and *slow recovery* after it; perspiration between the paroxysms, attended with rattling in the chest. This medicine may be administered every three days while the above symptoms continue.

BRYONIA. *Suffocating cough*, occurring in

the evening and at night, always coming on after eating or drinking, causing gasping for breath and vomiting.

ARNICA, when the child cries after coughing ; or when the paroxysms are immediately preceded by crying.

INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS.

This affection is generally the result of a neglected cold, or arises from a sudden check of the perspiration. In treatment, our great object should be to assist nature, which being brought about by *specific* remedies, the disturbance will cease to exist, and the equilibrium of the whole system be restored.

The suddenness with which this affection frequently makes its attacks, demands an equally prompt mode of treatment. We shall content ourselves in this place, with mentioning the course that should be pursued in order to *ward off immediate danger*, until medical aid can be procured ; for we must bear in mind, that in this affection, not only the selection of the remedy, but also its administration, demands the utmost discrimination of the physician, in order, on the one hand, to avoid losing valuable time, by allowing too long a period to elapse between the doses, and on the other, interrupting the action of the medicines by too frequent a repetition. It is utterly impossible to give a rule applicable to all cases, except that which we have already done, only to repeat or select another remedy, when there appears a *cessation of amelioration*, or an accession of new symptoms.

Before we proceed to notice the treatment, we will say a few words upon some of the most distinguishing characteristics of the affection itself; observing, however, that inflammation of the lungs may exist, without any of the symptoms mentioned declaring themselves very prominently, and also that many of them are common to the other species of inflammation; in fact, it is only by a good ear, and the use of the stethoscope, that a practitioner can with certainty pronounce an affection, accompanied with the undermentioned symptoms, to be really inflammation of the lungs; such, however, is at the commencement of but little practical importance; for when any of the following group present themselves, there cannot be the slightest hesitation about the medicine indicated.

Premonitory coldness and shivering; difficulty of breathing, with cough, sometimes dry, sometimes attended with spitting; *viscid, gelatinous* and *tenacious* expectoration, frequently tinged with blood; face and lips swollen and livid, or hot and red; eyes protruded and shining; pulse hard, strong, and accelerated; an *acute* or *dull* compressing pain in the chest, sometimes in, or extending to the back, under the shoulder blades, or about the spine; high febrile symptoms, hot dry skin, thirst, &c.

In such cases ACONITE may be administered every one, two, or three hours, according to the urgency of the case; we may, if the febrile symptoms run very high, without hesitation repeat it again as soon as amelioration *ceases*; after which, if the febrile attack is *partially subdued*, but does not *continue* to ameliorate, we may from time to

time administer the medicine, carefully noting the period when the beneficial effects of the remedy appear to determine, and considering *that* as a signal for its repetition.

BRYONIA may with effect follow *Aconite*, when the more dangerous symptoms are subdued by that remedy, to improve the respiration and expectoration.

PHOSPHORUS will frequently remove the asthmatic symptoms that sometimes remain, and is also valuable in cases where there is a predisposition to consumption. In *PLEURISY*, the same mode of treatment should be observed as in the preceding. We may remark, that after *Aconite* and *Bryonia* have removed the leading symptoms of this last mentioned affection, a dose of *SULPHUR* will frequently complete the cure.

DERANGEMENTS OF THE CEREBRAL SYSTEM.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BRAIN.

In inflammation of the brain or of its membranes, the symptoms are exceedingly diversified; the extent and duration of the disease, the age, sex, and constitution of the patient, assist in giving to the affection a variety of character. Much assistance may be derived, in ascertaining whether the brain be affected or not, by examining the eyes and general expression of the countenance. The pupils in the first stages are commonly found more or less contracted, but as the

disease advances, they often become dilated. Occasionally the attack is preceded by premonitory symptoms, such as *congestion of blood to the head*, attended with sensations of weight, or stupefying, pressive, constrictive, and sometimes shooting pains in the head. In some instances slight feverish symptoms are complained of, with ringing in the ears for about the space of a week; giddiness, and a sense of weight on the crown of the head; pulse rather quick, and the heat of the skin somewhat increased at night, attended with restlessness and a difficulty of lying long in one position; moreover, the patient is observed to be irritable and annoyed at trifles; anomalies in the mental powers may next be observed, such as obtuseness, drowsiness, with mild delirium; or a high degree of excitement, in which the patient is affected by the slightest noise, and the eyes have a brilliant and animated expression, or are blood-shot, with fiery redness of the face, and wild delirium. According to the seat of the inflammation, or the constitution of the patient, the accompanying fever is of greater or less intensity; the pulse is very variable in the course of the same day; it may be regular, intermitting, quick, and weak, or very slow and strong. A very slow or a very quick pulse generally indicates danger. The patient frequently complains of heat in the head, whereas the extremities are cold. When there is stupor, or a tendency to it, the eyes look heavy and void of all expression; vomiting sometimes takes place and proves very intractable; the stupor becomes more profound, convulsions appear, and death sooner or

later ensues. The peculiar and delicate structure of the brain and its membranes in children, renders them much more susceptible to the attacks of this serious disease, and great attention ought to be paid to the following symptoms :—heaviness of the head, attended with pains, of which latter circumstance we are sometimes made aware, in very young children, by the little sufferer frequently raising its hands to the head ; alteration of temper ; intolerance of light ; nausea, occasionally followed by vomiting ; tendency to costiveness ; drowsiness ; wakefulness, or starting during sleep. Secondly, *continued boring of the head against the pillow* ; a high state of excitement, in which the slightest noise, or ray of light, throws the child into a fit of screaming, or a state of discontentment ; heavy sleep ; great heat in the head ; *redness* and swelling of the face, with perceptible throbbing in the vessels of the head and neck ; great agitation, with continued tossing about, especially at night ; eyes red, sparkling, convulsed, or fixed ; pupils immoveable, and generally dilated. With regard to the treatment of this disease, we should have immediate recourse to *Aconite* at the commencement of the attack, when the skin is hot and dry, and the pulse rapid, which is especially likely to be the case in young plethoric subjects ; and as soon as we have modified these symptoms, we should administer

BELLADONNA, which remedy will be frequently found specific *in the treatment both of adults and children*, if given before the disease has made considerable progress.

HYOSCYAMUS is appropriate when there are

drowsiness, loss of consciousness, delirium about one's own affairs; inarticulate speech; tongue coated white, with frothy mucus about the lips; dilatation of the pupils; fixedness of the vision; skin dry and parched; redness of the face; and picking of the bedclothes with the fingers.

OPIUM, when there is lethargic sleep, with stertorous breathing; half open eyes and confusion or giddiness after waking; complete apathy and absence of complaint.

STRAMONIUM is useful when there is starting or jerking in the limbs; sleep almost natural, but followed by absence of mind on waking; sometimes attended with moaning and tossing about; vision fixed, and the patient frequently appears in a state of dread, or is seized with a desire to run away, and utters cries; redness of the face; feverish heat, with moisture of the skin.

CINA is a valuable remedy in the treatment of this affection in children, who have symptoms of WORMS.

WATER IN THE HEAD.

This fatal and frequent disease, is liable to be excited by a variety of causes, and is particularly prone to take place in psoric children, who are born with unusually prominent foreheads, and in whom the fontanelles remain long unclosed. The *symptoms* are sometimes so mild and insidious, that parents are thrown off their guard, and attribute the apparently slight indisposition of the little patient, to some comparatively trivial circumstance; such as teething, or gastric derangement. In other instances, the symptoms are much

more striking, and in many respects strongly resemble those described under inflammation of the brain. In general, the skin is hot, pulse rather quick, chiefly at night, and the child becomes *peevish* whenever it is *raised from the horizontal position*; at other times it is affected with fits of screaming; grinding of the teeth; redness of the face and eyes; peculiar expression of countenance; convulsions and stupor. The most appropriate remedies are,

ACONITE, *Belladonna*, *Mercurius*, and *Bryonia*. The indications of the two former have already been given under INFLAMMATION OF THE BRAIN.

BRYONIA may be administered *after Aconite* or *Belladonna*, if necessary, or may be given at the commencement, when there is heat in the head with redness of the face, and great thirst; delirium; sudden starts, with cries, or constant inclination to sleep; *constant movement of the jaws, as if engaged in chewing*, and constipation.

MERCURIUS will frequently be found useful after *Belladonna*, or previous to that remedy, when the bowels are much relaxed. *Hyoscyamus*, *Opium*, *Cina*, and *Stramonium*, will likewise prove valuable in cases wherein the indications correspond with those described in the preceding article.

ACUTE AFFECTIONS OF THE EYE AND EAR.

ACUTE INFLAMMATION OF THE EYES.

This affection may arise from a variety of causes, such as exposure to extreme light, the

strong heat of a fire, particularly after coming out of an extremely cold atmosphere, external injuries, or cold.

In general cases of non-catarrhal inflammation, when the affection has arisen from the first two excitants, or without known cause, should the inflammation be considerable, particularly if attended with fever, we may, in the first place administer ACONITE, repeating the dose at the end of twelve hours, should only slight amelioration have taken place; and if great sensibility to light, with redness of the conjunctiva remain, follow it with BELLADONNA, of which a single dose, if no deeply rooted taint be present, will generally suffice to effect a perfect cure.

If the inflammation arise from external injury, caused by a blow, or the entrance of any foreign body into the eye, we may likewise exhibit *Aconite*, and follow it in about twelve or sixteen hours, with ARNICA, bathing the eye occasionally at the same time, with a lotion of *Arnica*, five drops of the tincture to an ounce of water.

In inflammation of the eye, arising from cold, or *Catarrhal Ophthalmia*, the following are among the most useful remedial agents: *Belladonna*, *Nux Vomica*, *Cinchona*, *Digitalis*, *Euphrasia*, *Ignatia*, and *Aconite*.

BELLADONNA, when the following symptoms present themselves:—redness in the conjunctive margin of the eyelids and corner of the eyes, with a swollen and tumid appearance; intolerance of, and pain increased by, light; great sensibility of the eyes and eyelids; decrease of vision; flashes of light, sparks, or darkness before the eyes, with

blindness *towards evening* ; objects appearing reversed or *double* ; moreover, when there are the following catarrhal symptoms ; severe cold in the head, with acrid discharge, causing excoriation, and sometimes an eruption of pimples under the nose, and on and about the lips ; periodical return of short, dry, barking, spasmodic cough, *aggravated towards night*, with any other of the indications given for this medicine under CATARRH.

NUX VOMICA, when there are burning *pressive* pain in the eye ; feeling as of sand in the eye, with *smarting, tickling, and itching* ; pressure on the eyes and eye-balls on attempting to open them ; the eye streaked, blood-shot, and swollen, with adhesion of the eyelids ; affection worse towards morning. For the attendant catarrhal symptoms, see CATARRH.

CINCHONA. When the inflammation is less intense, but the motion of the eye painful, and the same sensation as of sand in the eye before noted, with the distinction of the affection *exacerbating towards evening*, when the pains are of a burning or pressive nature, with headache in the forehead, as if arising from *suppression of the nasal discharge*.

DIGITALIS. When there exist *burning* pain and pressure above the eyes, with *redness and inflammation* of the conjunctiva, with great redness of swelling of the lower lid, and adhesiveness of the eyelids.

EUPHRASIA. For the exhibition of this medicine, the particular indications are, white of the eye much inflamed ; painful *pressure* in the eyes ; *profuse and acrid flow of tears*, excited or increased by exposure to cold ; secretion, or flow of mucus, sometimes sanguinolent ; severe cold in the head,

with *profuse fluent nasal discharge*; *violent* headache, and aggravation of the symptoms towards evening.

IGNATIA may be administered with advantage when there are pressure in the eyes, profuse flow of tears, great intolerance of light, with but *little* or *no* perceptible *superficial redness* of the eye ball.

ACONITE may with advantage precede any of the above mentioned medicines, when very high inflammation or febrile symptoms seem to demand its administration.

STYE is, strictly speaking, an inflammation of the meibomian glands of the eye, appearing like a small dark red boil, generally in the corner of the eye, or upon the eyelids, frequently causing considerable pain and suffering. For the removal of this affection, we may administer PULSATILLA, and repeat the same once or twice, at intervals of eight days or a fortnight, should an inclination to its recurrence declare itself. Here again, when the inflammation runs very high, we may have recourse to ACONITE, which may with effect precede the *Pulsatilla*.

When we meet with individuals, with whom this affection recurs upon the slightest exposure to cold, we may with certainty predicate the existence of a psoric virus, and until that is eradicated by a careful anti-psoric treatment, the best directed treatment can prove only temporarily effective.

EARACHE.

The medicaments applicable to the majority of cases of this troublesome and painful affection are,

Mercurius, Pulsatilla, Belladonna, Nux Vomica, Arnica Dulcamara, and Chamomilla.

MERCURIUS. When the pain is attended with a sensation of coldness in the ears, and *exacerbation of suffering in the warmth of the bed*; shooting or tensive pains in the internal ear, extending to the cheeks and teeth; inflammation and induration of the ear, with soreness of the orifice, and discharge.

PULSATILLA is a most valuable remedy in this affection. It is particularly indicated *when the external ear* is much affected, and appears inflamed and swollen with heat, shooting and tensive excoriating pain internally; side of the head also attacked. This medicament is particularly useful in cases of females, and in individuals of chilly habit.

BELLADONNA, when *determination of blood to the head*, with redness of the face, exists, with digging, boring, *tearing or shooting pains extending to the throat, with extreme sensibility to the slightest noise*; when the pains are more severe internally, also when the brain partakes of the inflammation, and delirium is present.

NUX VOMICA. When the pains are of a *tearing, shooting* nature, extending to the forehead, temples, and bones, of the face, worse towards morning; and when the affection occurs in persons of a lively, choleric disposition.

ARNICA, in individuals of nervous, excitable temperament, subject to be attacked from slight causes; also, when great sensibility to noise is present.

DULCAMARA, when the affection has arisen from a chill or wetting, will, in almost all cases,

prove sufficient for its removal ; it is also indicated when the pains increase at night, and are attended with nausea.

CHAMOMILLA. When there are *stabbing* pains in the ear, as from knives ; great sensibility to noise, or even to music, extreme sensitiveness, susceptibility, and irritability.

CUTANEOUS DISEASES.

ERYSIPELAS.

This name is given to a peculiar superficial inflammation of the skin, which takes place in people of all ages. Derangement of the digestive functions, exposure to cold, and powerful mental emotions, are its principal exciting causes. The first local symptoms of the complaint are heat, tingling or pricking pains, with diffused swelling, tension, and deep redness of the affected part. This is, ere long, followed by pungent, burning, and sometimes tearing or shooting pain, which is aggravated by motion or pressure ; the surface presents a shining appearance. On pressure, the redness disappears for a moment, but immediately returns on removing the finger. The constitutional symptoms vary according to the severity of the case ; they generally consist of shiverings, succeeded by flushes of heat ; sleepiness, wandering pains, dry tongue, nausea, oppression at the stomach, and headache ; vesications sometimes arise on the affected parts, attended with increase of fever. In a few days the redness changes into a

yellowish hue. When the face is attacked, the features become much disfigured by the swellings, and delirium supervenes. The disease assumes a very serious aspect when it affects the face and scalp, and accordingly requires the utmost attention and discrimination in the treatment pursued. The principal remedies in the treatment of the ordinary forms of erysipelas are, *Aconite*, *Belladonna*, *Bryonia*, *Pulsatilla*, and *Rhus Toxicodendron*. When the affection is attended with intense fever, it is necessary to administer a dose or two of ACONITE, in order to subdue the febrile action, after the exhibition of which, BELLADONNA is often the most appropriate remedy, especially when the redness expands in rays, and an acute shooting pain is experienced in the affected part, which is aggravated by movement. In many instances *Belladonna* alone is sufficient to cut short the disease.

BRONIA is frequently useful when the disorder affects the joints, and when the pain is exacerbated by the slightest movement.

PULSATILLA, when the disease frequently flies from one part to another.

When the disease affects the face and head, it has a dangerous tendency to extend to the brain and membranes, and particularly when it appears in the form of vesicular erysipelas. These vesicles are of various sizes, of a yellowish appearance, produce itching and burning, and readily become confluent. The principal remedy in the treatment of vesicular erysipelas is RHUS TOXICODENDRON, and a single dose is sometimes sufficient to put a stop to the disease ; at other times

it will be found necessary to administer a second or third dose, or to have recourse to one or more of the other remedies above mentioned in order to complete the cure. *Arsenicum* is an important remedy in some kinds of vesicular erysipelas, and in cases which have terminated in gangrene.

BOILS.

The presence of these tumours is a strong evidence of a psoric tendency; we shall, nevertheless, mention a few medicines, which have proved exceedingly valuable in their treatment.

ARNICA is useful in general cases; should, however, the Boil have an inflamed, fiery appearance, or, moreover, should it, if situated upon the extremities, be associated with swelling and tenderness of the glands under the arm-pit, or upon the groin, we may give a preference to BELLADONNA, or should the swelling refuse to yield to that remedy, MERCURIUS.

When the Boil presents an extremely inflammatory appearance, and the affection is accompanied with fever and restlessness, ACONITE is promptly efficacious in subduing these symptoms, and may precede a more specific remedy.

When the matter has already formed, HEPAR SULPHURIS will be found conducive to bringing the tumour to a head, and thereby curtailing suffering.

But for a perfect eradication of the virus, we require a prolonged course of anti-psorics, in combination with the above mentioned medicaments.

CHILBLAINS.

This affection is too well known to require any particular description : the exciting cause is exposure to transitions of temperature, from cold to heat, and vice versâ, but their origin is more deeply seated ; the feet are the part most generally attacked, but we frequently find the hands also suffer. When they burst and become ulcerated, they constitute an exceedingly painful affection.

Severe suffering from Chilblains is an indication of psora not to be neglected, and individuals so afflicted, should place themselves under an anti-psoric treatment ; for, until the constitution is completely purged of that virus, they are continually subject to their recurrence.

In the treatment of this affection, the following medicines will be found valuable.

Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Belladonna, Arnica, Chamomilla, and Sulphur.

NUX VOMICA is particularly indicated when the inflammation is of a bright red colour, with swelling, attended with *itching increased by warmth*, and when the chilblains evince a tendency to burst.

PULSATILLA, when the inflammation is of a livid hue, with itching and beating in the part affected, and when the suffering comes on, or is exacerbated in the evening or towards midnight.

BELLADONNA, when the inflammation is of a bluish red, (but lighter than that indicating *Pulsatilla*), and *very considerable*, attended with a creeping, tingling sensation.

ARNICA, when the swelling is hard, *shining*, and painful, attended with itching.

CHAMOMILLA, when with the inflammation and itching, a burning sensation is present.

SULPHUR is a valuable remedy when the inflammation and itching are very severe, and the affection has refused to yield to the foregoing.

CORNS.

That these troublesome excrescences arise from an inherent vice of constitution, is evident from the fact of many individuals, who wear tight boots and shoes, which are unquestionably the principal excitant, escaping them, while others, with every precaution, suffer severely ; such being the case, the main object of the physician must be, by a course of anti-psorics, to eradicate the predisposing cause. Great alleviation of suffering has, however, been found to result from the use of an *arnicated* plaster, applied to the corn, after its having been carefully pared.

WHITLOW.

By this term is understood an abscess, more or less deeply seated, forming at the end of the finger, near the nail, attended with severe pain and considerable swelling ; it has much tendency to reappear in individuals who have once suffered from its attacks, which clearly demonstrates the advantage of treating it as a constitutional, and not as a merely local affection ; in so doing we may have recourse to the following medicines :

Mercurius, Hepar Sulphuris, Rhus, Sulphur, and Silicea.

We may generally commence the treatment by MERCURIUS, followed by HEPAR SULPHURIS, should the abscess come to maturity, notwithstanding the administration of the former medication. RHUS is more particularly indicated where there is a considerable degree of *erysipelatous* inflammation.

But we must have recourse to the alternate administration of SULPHUR and SILICEA, at intervals of eight days each, in cases where a constant tendency to a recurrence of the complaint exists.

GOUT.

This disease, particularly when it has assumed the chronic form, requires a long and discriminative course of treatment. The chief danger arises from its liability to transfer its seat from the part first attacked, some of the principal internal organs, such as the head and stomach; in such instances it assumes a peculiarly critical character.

This malady, like the majority of those to which the human frame is subject, owes its origin to psora, and consequently we often find it hereditary in some families. Until, therefore, this predisposition is eradicated by a proper mode of treatment, it is useless to expect a permanent cure.

Among the exciting causes of gout may be numbered the following:—a luxurious mode of life; stimulating diet or drinks; sudden check of

perspiration ; mental emotions ; sedulous application to studious pursuits, and neglect of taking proper exercise in the open air ; and a use of aperient medicines and tonics. In plethoric habits, the gout shows a considerable inclination to shift its seat to the head, and in dyspeptic individuals, to the stomach and intestines.

Prior to the attack, we usually find symptoms of general derangement of the digestive function, with slight access of fever ; the veins of the feet become swollen, and a sense of numbness, cramps, or twitching, is present, with a deficiency of perspiration. When the attack comes on, which generally occurs in the evening or during the night, it is generally with a feeling of dislocation in the joints of the feet, and burning or severe scalding pain in the part attacked, more or less intense ; after a time these sensations disappear, leaving the part red and tumefied ; the fit occurs again at intervals, generally diminishing in intensity ; in many instances considerable fever is present. With regard to the treatment, in general cases of this affection, the principal medicaments are *Aconite*, *Pulsatilla*, *Nux Vomica*, and *Bryonia*.

ACONITE, in plethoric or corpulent habits, where there is considerable inflammatory fever, with hard and quick pulse.

PULSATILLA, where the pains are of a shifting nature, exacerbated towards *evening or in bed*, with paralytic or torpid sensation in the part affected, and more particularly when the dyspeptic symptoms given under this medicine, (see INDIGESTION or DYSPEPSIA,) present themselves.

NUX VOMICA, when the pains are *worse towards the morning*; a paralytic and torpid sensation with *cramps and throbbing in the muscles*; and moreover, when in addition to other dyspeptic symptoms, we find constipation and hemorrhoids, or inclination to that affection, and an irritable or choleric temperament; furthermore, when indulgence in wine or fermented liquors has been the inducing cause.

BRYONIA, when the affection has assumed the form of RHEUMATIC GOUT; where the pains are *increased by the slightest motion*; aggravation of suffering at night; coldness and shivering, with general perspiration or fever. For the dyspeptic symptoms present, see article before alluded to.

Each of the medicines here mentioned, may successfully follow *Aconite*, when the febrile symptoms have been in some measure brought under by the administration of that medicament.

RHEUMATISM.

This disease is of two kinds, the *Acute* and *Chronic*; the former is accompanied by fever, preceded by restlessness; heat alternating with chills; thirst; coldness of the limbs and extremities; constipation and accelerated pulse, followed by pains in the large joints, generally shifting their situation, leaving redness, swelling, and tenderness of the parts affected; it is also frequently attended with excessive perspiration and weakness. In the latter, or Chronic Rheumatism, the swelling of the parts, except in very severe cases, is commonly less perceptible; sometimes there

is present a feeling of general stiffness or numbness, with little or no fever.

Other symptoms incidental to this complaint, we shall notice more particularly under the head of the different medicaments most efficacious in the treatment. The principal exciting causes are, damp, chill, or a sudden check of perspiration. People who have resided long in a tropical climate, or have been subject to continual exposure to cold or wet, are very liable to suffer from frequent attacks of Rheumatism in the chronic form.

In the treatment of this affection, the following medicaments have been found particularly useful: *Aconite*, *Bryonia*, *Chamomilla*, *Nux Vomica*, *Mercurius*, *Pulsatilla*, *Rhus Toxicodendron*, and *Beladonna*.

ACONITE when we find high fever, dry heat, thirst, and redness of the cheeks; excessive *shooting or tearing pains*, extremely violent at night; occasionally, redness or shining swelling of the parts affected; aggravation of pains by the touch; excessive irascibility of temper.

BRYONIA may follow *Aconite* with great benefit, or be administered independently of it, if the following are the more prominent symptoms: severe shooting pains, much increased by motion of the affected part, or by a cold draught of air; swelling of the joints of the upper and lower extremities; headache, gastric derangements, and constipation; pains aggravated at night, particularly on the slightest irritation; irascibility and perverseness of temper; the pains seem situated more in the muscles, and particularly about the joints, than in the bones.

CHAMOMILLA when we find dragging or tearing pains, with a sensation of numbness or of *paralysis*, in the parts affected ; feverishness ; redness of one cheek, with paleness of the other ; great agitation and tossing ; desire to remain lying down ; perspiration ; exacerbation of suffering at night.

NUX VOMICA, when there are : sensation of numbness, paralysis, or tightness in the parts affected, with cramps and palpitation of the muscles ; pains of a dragging description, chiefly confined to the joints, trunk of the body, back, loins, and chest, aggravated by cold ; gastric derangement ; constipation ; irritability of temper.

MERCURIUS is indicated in cases where the pains are increased by the warmth of the bed, or exposure to damp or cold air, aggravated at night, and *especially towards* morning ; also where there is considerable puffy swelling of the parts affected. This medicine is particularly useful when the pains seem seated in the bones or joints ; *profuse perspiration without alleviation of suffering*, is also a good indication for its employment.

PULSATILLA is useful in *shifting* rheumatic pains, particularly if attended with a sense of torpor or paralysis, relieved by exposure to cool air, worse at night or in the evening.

RHUS TOXICODENDRON is indicated when there are : sensation of torpor, dulness, and crawling, with feeling of *paralytic weakness or trembling of the extremities* when attempting to move them ; sensation of bruising or of laceration, as if the flesh were torn from the bones, or as of scraping

of the bones ; *pains worse during rest*, relieved by motion ; inflammatory or shining redness in the joints, with stiffness, and sometimes a darting pain when handled ; aggravation of suffering in cold or damp weather. This medicament may sometimes follow *Bryonia* with considerable advantage.

BELLADONNA is useful when the pains are of a shooting or burning description, aggravated by movement, and worse at night ; when the parts attacked are swollen, red, and shining, and particularly when there is fever, with determination of blood to the head, with throbbing of the vessels of that part, and redness of the face.

Obstinate cases of Rheumatism in the *chronic* form, frequently require a long, careful, and discriminative treatment, which would scarcely suit the purpose of this work to enter upon.

LUMBAGO.

This affection seems to be a species of rheumatism, confining itself chiefly to the region of the loins, which frequently proves extremely obstinate and painful, and is in some instances accompanied with a considerable degree of fever. The exciting causes of the complaint are the same as those already given under Rheumatism. The medicines most valuable in its treatment are *Aconite*, *Bryonia*, *Nux Vomica*, *Rhus Toxicodendron*, *Belladonna*, *Pulsatilla*, and *Mercurius*.

ACONITE may be given at the commencement, if much fever declare itself.

BRYONIA, where the pains in the back are of a severe pressive description, constraining the

individual to walk in a stooping position ; aggravated by the slightest motion, or a draught of cold air, and attended with a general sensation of chilliness.

Nux Vomica is particularly indicated when the pains resemble those *produced by a bruise*, or by excessive *fatigue* ; also when they are much increased by *motion* and *turning in bed* at night, and attended with considerable weakness ; and moreover, when irritability of temper and constipation are present.

This is a valuable medicine in chronic cases, and may follow *Bryonia* in acute lumbago with considerable advantage.

Rhus Toxicodendron may be exhibited when the same indications as those given under the preceding medicines are present, with the distinction of the pains being *aggravated by rest*. It is also a useful remedy in chronic cases.

Belladonna, where the pains are deeply seated, causing a sensation of heaviness, gnawing, or stiffness ; it may follow *Aconite* with considerable benefit, when slight inflammatory symptoms are present.

Pulsatilla when the pains, resembling those mentioned under *Nux Vomica*, are moreover attended with sensation of constriction ; it is particularly indicated, as remarked in other parts of this work, for females, or individuals of mild, sensitive, or phlegmatic temperaments.

Mercurius, when the pains are of much the same description as those given under *Nux Vomica*, but considerably aggravated at night, incapacitating the sufferer for taking rest.

EXTERNAL INJURIES.

BRUISES, SPRAINS, AND WOUNDS.

In case of injury, arising from external violence, *Arnica* is the *specific* remedy, and its *timely administration* in cases of contusion, will in most instances, if the bruise be not very severe, suffice to remove all traces and evil consequences of such misfortunes. We may administer it internally, and bathe the injured part with a lotion, in the proportion of one tea-spoonful of *tincture of Arnica* to a wine-glassful of water, four or five times a day; should the swelling, pain, and other symptoms increase, after one or two applications, we may temporarily *discontinue* the lotion, and will almost always find a marked improvement follow such aggravation. Should the skin be abraded, we may diminish the strength of the lotion, by substituting six drops for a tea-spoonful of the tincture, in the same quantity of water.

SPRAINS.—In the treatment of these troublesome casualties, the same procedure may be adopted at the commencement, as that given under *Bruises*; but should the affection refuse to yield to *Arnica* thus applied, we may have recourse to RHUS TOXICODENDRON, which is, properly speaking, more specific to this description of external injury; should the sprain still continue obstinate, we may exhibit ACIDUM SULPHURICUM, which will generally be found of essential service.

Both contusions and sprains are sometimes accompanied with other circumstances requiring me-

dical assistance, such as sudden shock or fright; in such cases, when arising from fright, OPIUM may precede *Arnica* a few hours, to remove the more threatening symptoms, or if the accident be attended with other MENTAL EMOTIONS, see the article on that subject in PART II.

WOUNDS.—In the relief and cure of these injuries, *Arnica* is again one of our most valuable remedial agents; after the usual precautions of cleansing the wound, &c., have been taken, it may be dressed with bandages steeped in the weaker *Arnicated* lotion mentioned under BRUISES; at the same time the medicine may be administered internally as before directed.

If, notwithstanding the administration of *Arnica*, high febrile symptoms are present, we may have recourse to ACONITE, and as soon as the indications of fever are in a measure subdued, return to *Arnica* as before. Should the wound show a disposition to suppurate, we may substitute MERCURIUS. If, however, matter be already formed, and it be an object, by bringing it speedily to a head, to hasten the cure, we should exhibit HEPAR SULPHURIS.

ARSENICUM is a most valuable medicine when *mortification* threatens, or has already set in. There are other medicines useful at this critical period of the treatment, which imperatively calls for the assistance of the practitioner.

CINCHONA is particularly useful against the debility ensuing from a great loss of blood. During the administration of the above mentioned medicines, the external application of *Arnica* must be discontinued, and the wound protected by a simple bandage.

BURNS AND SCALDS.

We shall here content ourselves with treating of burns merely in their simple form. In slight burns or scalds, the injured part should be held for a couple of minutes to the fire ; a temporary increase of pain will be amply repaid by the prevention of future suffering and annoyance. If, however, the injury be more severe, we may bathe the affected part with heated alcohol, or spirits of turpentine, taking care to keep the surface continually moist, and well protected from the external air. The application of common soap is another simple, and frequently very efficacious method, of subduing the pain. SAPO COMMUNIS may be also given *internally* with considerable advantage.

ACONITE, in cases where there is considerable inflammation, &c.

SEA SICKNESS.

The medicaments found most useful in the treatment of this distressing and painful malady, are *Nux Vomica*, *Cocculus*, *Tabacum*, *Arsenicum*, and *Ipecacuanha*.

NUX VOMICA should be taken fasting, from six to twelve hours before embarkation ; this precaution will in many cases prove sufficient to ward off the attack.

Should, however, a feeling of giddiness, or a sensation of *emptiness* in the head be experienced, shortly after going on board, attended with head-

ache, nausea, and inclination to vomit, as the motion of the vessel increases, which is aggravated by standing erect, *Cocculus* may be had recourse to, and repeated every one, two, or three hours, as those symptoms recur.

TABACUM. Excessive giddiness, attended with *distressing nausea*, headache and *deadly paleness of the face*; or nausea, with *sickness*, or a sensation of burning in the stomach, *renewed by the slightest movement* of the head or body. This remedy is further indicated, when the symptoms are somewhat relieved by exposure to the fresh air.

ARSENICUM is extremely valuable when the sickness becomes excessive, and is attended with a feeling of *utter prostration and helplessness*, *violent retching*, burning sensation in the throat, and the other severe concomitants of this malady. It should be administered between the paroxysms, and will rarely fail to relieve. This medicine may be followed by *Tabacum* or *Cocculus*, to dissipate the symptoms of nausea and swimming in the head that may supervene.

IPECACUANHA is useful in attacks of vomiting *unattended* with the great prostration of strength given under *Arsenicum*. Of course, in order to avoid interfering with the action of the medicines, the Homœopathic regimen should be carefully observed during the period of their administration. *Cocculus* has been found extremely useful in sickness arising from TRAVELLING IN A CARRIAGE.

HYDROPHOBIA.

It is acknowledged that no *allopathic* cure has hitherto been found for this disease when fully

established, the plans of treatment which have been said to have been successful in some few instances, having generally failed in all others; thus rendering it probable, that in these supposititious cases of success, the persons bitten might have escaped without any treatment whatever. Experience has sufficiently proved, that under favouring circumstances, the hydrophobic virus is imparted to the entire organism, synchronously with the bite; it is therefore at best but a dubious precaution, to torture the individual by amputation, by dissecting out the lacerated parts, or by applying the actual,* or the potential† cautery. But it is not to our purpose to enter into the multitude of ineffectual remedies which have been recommended by the Allopathists.

Hydrophobia is a disease which arises in consequence of the bite of a rabid animal, and sometimes spontaneously, particularly in the course of some other disease; in which form it is known under the term of symptomatic hydrophobia.

Ere we proceed to the homœopathic treatment, we shall make a few remarks, descriptive of the disease, as it appears in the human subject. The first symptoms that show themselves in a person who has been bitten, are usually, general uneasiness, anxiety, and disturbed sleep; the eyes are glassy, inflamed, and sensitive to light; there are also ringing in the ears, giddiness, and paleness of countenance; frequent paroxysms of chilliness; oppressed respiration, and quickness of pulse, which latter is usually at the same time

* Iron at white heat.

† Caustic, such as lunar caustic, or caustic potassa.

small, contracted and irregular ; and loss of appetite. These symptoms generally come on at some indefinite period, occasionally after the bitten part seems quite well. In the second or convulsive stage, the wound, which may have already become completely cicatrized or healed, begins to assume a somewhat inflamed appearance, and a slight pain and heat, now and then attended with itching, are experienced in it. It now breaks out afresh, and an ulcer, with elevated margins of proud flesh, which secretes a dark coloured and offensive discharge, is subsequently formed ; and wandering, drawing, and shooting pains, from the lacerated part upwards towards the throat, present themselves. These symptoms, with the state of testiness and anxiety, increase daily ; and the patient complains of a sense of confusion in the head, or giddiness, with sparks before the eyes ; is affected with sudden startings, spasms, sighing, and is fond of solitude ; the pulse is small, irregular and intermittent ; the breathing laborious and uneasy ; the skin cold and dry, and general chilliness, especially in the extremities, is complained of ; then hiccough, colic, and palpitation come on ; the patient looks wild, and the eyes have a fixed, glassy, and *shining* appearance ; the act of deglutition is impeded by a sense of pressure in the gullet, which occasionally renders every attempt to swallow liquids impracticable ; convulsions also take place in the muscles of the face or neck. In this stage, however, the deglutition of any solid substance is performed with tolerable ease. In ordinary cases, the sufferer remains affected in the above manner for a few days, after

which, the disease passes into the *hydrophobic* stage, in which it is utterly impossible for him to swallow the smallest drop of liquid ; and the moment that any fluid, especially water, is brought in contact with the lips, it occasions the individual to start back with dread and horror, although he may, at the same time, suffer the most excessive thirst ; even the sight of water, or the very noise produced by pouring it from one vessel into another, in fact, anything that tends to remind him of that fluid, produces indescribable anxiety, uneasiness, convulsions, and even furious paroxysms of madness ; he dreads even to swallow his own saliva, and is constantly spitting ; vomiting of bilious matter soon comes on, succeeded by intense fever, great thirst, dryness and roughness of the tongue, hoarseness, and fits of delirium or madness, with disposition to bite and tear every thing within reach, followed at intervals by convulsive spasms. These attacks commonly last for a quarter or half an hour, and at their expiration, the patient is restored to reason, but remains in a state of great despondency ; finally, the paroxysms come on more violently and frequently, and in some instances a fit of furious delirium closes the frightful scene ; in others, nature sinks exhausted after a severe attack of convulsions. The disease may be communicated to the human subject, from the bites of cats and other animals not of the canine race, which have been previously inoculated with the virus.

We may remark in this place, that the best and most experienced of our writers upon this subject, consider the human species as the least sus-

ceptible of contagion from the hydrophobic virus ; scarcely one out of twenty, or even thirty, of those actually bitten by an animal in a state of rabies, suffering from its effects. We consider it our duty, while making this statement, which we hope may prove a means of relieving the minds of many from painful apprehensions, to enforce at the same time, the necessity of taking those precautions, which we are now about to point out, against the dangers.

In the Homœopathic treatment of this disease, the following are the principal remedies employed : *Belladonna*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Stramonium*, and *Cantharides*.

BELLADONNA. HAHNEMANN, the noble founder of our science, states in the introductory article to *Belladonna*, in his *Materia Medica Pura*, that he considers the smallest dose of that medicine, repeated every three or four days, to be *the most certain preventive against Hydrophobia* ; and when we refer to the pathogenetic powers of that medicine, described in that work, it is impossible not to be struck with the great resemblance which many of them bear to the symptoms of that malady ; and it is from this circumstance, according to Hahnemann's doctrine of *similia similibus*,* that *Belladonna* is found to be both a prophylactic and curative remedy.

When, therefore, a person has been bitten by a rabid animal, we would recommend the imme-

* The curing of a disease by the administration of a remedy which has been found to possess the property of producing a train of symptoms in a healthy person, SIMILAR to those observed in the disease.

diate administration of BELLADONNA, and that the wound be washed perfectly clean with tepid water, and then dressed with a little simple ointment, to prevent its immediate adhesion ; these precautions taken, the patient may be allowed to pursue his usual occupations, care being taken by those around him to avoid making any allusion, which may tend to remind him of his misfortune. *Belladonna*, in the same dose, should be given on the third or fourth day, and subsequently at longer intervals. The effect of each exhibition should be attentively watched, and care taken that a fresh one be not given, as long as any symptoms of the action of the previous dose are perceptible. Generally speaking, from two to three administrations will be found sufficient to prevent the outbreak of the disease ; or, at all events, to modify it in such a manner, as to render it less dangerous, and more easy of removal, by one or more of the other remedies, which must then be selected according to the symptoms that present themselves. *Belladonna* may also be given when the disease has already made its appearance, attended with the following characteristics : drowsiness, with constant but useless efforts to sleep, chiefly in consequence of excessive anguish and great agitation ; sense of burning ; great burning in the throat, *with accumulation of frothy mucus in the mouth or throat* ; frequent desire for drinks, which are immediately pushed aside when presented ; or a *suffocating or constricting sensation in the throat, on attempting to perform the act of deglutition*, or complete incapability of swallowing, with glowing redness and

bloated appearance of the face ; pupils immoveable, and generally dilated ; great dread ; occasionally desire to strike, spit at, bite, or tear everything ; inclination to run away ; continual tossing about ; and great physical activity, with twitching in various muscles, especially *those of the face* ; ungovernable fury, with foaming at the mouth ; and tetanic convulsions.

HYOSCYAMUS is more particularly indicated either before or after *Belladonna*, when the *convulsions are very severe, and of long duration* ; when there is not so much inclination to bite, or spit, but a desire to *injure* those that stand around, in some manner or other. The spasms in the throat are not so violent, but great dryness and burning are complained of, attended with a sense of shooting or pricking, which causes a difficulty in swallowing, resembling a sensation of constriction in the throat, and threatening to produce suffocation on attempting to satisfy the thirst ; *dread of liquids* in consequence of the pain and difficulty that are experienced in deglutition, with ejection of the saliva from the same reason ; *excessive convulsions, with loss of consciousness*, come on soon after the *distressing act of swallowing has been performed*. There is, moreover, foaming at the mouth, with constant raving ; sometimes the patient seems wrapped up in his own thoughts ; or is full of fear, and inclined to run away from the house, being afflicted with a sort of *Anthropophobia* ;* there are also attacks of excessive fury, attended with apparently super-

* *Anthropophobia*, dread of the human species.

natural physical power; or excessive anguish and fear, alternating with fits of trembling and convulsions; the individual exhibits a peculiar dread of being bitten by animals; the pupils are dilated; sleep much disturbed by great *nervous excitement*, starts, and agonizing dreams.

STRAMONIUM is chiefly indicated in this disease, when we observe *severe convulsions taking place, whenever the eye becomes fixed on brilliant objects*, or on whatever tends to remind the patient of water; great thirst; *dryness of the mouth and throat, with horror of water and all liquids*; spasmodic constriction in the gullet, with foaming at the mouth and frequent spitting; mania, with great loquacity and gesticulations; *fits of laughter and singing*, sometimes alternately with acute fits of passion and moaning; the convulsions, when severe, are generally attended with *ungovernable fury*, restless, agitated sleep, sudden shrieks, and starting up with wild gestures; insensible and dilated pupils; and great disposition to bite, or tear every thing with the teeth.

CANTHARIDES. This medicine also possesses various pathogenetic properties, that bear a close resemblance to the symptoms that are met with in many cases of this disorder,* and should be

* Drs. Hartlaub and Trinks consider *Cantharides* to be the most certain prophylactic against Hydrophobia, when administered early; they recommend it to be given every three or four days, and are of opinion that the virus is not eradicated as long as the cicatrized wound presents a *livid hue*, and is attended with indurations, but affirm the danger to be over as soon as the part assumes a healthy and natural appearance. Vide Hartlaub und Trinks, R.A.M.L., Vol. I. p. 73. Published

selected in preference to any of the foregoing remedies, when we meet with the following symptoms :—great *dryness* and *burning* in the mouth and throat, *much aggravated on attempting* to swallow ; paroxysms of fury, alternating with convulsions, which are renewed by any pressure on the throat or abdomen, and also by the sight of water ; fiery redness and sparkling of the eyes, which become prominent and frightfully convulsed ; spasms in the throat, excited by the pain produced by the act of swallowing, especially fluids ; continual burning, titillation, and other irritating sensations in the lower part of the abdomen.

We have thus enumerated and described the characteristic indications for the four principal Homœopathic remedies which have been successfully employed against *Hydrophobia* ;* others have also been strongly recommended, but those mentioned have generally proved sufficient, *when administered early*, and exclusively adhered to throughout the course of the disease. *Belladonna* has frequently been tried by the Allopathists, but the cases in which it seemed to fail, were *evidently attributable to the improper manner in which it was administered*. We shall not treat of the several remedies which have from time to time appeared, and have, by their inventors, been so highly eulogized, as time and experience alone

in 1826. The specific nature of this remedy in Hydrophobia and Rabies, is one of the most vaunted of the RECENT DISCOVERIES of the Allopathists !

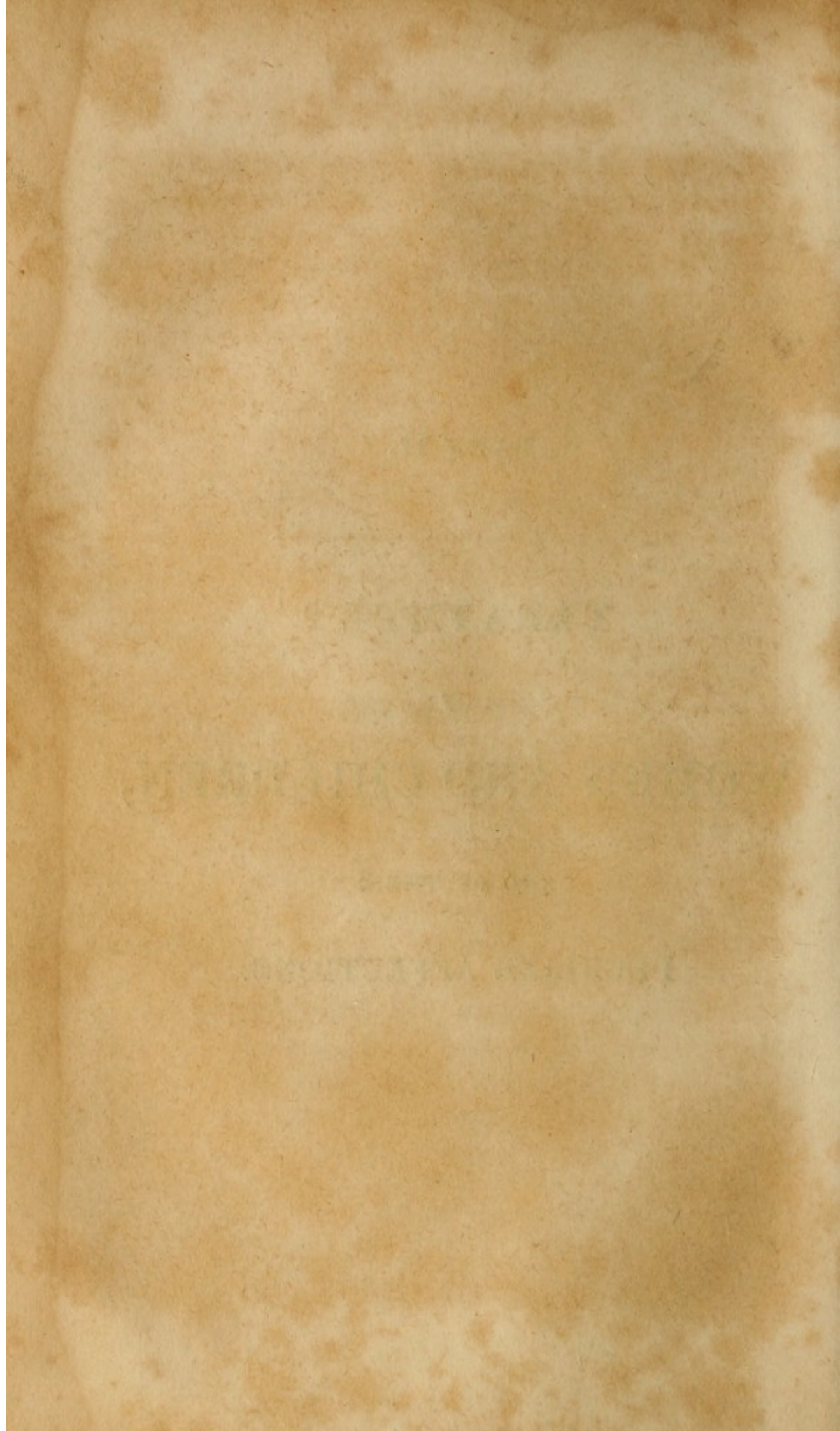
* Vide Hartmann's Therapie. acut. Krank, Vol. II. p. 77, 2nd ed.

will prove whether they possess any virtue or not; it is to be feared, however, that like many other once celebrated "*specifics*," (?) they will soon fall into oblivion. In fact, no remedy can be confidently relied upon, for the cure of this or any other disease that has not been carefully tested by, and found in accordance with, the GREAT LAW OF SIMILARITIES.

END OF PART 1.

PART II.

TREATMENT
OF
WOMEN AND CHILDREN,
AND OF THEIR
PECULIAR AFFECTIONS.



TREATMENT OF FEMALES.

CHLOROSIS.

This complaint generally declares itself in young females about their fourteenth year, and is characterised by a pale, blanched complexion (sometimes with flushes of heat and redness,) a depravity of appetite, a longing after innutritious substances, such as chalk, &c., and a general languor, both mental and physical; the patient complains of weariness, lassitude, and debility, and becomes emaciated; the lower extremities frequently assume an œdematous appearance, generally attended with cold in those parts, and headache, with flatulent distension of the abdomen, particularly after meals, and in the evening; bowels irregularly confined; sometimes at a later period very easily irritated and relaxed; a harsh harassing cough, occasionally with periodical expectoration of dark coloured, coagulated blood, and hurried respiration, frequently declares itself, if the affection has been allowed to proceed unchecked; and to an inexperienced eye, the sufferer appears to be on the verge, or even passing through the different stages, of a decline.

The predisposing causes of this affection are very remote; we shall therefore be satisfied with confining ourselves to the treatment of this complaint in its more simple stage, as, when we find

an exceedingly obstinate case, we may feel confident that it requires a regular course of antispasmodic treatment, or originates in some organic derangement.

PULSATILLA is peculiarly efficacious when the complaint has been the effect of *dampness*, or *caused by damp or cold air*, or when it is accompanied by frequent attacks of semi-lateral headache, with shooting pains, extending to the head and teeth, *sometimes shifting suddenly to the other side*; also when we observe aching in the forehead, with pressure at the crown of the head, and *sallow complexion*, alternating with flushes of heat; difficulty of breathing, and sense of suffocation after the slightest movement; *palpitation of the heart*; *coldness of the hands and feet*, often changing to *sudden heat*; *disposition to diarrhœa and leucorrhœa*; pain in the loins; sensation of weight in the abdomen; spasms in the stomach, *with nausea, inclination to vomit, and vomiting*; periodical expectoration of dark coagulated blood; hunger, with repugnance to food, or want of appetite, with dislike to food; great fatigue, especially in the legs. This medicine is peculiarly adapted to females of mild or phlegmatic disposition, disposed to sadness and tears.

SEPIA is also a very valuable remedy in this affection, when many of the above symptoms are present, with, at the same time, *hysterical megrims*; *complexion sallow, with dark coloured spots*; frequent colic and pain, as of a bruise, in the limbs. It may, when the above symptoms declare themselves, advantageously follow *Pulsatilla*, if the latter have failed to relieve.

BRYONIA. Frequent congestion in the head or chest ; bleeding at the nose ; dry cough ; coldness and frequent shivering, sometimes alternated with dry and burning heat ; constipation or colic ; bitter taste in the mouth, tongue coated yellow ; sense of pressure *in the stomach, as if from a stone* ; irascibility.

SULPHUR is more particularly indicated when there is *pressive and tensive pain in the back of the head, extending to the nape of the neck* ; or, pulsative pain in the head, with determination of blood ; *humming in the brain ; pimples on the forehead and round the mouth* ; pale and sickly complexion, with red spots on the cheeks ; voracious appetite ; general emaciation ; sour and burning eructation ; *pressive fulness and heaviness in the stomach under the lower ribs and in the abdomen ; bowels irregular* ; difficulty of breathing ; pain in the loins and fainting ; *excessive fatigue, especially in the legs, with great depression after talking ; great tendency to take cold* ; irritability, and inclination to be angry ; or, sadness and melancholy, with frequent weeping.

CATAMENIA, IRREGULARITIES OF.

When a *suppression* takes place from the sudden effects of a chill, we may have recourse to *Pulsatilla*, when the symptoms generally correspond to those of that remedy, as detailed under Chlorosis ; the same rule will apply for *Sepia* and *Sulphur*.

DULCAMARA, when the complaint has arisen from wet feet, or a severe wetting, if administered

immediately, will generally obviate all evil consequences ; if it fail, it should be followed by any of those mentioned under CHLOROSIS, that may correspond to the symptoms present.

If from sudden mental emotion, especially from fright, ACONITE, followed by LYCOPODIUM, if necessary ; for other cases, see MENTAL EMOTIONS.

NUX VOMICA, when of *too frequent occurrence, too profuse, and of too long duration, preceded by drawing pains in the nape of the neck, attended by spasms in the abdomen ; nausea with fainting, especially in the morning, with other dyspeptic symptoms ; determination of blood to the head, with giddiness, pains in the limbs, constant irascibility, restlessness and despair ;* suitable for dark complexions.

PLATINA, when attended with *painful pressure, or bearing down sensations ; coagulations ; sleeplessness at night ; shortness of breath ; excitability and constipation ;* or if *Nux Vomica* has not given the required relief.

OBSERVATIONS ON PREGNANCY.

This period may be looked upon as one of the most interesting eras of a woman's life. She is now no longer acting for herself alone, but becomes invested with a new and serious responsibility, and upon some of the most apparently trifling of her actions may depend the future health and happiness of a being bound to her by the fondest ties.

From the mass of evidence, collected by careful

observers of the operations of nature, we are warranted in drawing the conclusion, that the actions of the mother exercise a great influence over, not only the constitutional and physical, but also the mental organisation of her offspring. Keeping this fact in view, we will endeavour to point out the course that mothers, who prefer the welfare of their future offspring to their own indulgence, should pursue, from which they will derive a double benefit, an improvement in their own health, with exemption from suffering, and the delight of seeing their children pass safely through the perilous period of infancy ; while, in after life beholding them flourishing around them, in the full enjoyment of health and vigour, they will reap the rich reward of a slight temporary self-denial, in the delightful consciousness of having performed their duty.

The leading causes of a weak and sickly offspring are, ill health, or constitutional taint of both, or either of the parents ; very early or late marriages ; great inequality between the ages of the parties ; errors in dress, diet, and general habits of life ; and lastly, powerful mental emotions.

The first of these causes, medicine, under the present enlightened system, possesses powers to obviate, not only by destroying the hereditary taint in the parents, but also by nipping it in the bud when transmitted to the infants. While upon this subject, we may remark, that in many families, hereditary diseases are fostered, and even exacerbated in virulence, by intermarriages between their different members, sometimes disap-

pearing in one generation, and again declaring themselves in the next; but when Homœopathy, as it must eventually, completely supersedes the present erroneous system, and the habits and mode of life of communities become more adapted to the natural law, we may safely calculate upon the gradual extinction of all hereditary diseases; and so far at least, children shall not have to suffer for the follies or faults of their progenitors.

Females should seldom, at least in this country, enter into the marriage bond before their twenty-first or second year; prior to that period, their organisation is scarcely ever fully developed; those who marry at sixteen or eighteen years of age, incur the risk of severe after suffering themselves, and of giving birth to weak and delicate children. How very often we see the first children of such marriages perish in infancy, or, after contending through a childhood of continued delicacy, sink into a premature grave. Women who marry late in life, incur considerable personal risk and severe suffering, in giving birth to children, and the offspring is seldom healthy.

The children of old men, although by a young wife, are very often extremely delicate and susceptible to illness; they not unfrequently precede their father to the grave, or linger on earth but to drag on a miserable and wearisome existence.

After having laid down as clearly as possible, the course which ought to be pursued during this important epoch, with regard to dress, diet, habit, &c., we shall proceed to *mental emotions*, and point out what remedies our science affords us of counteracting the ill effects arising from such sources.

In concluding these observations, we may remark, that so far is the period of pregnancy from being destined for one of suffering or danger, that nature has taken every precaution for the protection of the female and her future offspring. While pregnancy runs its equable and uniform course, the expectant mother enjoys an almost complete exemption from the power of epidemic or infectious diseases, and chronic complaints are frequently suspended—in fact, with the exception of some slight morning sickness, and occasional trifling uneasiness, a well constituted organism should enjoy as good health during pregnancy, as at any other time; and many pass through this period and give birth to vigorous children, without even the most trifling inconvenience.

Though, as we have said, nature seems during this period to adopt every possible precaution for the health and preservation of the parent and her future offspring, yet are her wise arrangements, in too many instances, rendered nugatory by a direct contravention of her laws. The expectant mother should, therefore, bear in mind, that the incumbency of a regular and systematic course of life, so essential to every individual, devolves upon her with double force, since every neglect or breach of these ordinances of nature upon her part, is frequently visited with fearful energy upon her yet unborn infant.

AIR AND EXERCISE.

Nothing tends more to the preservation of health, than a proper attention to these two im-

portant points, and yet, unfortunately, there are perhaps few more completely lost sight of. Neither air nor exercise is *individually* sufficient, and those of the more opulent classes in this country, who merely take the air in their carriages, and shun the slightest physical exertion from long continued habits of acquired indolence, and who feel any attempt of the kind at this period attended with increased inconvenience, can scarcely expect to enjoy the benefit that nature has annexed to the observance of her laws in a course of pregnancy free from suffering, and the production of a fully developed and healthily organised offspring.

During this epoch, passive or carriage exercise is not sufficient; walking brings not only the physical, but the whole of the organic muscles into play, and communicates the increasing vigour of the mother to her offspring; on the contrary, continual passive exercise in a carriage has been found particularly injurious during, and towards the end of, the second period of pregnancy; and is frequently the cause of premature and abnormal births; exercise on horseback, even not taking into consideration the risk of fright or accident to the rider, and the fearful consequences that may thence result, is still more objectionable for many reasons.

A second class, that of thrifty housewives, take a great deal of exercise, yet without a corresponding benefit, from their work occupying them wholly in-doors; this is a strong proof of the inutility of exercise of itself, unless combined with pure air. Moreover, these females, from too great activity of temperament, and others, coerced by

hard necessity, frequently overfatigue themselves, go to bed late, rise early, and sometimes unrefreshed, and thus in a manner deaden the energies of the organic powers, to their own injury, and that of the unborn child.

A third class of females injure their health, and frequently induce miscarriage, through their excessive levity and thoughtlessness, by unrestrained indulgence in active exercise, riding on horseback, but more particularly excessive dancing. A female ought to recollect that, if through her own folly she has brought on miscarriage, the greatest possible care is necessary to prevent its recurrence; that a second attack increases her liability in future; and that she who has suffered twice or thrice from this misfortune, even when she escapes it, rarely attains her full time. Moreover, continued casualties of this nature not unfrequently terminate in premature death, from that frightful disease, uterine cancer.

The best exercise, therefore, for a female during this epoch, is walking every day, (when the weather permits it,) in the open air. In order to prove beneficial, and not to interfere with the process of digestion, exercise ought to be taken two to three hours after a moderate meal, about mid-day, or in the afternoon, except during hot weather, when the evening may be preferred, care being taken to avoid the night damps, by not remaining out too late.

CLOTHING.

The dress of the female should of course be suited to the season, and if she pass from a warm

into a cold atmosphere, she ought to have her neck and throat well protected, so as to avoid any risk of taking cold ; but a point of far greater importance is the adaptation of her clothing to the form, so as to preclude, as much as possible, pressure upon any part of the frame, calculated to interfere with the functions of those important organs destined for the birth and nourishment of the infant : therefore lacing, at all times most objectionable, is particularly so during this period, inasmuch as it cramps the natural action of the body, and acting directly upon the abdominal muscles, the blood-vessels, lymphatics, and whole intestinal economy, produces narrowness of the chest, disturbed circulation, and induration of the liver, and exercises a most baneful influence upon the breasts and uterus. We should bear in mind that a pressure upon these organs, during development, is acting in direct contravention of the operations of nature. Females, in their efforts to preserve the elegance of their shape during pregnancy, are little aware that the constringing force exercised upon the abdominal muscles, destroys their elasticity, prevents a proper retraction after parturition, and thus proves one of the most common causes of permanent abdominal deformity ; moreover, to the culpable vanity of mothers, thousands owe their club feet, and other malformations ; in addition to these evils, this practice not unfrequently deranges the position of the fœtus, which displacement, with the consequent want of energy in the muscles, and the parts concerned, brings on protracted and painful labours, metrorrhagia, and induration of the womb, fre-

quently terminating in cancer. Besides this, continual pressure on the uterus is liable to produce premature labours. To tight lacing, also, may be attributed the difficulty many women of the present day experience in suckling their offspring, from the incipient process for the subsequent secretion of milk being deranged by the unnatural pressure on the beautifully constructed mechanism of the mammæ ; from this also result those dangerous indurations, cancers, and other affections of the breast, and retraction and diminution of the nipple, from which the act of suckling is rendered difficult, and in some cases impracticable.

Young girls of seventeen or eighteen are frequently found with pendulous breasts, from the artificial support having taken the office of the muscles, intended by nature for that purpose, and throwing them out of employment.

GARTERS too tightly bound, are generally injurious, more particularly to pregnant females ; for the pressure thereby exercised upon the blood-vessels encourages the development of varicose vessels in the thigh, (to which affection the system is already sufficiently predisposed,) which in many instances become exceedingly painful and troublesome.

DIET.

The greatest simplicity should regulate the diet of the pregnant female ; she should avoid taking too great a quantity of nourishment, because any excess in this respect, besides causing

dyspepsia and general uneasiness, has a bad mechanical effect upon the future offspring ; and, moreover, the fœtus shares in the maternal derangements.

Much depends upon the *quality* of her food ; nothing should be taken that is not of a simply nutritive nature, and every thing possessing a medicinal property avoided. Coffee and strong tea should be laid aside. Wine, liqueurs, malt, and other stimulating beverages, are also injurious. If the female has been long habituated to wine, it may be taken, if of good quality and free from acidity, in extreme moderation, and diluted with water ; *but better far if stimulants of every kind are altogether avoided* ; indeed, the usual Homœopathic diet (for which, see article REGIMEN, in Introduction) is sufficient guide during pregnancy.

EMPLOYMENT OF THE MIND AND HABITS DURING PREGNANCY.

It is not sufficient that the body be in perfect health ; the mind must also be kept in a state of serenity. An easy cheerfulness of temper is essentially necessary to the future well being of the unborn infant. Experience has presented us with many instances, in which the predominant feeling on the mind of the mother during pregnancy, has had influence on the future mental organisation of the child. This shows how essential it is for females to keep their minds well employed during this period, to avoid both improper meditation, dissipation, and reading works not calcu-

lated to improve their understanding. Nothing can act more effectually against the future mental and corporeal health of the unborn infant than an oscillatory state of intellect, in combination with physical indolence ; the late hours, turning day into night, and other practices of fashionable life, injurious as they are to the most robust constitutions, are *doubly* reprehensible on the part of the expectant mother.

INFLUENCE OF EXTERNAL OBJECTS UPON THE UNBORN INFANT.

The effect of any unpleasant or unsightly object upon the imagination of the mother, and the transmission of that effect to the offspring, evidenced in various mental or physical peculiarities after birth, is a theory as old as tradition ; without entering upon the various arguments brought forward both for and against it, we would simply advise females to keep as much as possible out of the way of such objects, to preserve both mind and body in a state of health, which will lessen every fear of being affected by such occurrences ; and endeavor, as constantly as possible, to direct their attention to pleasing subjects ; as it must be perfectly evident that *brooding over such unpleasant impressions* can scarcely fail of being both physically and mentally injurious.

MENTAL EMOTIONS.

We shall now proceed to the consideration of those particular Mental Emotions, which exercise

so great a control over the human organism, among the more prominent and continually recurring of which, we find fright, passion or anger, and concentrated grief.

Aware, not only of the dangerous consequences they not unfrequently entail upon the female herself, but of the tremendous power they exercise over the future physical or intellectual development of the unborn infant, we should feel deeply grateful to that science which has placed in our hands the means of successfully combating their baneful influence.

Having premised thus much, we shall briefly point out the remedies that may be called for in general cases of this nature.

When the sufferer has been exposed to sudden fright, with terror or horror, the immediate administration of OPIUM, either internally, or (as some more strongly recommend) by *olfaction* from the bottle, is generally efficacious in restoring the patient and obviating any evil consequences.

When fright and passion are combined, ACONITE is the appropriate remedy.

PULSATILLA, in cases of fright, fear, or timidity, particularly where accompanied with an effect upon the stomach; or passion in people of generally mild temper; it is also suitable for highly nervous but not easily irritable temperaments.

BELLADONNA, where there is present, particular liability to be startled by trifles, or extreme general nervous excitement.

IGNATIA, where the cause is gnawing, inward grief.

CHAMOMILLA, where suffering has arisen from

vexation, or a disposition to irritability, or where great anguish and mental depression are present.

NUX VOMICA, suffering arising from a sudden fit, or outbreak of passion or rage.

STAPHYSAGRIA. Anger and vexation, arising from just cause.

ARSENICUM is useful where passion is followed by great weakness and dangerous prostration of the vital powers.

BRYONIA is indicated where a fit of passion is followed by coldness and shivering over the whole body, great irascibility, want of appetite, nausea, vomiting, and bilious sufferings.

In many cases, the sequelæ or consequences of this affection, are the best assistants in the choice of the remedy. Collecting the symptoms noted in different parts of the book, and combining them in the manner described in the introduction, will materially assist in the selection.

Another not unfrequent symptom during pregnancy, is great *DESPONDENCY OF MIND*, and uneasiness about the future. Some females, whose spirits are generally good at other times, suffer much from this affection during this period; and with others, we find the same feeling and excessive low spirits during the time of nursing, although not permanent, and when commencing early in gestation, usually disappearing before delivery, without material injury to the general health: still, as it is apt to create some uneasiness, both to the sufferer herself and her friends, we have thought it advisable to mention it, and to point out remedies which will frequently be found efficacious in its relief, referring to the symptoms

mentioned in other parts of the work, under the different medicaments, as a further guide for the selection.

ACONITE. If the state of despondency is preceded by one of excitement, marked by heat of skin, and frequency of pulse, attended *with apprehension and presentiment of approaching death.*

BRYONIA. *Great inquietude and fear of the future,* attended with irascibility and derangement of the digestive functions.

NUX VOMICA. *Morning sickness and melancholy, with great uneasiness.*

NATRUM MURIATICUM. Melancholy, with weeping, uneasiness about the future, also obstinate cases of morning sickness, not yielding to *Nux Vomica.*

When this affection comes on during lactation, arising from an over secretion of milk, so that this fluid escapes involuntarily, and it is attended with great emaciation, melancholy, and apprehension of the future, we may give PHOSPHORUS.

CALCAREA is also efficacious when the above symptoms present themselves, and more particularly so, when there is *excessive dejection with great lassitude.* When the indications given for *Phosphorus* only are present, if no amelioration take place within a week or ten days after its exhibition, we may administer CALCAREA.

Calcarea is more particularly indicated, when there is suppression of the secretion, and also excessive obesity, or the individual is of *plethoric* habit. Both these remedies are also valuable when there is a disposition to consumption.

When there is lowness of spirits, attended with

dyspepsia, which may arise from the energies of the mother being too severely tasked in the nourishment of her offspring, either from keeping the child too long unweaned, or from rearing twins, we may administer CINCHONA, one dose to be taken morning and evening for a week.

DISEASES OF PREGNANCY.

MENSTRUATION.

Virtual diseases during gestation are of rare occurrence, but when they do happen, they ought to be treated accordingly.

A continuation of menstruation is not an actual disease, but rather an exception to the general course of nature ; nor must we here mistake her operation for an indication of the utility of the lancet ; for neither in this, nor in any case, can the artificial supply the place of natural bleeding ; however, when the woman appears to suffer from the continuance of the menstrual flux, we must call in the assistance of medicaments, among which the principal are, *Cocculus*, *Phosphorus* and *Platina*.

COCCULUS. A sanguineous mucous discharge, and very severe spasmodic pains in the lower part of the abdomen.

PHOSPHORUS. Discharge of blood, with incisive pains in the back, and occasionally vomiting.

PLATINA. Discharge very profuse, attended with a severe pain and bearing down.

MORNING SICKNESS.

Morning sickness, nausea, vomiting, and heart-burn, are the most distressing symptoms attendant on the course of pregnancy: these troublesome complaints harass women most upon their first rising from a horizontal position in bed. They generally disappear soon after quickening, but sometimes continue during the whole period. The numerous palliative remedies recommended by Allopathists—leeches, cupping glasses, blisters, aperients, sedatives, &c., &c., unfortunately too often fail of effecting their object; and frequently, when the stomach becomes enfeebled, the hazardous resource of artificially produced premature labour is resorted to.

The Homœopathic treatment of this derangement, at once simple, prompt, and efficacious, has in almost all cases been stamped by the signet of success. In instances free from complication, with a tendency to relaxation of the bowels, IPECACUANHA is generally sufficient.

NUX VOMICA, taken every evening until relief is obtained, when there is constipation, with irritability of the temper and system.

NATRUM MURIATICUM, administered in the same manner as the above, in more obstinate cases, without reference to the action of the intestines. These remedies are also suitable for the *longing* of pregnant women.

CONSTIPATION

Is a very common attendant upon pregnancy, and those generally suffer most, who are natu-

rally of a costive habit ; when it does not arise from a mechanical cause, active exercise in the open air, avoiding coffee and other stimulating liquids, and unripe subacid fruits, are generally sufficient ; and when nature requires further auxiliary,

Nux Vomica, taken at bed-time, will generally answer ; if, after the completion of its action, there still remain some inconvenience, *Ignatia* should be given as an intermediate, followed by a stronger form of *Nux Vomica* ; in other cases, when *Nux Vomica* does not show a marked improvement, and the temper continues irritable, *Bryonia* will sometimes cure, or *Opium*, which is especially indicated to follow *Nux Vomica* when there appears to be a weight in the stomach, dryness of the mouth, and deep flushing of the face.

FAINTING AND HYSTERIC FITS.

Many delicate and nervous females are frequently attacked with fainting fits during pregnancy. The attack generally passes over easily and without deleterious consequences ; exercise in the open air, and attention to the rules of regimen, are the best safeguards ; but in cases where these are insufficient, and the attacks prove distressing, we must endeavour to ascertain their origin ; if from tight lacing, warm rooms, or any other obvious excitant, its simple removal is sufficient ; should the sufferer remain long insensible, the speediest means of revival is sprinkling the face with cold water ; when arising from

plethoric habit, returns of the attack may be prevented by ACONITE, of which we have had occasion to speak several times, as a general regulator of the circulation.

CHAMOMILLA, when the fainting is excited by sudden fits of anger.

NUX VOMICA, when from general irritability of system and consequent gastric derangement.

BELLADONNA, when there is sudden determination of blood to the head, with simultaneous flushing of face and perceptible action of the arterial system.

CINCHONA, when arising from general weakness, and especially from loss of blood.

PULSATILLA. General excitability and disposition to hysteria, with hypochondriasis and great general susceptibility.

IGNATIA, when the patient suffers from severe headache, as if a nail were driven into the head; sadness; concealed sorrow and continual sighing.

VIOLA ODORATA. Hysteria, with constant weeping, &c., &c.

TOOTHACHE

Is a frequent affection with pregnant women, and is too valuable an indication of psora lurking in the constitution, to be neglected; the female should as soon as she is in a proper state, put herself under a course of anti-psoric treatment, as, until the virus is driven out, no remedies can prove otherwise than palliative. We must particularly caution females in this situation, against having teeth extracted, as the affection frequently

occurs in sound ones ; meantime, to relieve the sufferings, the best medicines are, *Sepia*, *Calcareae*, *Alumina*, and *Magnesia Carbonica*, exhibited by olfaction in order to avoid too great disturbance of the system.

SEPIA is particularly indicated when there is pulsative *shooting, drawing toothache*, with pains extending to the ears, or to the arms, and fingers, excited by compressing the teeth, or by cold air, and attended by impeded respiration, swelling of the cheek, and enlargement of the submaxillary glands.

CALCAREA, when it is *excited or aggravated by cold air, or any thing hot or cold*, and attended with painful sensation of the gums, and pulsative gnawing or shooting pains.

ALUMINA, when the *pains are excited by mastication*, or in the evening in bed, and when of a tearing nature, extending to the cheek bone, temple, and forehead.

MAGNESIA CARBONICA. *Nocturnal pains in the teeth, insupportable when lying down*, and compelling one to get up and walk ; pains generally boring, burning, drawing, tearing, and resembling those of ulceration, attended with swelling of the cheek of the side affected ; throbbing and shooting in the teeth after a meal ; pain aggravated by a cold. The above are the four leading medicines, though there are others which are demonstrable by peculiar symptoms.

VARICES, OR SWELLED VEINS.

Many females suffer much during pregnancy, from distention of the veins in the thigh and

other parts, which becoming more exacerbated, eventually cause great pain and inconvenience. These varicose veins generally arise from pressure of the gravid uterus upon the blood vessels, but are also a sure indication of the existence of psora. These are too well known to need description; they are much increased by partaking of stimulating liquids, always to be avoided under treatment. Considerable alleviation is experienced by constant bathing with water, or with diluted alcohol; also by bandaging from the foot upwards with a gentle and equable pressure, and by preserving a recumbent posture. In order to afford a considerable relief, we may have recourse to the following remedies :

NUX VOMICA, when attended with irritability of temper and constipation.

ARSENICUM, when the veins are of a livid colour and burning.

CARBO VEGETABILIS, where the former is not sufficient.

BELLADONNA. Varices, with considerable erysipelatous inflammation.

PULSATILLA, when the livid colour is extended to the whole limb.

But for a permanent eradication, the anti-psorics are requisite, such as *Sulphur*, *Graphites*, *Carbo Vegetabilis*, *Lycopodium*, &c.; hemorrhoidal affections, being psoric, require a similar treatment.

MISCARRIAGE.

Before we proceed further, we feel ourselves compelled, from the present paucity of homœo-

pathic practitioners, to enter upon the treatment of this important subject, although feeling it our duty at the same time, to endeavour to impress upon the mind of every female, the propriety of placing herself under the care of a professional man, whenever practicable.

Women, who have once suffered from this affection, are exceedingly obnoxious to its recurrence, and this liability is still further increased, if the event have taken place a second or third time. It may occur at any period between the first and seventh months, but in the majority of cases, takes place about the third, or the beginning of the fourth. When *before* or *about* this period, it is frequently attended with but little pain or danger, although repeated miscarriages, from the great discharge that is generally present, break down the constitution, and frequently develop severe chronic diseases. When miscarriage takes place at a more advanced period, it assumes a very serious complexion, and is often accompanied with a considerable degree of peril to the sufferer.

The premonitory and accompanying symptoms of miscarriage vary much in their nature; sometimes the discharge is exceedingly profuse, at others moderate or inconsiderable; the pains, in many instances, extremely severe and protracted, are in others very slight and of short continuance.

Sudden *mental emotions*, or great *physical exertion*, a *luxurious mode of life*, fashionable habits, powerful aperients, *neglecting to take air and exercise*, are a few of the exciting causes of this affec-

tion, which is particularly apt to occur in both highly plethoric, or delicate and nervous habits. A psoric condition of the patient, is undoubtedly the *predisposing cause*.

Miscarriage is, in most cases, preceded and attended by the majority of the following symptoms. A sensation of chill, followed by fever, with more or less bearing down, particularly when occurring late in pregnancy ; also *severe pains in the abdomen, drawing and cutting pains in the loins*, or pains frequently bearing a close resemblance to those of labour ; discharge of viscid mucus, and blood sometimes of a *bright red*, not unfrequently mixed with coagula ; at others, *dark* and clotted, followed by the emission of a serous fluid. The miscarriage generally takes place during this discharge, which occasionally continues, if not properly checked, to flow for hours after, placing the sufferer in considerable jeopardy. When the pains increase in intensity, and the muscular contractions become generally established, with their characteristic regular throes, and efforts to dilate the mouth of the womb, miscarriage is almost inevitable. As *preventives* of this affection, the principal remedies are *Sabina* and *Secale Cornutum*.

When the premonitory symptoms of miscarriage declare themselves, *Chamomilla*, *Nux Vomica*, *Ferrum Metallicum*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Sabina*, and *Calcarea*. The same with the addition of *Hyoscyamus*, *Crocus* and *Secale Cornutum*, after the misfortune has taken place. *Cinchona* is also valuable when the indications which we shall give for that medicine are present.

In cases where there is an evident disposition to miscarriage, or where, from a variety of reasons, it is apprehended, the administration of SABINA in the early stage of pregnancy, will frequently prevent its recurrence. With regard to its exhibition, we may allow about three weeks to elapse between the first and second doses, and gradually lengthen the interval for each successive administration, until the period of danger be past.

Hartmann* strongly recommends SECALE CORNUTUM, as useful in similar cases, but particularly when this misfortune has already occurred more than once; it should be administered every fourteen days, commencing immediately after the cessation of the monthly period, and continuing until the period at which miscarriage usually occurs, is past; one dose more, at the utmost, being allowed after this period.

Both these remedies are also valuable to follow the other medicaments mentioned, after miscarriage has taken place, the latter particularly, in *weak or exhausted* persons, or in those cases of hemorrhage in which the discharge consists of *dark liquid blood*, and is followed by *considerable debility*; this remedy is also efficacious in cases of *inevitable miscarriage*, attended with *feeble expulsive efforts*; the former, *Sabina*, when there are dragging and forcing pains, extending downwards from the back and loins; sensations of sinking or faintness in the abdomen; frequent desire to relieve the bowels; diarrhœa; nausea or vomiting; chilliness and heat, with fever.

* Therapie acut. Frank-form, Vol. II. p. 352, 2d. Edit.

We shall now treat of miscarriage when the premonitory symptoms have set in, giving under the same head, the indications for the use of the medicaments, where the result is *unavoidable, or has already taken place*, as even in these cases, their administration is decidedly beneficial in obviating further injurious consequences, and in alleviating the sufferings of the patient. The remedies in these cases are, *Chamomilla, Nux Vomica, Ipecacuanha, Hyoscyamus, Belladonna, Crocus, Ferrum Metallicum, Sabina, Secale Cornutum, and Calcareia*.

CHAMOMILLA, when there are present: excessive restlessness, convulsions, twitching in the back and limbs; severe pains in the loins and back, worse at night, generally of a sharp cutting description, extending downwards, strongly resembling those of labour; sometimes also *abdominal spasms*, with a species of sanguineous discharge; or discharge of deep red, or dark coagulated blood; frequent yawning; coldness and shivering.

NUX VOMICA. Obstinate constipation *and swelling of the veins*; also when the patient has been accustomed to a stimulating diet, and the use of coffee: severe burning, or wrenching pains in the loins; painful pressure downwards, and mucous discharge.

IPECACUANHA. Chill with heat; pressure downwards in the region of the groin; discharge of bright red blood, or coagulation; cramp and rigidity of the frame; sometimes convulsions; vomiting, or desire to vomit; cutting pains in the umbilical region.

HYOSCYAMUS, when the convulsions are very severe, with cries, great anguish, oppression of the chest, and *loss of consciousness*.

BELLADONNA. Great pains in the loins and in the entire abdomen, with *severe central bearing down*; pain in the back, as if it were dislocated; discharge, if any, of *bright red* blood. It is also particularly valuable in cases of profuse hemorrhage of the above description, after miscarriage.

FERRUM METALLICUM is a useful medicine in cases of miscarriage attended with fever, labour-like pains, and considerable sanguineous discharge.

CROCUS is especially indicated in cases which are attended or followed by discharge of *dark coagulated* or viscid blood, with a sensation as of something moving or jumping about in the umbilical region. This remedy is frequently useful in obstinate cases, after the employment of one or more of the above mentioned remedies.

CINCHONA is valuable in the *restoration of the vital power after the hemorrhage*, or materially assists in checking the discharge, should there be spasmodic pain in the womb, or bearing down sensation, with considerable discharges of blood at intervals.

CALCAREA is a remedy of considerable importance, in the treatment of cases where the affection is apparently induced by a varicose state of the veins. It is also of value as a preventive, and especially where the patient is of a *plethoric habit*, with a tender or irritable skin, and other psoric appearances.

We have thus enumerated some of the principal

homœopathic remedies which are employed in the different stages of this misfortune, and have endeavoured to point out the peculiar indications for the selection of the proper medicament as succinctly, and at the same time as fully, as it is possible to do, in a work like the present. In concluding the subject, we shall briefly notice a few precautionary measures that the patient ought to observe while threatened with, or after having suffered from the affliction.

When miscarriage is threatened, the individual must assume the recumbent posture, and in some cases indeed, should be strictly confined to bed, sleeping with few bedclothes; the apartment should be kept cool, and every means must be employed to ensure perfect tranquillity of mind. The diet prescribed in cases under homœopathic treatment should be closely followed, and warm fluids generally avoided. When the misfortune has proved unavoidable, or has actually taken place, before assistance has been sought, the patient ought still to be confined to bed for a few days, lest a fresh discharge be brought about by too early a change from a horizontal to an upright posture; and on future occasions, when a *similar period* comes round, great care should be taken that the mishap may not again occur; in the attainment of this desirable object, we feel confident that nothing will tend so fully to ensure success, as a timely application to one or other of the preventive remedies already described.

TREATMENT BEFORE PARTURITION.

PREPARATION OF THE BREASTS.

Young mothers frequently find great difficulty in suckling their children, in consequence of organic defect, or incapacity of the nipple. In every case, a preparation of the breasts is necessary some weeks before delivery, in order to prepare them for their future office. In many instances, the structure of the breasts is disorganised from an ignorant nurse having compressed them in childhood, from the idea, that such a process was needful for the expulsion of some matter in the breasts of the child—a vulgar error—a practice against which mothers ought to be particularly watchful; the same inability of function is likely to occur from the pressure of stays in after life, by which the cuticle is rendered so tender, as to preclude suckling.

The first two cases are beyond the power of art. If suckling be attempted, induration of the nipple and mamma ensues, attended with severe suffering; when, however, a simple tenderness of the epidermis exists, this evil is much alleviated when the nipples are bathed with brandy twice a day, for several weeks anterior to delivery. Another difficulty, frequently accompanying this state, is a shortness or retraction of the nipple, so that the infant cannot take hold of it; this defect is frequently the cause of the first, from the ineffectual efforts of the child to suck injuring the part; in this case, appropriate shields of

soft wood may be applied to accustom the nipple to elongate, and protrude so as to present sufficient hold for the infant, when the period for suckling arrives, when the efforts of the child will still further contribute towards the effecting of this object. In this case also, bathing with brandy will naturally tend to correct any tenderness of the skin, and prevent subsequent excoriation. It may also be here remarked, that during the period of lactation, between the intervals of the infant being applied to the breast, the shield should be resumed, and the bathing continued, due care being always taken to lave the nipple carefully with tepid water, before it is again offered to the child.

REMEDIES BEFORE LABOUR.

Many things are recommended by the old school previous to labour, such as frequent blood-lettings and aperients ; but these, instead of promoting the object desired, have a contrary effect, by lowering the energies requisite at such an eventful period, and by placing the nervous system in an abnormal state of irritation and excitement ; when this loss of humour is brought about in the first period of pregnancy, it defeats its own object, by what are commonly called *plethoric** symptoms, induced by the re-action in the organism, to supply this uncalled for waste, and this

* *Plethoric*. To obviate misconception, we may mention, that we do not use this word to indicate too great a *quantity* of blood in the system, but derangements of the circulation simulating that appearance.

always taking place with a correspondent expenditure of vital power. It is a species of infatuation to disturb the regular course of nature, by the ill-directed efforts of art, where an evident plethoric state exists ; this object is much more safely and effectually attained by the internal administration of a specific remedy, such as a few doses of ACONITE.

An artificial evacuation, previous to delivery, may be obtained by a *lavement* of lukewarm water, with a small quantity of linseed oil, when necessary.

FALSE PAINS.

Before we proceed to notice parturition, we may say a few words upon the so called, false, spurious or intestinal pains, brought about by congestion of blood to the uterus, errors in regimen, emotions of the mind, effects of chill in the abdomen, and a variety of other causes ; they sometimes precede labour but a few hours, but in many cases come on some days, and even weeks, before delivery ; they chiefly differ from labour pains in the irregularity of their recurrence, in being *unconnected with uterine contraction, and chiefly confined to the small of the back, with painfulness of the abdomen to touch and movement, and in not increasing in intensity as they return* ; sometimes, from their close resemblance, it is extremely difficult to discriminate between them and the real labour pains ; but in such cases, we must be chiefly guided by the period of gestation ; and our safest mode of procedure is, to

endeavour to mitigate the patient's sufferings by the administration of a proper remedy, as, if we allow them to proceed unchecked, they not unfrequently continue till the moment of delivery, rendering the labour much more painful and difficult. The following medicaments may be had recourse to with effect: *Bryonia*, *Nux Vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, and *Dulcamara*, selecting the one most suitable for the affection, according to the symptoms.

BRYONIA, when the pains in the loins resemble a dragging weight, attended with constipation and irritability, much increased by motion, with abdominal pains preceding those in the back.

NUX VOMICA. Similar pains in the back and abdomen; also when the pains resemble a bruise, and arise chiefly at night, particularly if attended with constipation and irritability.

PULSATILLA. Similar abdominal pains; pains in the loins resembling those from continued stooping, or a tight bandage, with a sense of rigidity; with either constipation or relaxation, or both alternately; mildness of temper or great sensibility. The three foregoing are particularly valuable when these pains appear to have arisen from errors in regimen, especially from stimulants.

DULCAMARA is chiefly useful when the origin may be traced to cold, and the pains are of a violent, shooting and drawing nature, situated in the *small of the back*, generally coming on at night. When they seem to arise from emotions of the mind, we may consult MENTAL EMOTIONS.

PARTURITION AND LABOUR PAINS.

It is a very general, but exceedingly erroneous idea, that nature ever destined this period for one of severe suffering; the pain and danger, frequently its attendants, arise, not from her ordinations, but from a long continued course of offending against them. Were it not for the acquired habits of civilized life—improper diet—the proportions of the female frame being distorted by tight-lacing, &c., and their regular functions thereby disturbed—diseases generated by the want of proper air or exercise, or both—hereditary maladies, &c., parturition would be *almost* free from pain, as in fact it is, even at the present day, frequently found among savages. We shall here quote a few words from an eminent writer, corroborative of this position.

“Child-bearing is a natural, and not a morbid process, and in the facility with which healthy regular women pass through it, we have abundant evidence, that the Creator did not design it to be necessarily a time of suffering and danger.”—*Dr. A. Combe on the Management of Infancy*, 2nd ed., p. 99.

However, in cases in which the labour is exceedingly severe, which frequently occurs when the female is of a slender form, and delicate and nervous habit of body, and more especially at the birth of the first child; particularly if this event occur at an advanced period of life, a dose of *COFFEA CRUDA* is often sufficient to relieve the sufferer, when not accustomed to its daily use, or if it fail, *ACONITE*; in cases of the abuse of coffee, the *olfaction* from the bottle of *Nux Vom-*

ICA is more particularly to be recommended, especially when the female complains of a continual urgency to relieve nature, and straining. When this proves insufficient, BELLADONNA ought to be had recourse to, particularly with elderly females giving birth to their first child, in which the suffering principally arises from the rigidity of the muscles.

On other occasions, we find the throes are insufficient to accomplish their object; in such instances, PULSATILLA is valuable where the labour pains are almost unfelt, and at long intervals, attended with acute pains in the loins, and *painful drawing sensation in the thighs*, which tend much to weaken the woman, without furthering the labour.

When *Pulsatilla* has not had the desired effect, and when the labour pains return every quarter of an hour, *not increasing in intensity*, SECALE CORNUTUM, ought to be administered. Again, when we find the pain, although powerful at first, suddenly cease, followed by a tremor of the whole body, occasionally interrupted by violent jerkings, and when the patient falls into a sort of *lethargic slumber, with open mouth and stertorous breathing; the eyes half closed, with great difficulty in arousing the sufferer, even by violent means*, in such cases, OPIUM is indicated. When the pains suddenly disappear, without other indications, one or two drops of the *Mother Tincture of Cinnamon* will prove of service, especially where the labour is far advanced.

We have now, in a great measure, treated of the course to be pursued when nature seems to call for our assistance to further her exertions; but we must, at the same time, reprobate a rash

and ill-advised interference with her operations ; and we cannot, in common with most men of eminence of the other school, too strongly reprehend the practice of administering spirituous beverages, or stimulants, such as chamomile tea, and other ptisans, coffee, and even opium, under the absurd impression of thereby facilitating delivery.

Spirituous liquors are objectionable, from their accelerating the circulation, and consequently producing difficult labour, and too great a loss of blood ; Coffee, from its causing high nervous excitability ; Chamomile, from its pathogenetic property of producing, or creating a tendency to metrorrhagia ; ptisans, whose peculiar properties we need not enter upon here, are all more or less of a stimulating or irritating nature. Opium, given merely as a palliative of the severity of the throes, materially retards delivery.

As a general rule, every substance, possessing a medicinal property, administered upon the false premises above noticed, tends to injury, and must therefore be carefully avoided.

With regard to the after birth, when common mechanical means for its expulsion fail we may have recourse to *Pulsatilla*, *Secale Cornutum*, or *Opium*, selecting by the symptoms already mentioned.

When the parturition is complete, the administration of *ARNICA* is always followed by the happiest results, preventing much severe after suffering, and we are convinced, that many critical cases of inflammation, &c., might thereby be warded off, and in instances where the labour has been very protracted, the *Arnica*, applied externally, will be found to afford great relief.

SPASMODIC PAINS, CRAMPS AND CONVULSIONS.

We sometimes, in *complicated* labours, find spasmodic pains set in, which occasion considerable suffering without advancing the birth; the principal remedies against these affections are *Chamomilla*, *Belladonna*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Stramonium*, *Cicuta Virosa*, *Ignatia*, *Ipecacuanha*, and *Cocculus*; being guided in the selection by the following symptoms:

CHAMOMILLA; when *there is great bearing down*, attended by spasmodic convulsions; redness of the face, *especially of one cheek*; *excessive sensibility of the nervous system, and excitement.*

BELLADONNA; when *the bearing down is excessive, as if the entire contents of the abdomen were about to be protruded*; convulsive movements in the limbs; great agitation with continual tossing; *occasionally throbbing and distension of the vessels of the head*; bloated redness of the face, with profuse sweat.

HYOSCYAMUS; when the convulsions are still more severe, accompanied with *great anguish and cries*; oppression of the chest and loss of consciousness.

STRAMONIUM; convulsions, *without loss of consciousness*, and trembling of the limbs.

IGNATIA; *cramp-like and compressive pains*, with sensation of *suffocation*; *confused feeling in the head.*

CICUTA VIROSA; general convulsions, or cramp-like contortions of the limbs; *pallor or sallow hue of the face.*

IPECACUANHA ; spasmodic convulsions ; paleness or bloatedness of the face, occasionally with desire to vomit.

COCCULUS ; cramps or convulsions of the limbs and whole body, *more especially in the lower part of the abdomen, with heat, redness, and puffiness of the face.*

CUPRUM METALLICUM ; in very severe cases.

TREATMENT AFTER DELIVERY.

After the termination of delivery, both body and mind must be kept in a state of perfect repose ; every thing which may tend to arouse the excitability of the patient, such as noise, strong light, and odour, must be carefully avoided, and the room kept at a moderate temperature. After the birth, the female should be allowed to enjoy that slumber, which, in natural cases, generally follows without interruption ; but it is commendable to feel the pulse from time to time, to ascertain if a healthy action is going on. Sometimes this desirable state of rest is kept off by great nervous excitement on the part of the female, with incessant tossing in bed and restlessness. COFFEA CRUDA, will often suffice to dissipate these symptoms, and to procure a refreshing slumber ; should it fail, and any febrile symptoms be present, ACONITE, will generally produce the desired effect. When these remedies, which answer in the majority of cases, fail of their accustomed success, we must endeavour to trace the cause, and will generally discover symptoms, pointing out a different remedy, which, if judi-

ciously chosen, will, with almost absolute certainty, afford a satisfactory result. The practitioner will generally find but little difficulty in the selection of the fitting medicament ; but there are so many circumstances to guide his choice, that it would be wholly foreign to our purpose, in a work of this kind, to enter upon the several contingencies applicable to individual or isolated cases.

Here again, at the risk of appearing verbose, we must severely reprobate the practice of administering stimulating, and *even spirituous* beverages to females after delivery, which, far from possessing a strengthening property, tend only to excite and irritate the whole nervous system. For some time after parturition, nature calls for but little nourishment ; it should be given only when the female *herself* expressly feels the want of it, and then be of the lightest and most digestible kind, and in very small quantities. It is highly reprehensible to endeavour to induce a female to partake of food, under the absurd idea of strengthening her. We must allow nature to pursue her own course, which prescribes but little nourishment for the first five or six days after delivery, and thereby avoids the necessity of calling the bowels into action, which state of constipation, (if it may be so called,) is ordained for the wisest purposes, and attended with the most beneficial results ; while the temporary inactivity of the alimentary canal is compensated by the vicarious action of the skin (demonstrating itself by increased perspiration) and the balance of the system thus kept up. We cannot, therefore,

sufficiently condemn the use of aperients, which only tend to promote irritation and bring on puerperal fever, and other evil consequences; in many cases, also, this artificial relaxation interferes with the proper secretion of milk. After the fourth or sixth day, nature generally acts spontaneously, and when it appears necessary to afford mechanical assistance, we may do so by the application of warm friction to the abdomen, or the employment of a simple lavement, consisting of tepid water, with a little linseed oil or thin gruel. When this state, which seldom happens, continues so long as to cause inconvenience, *Nux Vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Bryonia*, and *Opium*, may be resorted to. (See article CONSTIPATION.) The remedy thus indicated by the symptoms will afford speedy relief.

AFTER PAINS.

In excitable temperaments, the After Pains are frequently very protracted and distressing, and deprive the female of rest, in which case immediate relief is necessary; in many instances the previous administration of *Arnica*, as before mentioned, is sufficient, being almost specific, and although given as a preventive in the first place, it should be repeated as soon as these pains come on; but when the pain still continues, and the patient is highly excitable and sensitive, we should give *CHAMOMILLA* if this fails, and the pain is of an insupportable intensity and acute description, occasionally followed by convulsions, coldness, and rigidity of body, *COFFEA CRUDA*

ought to be selected. We may give *PULSATILLA*, when convulsions do not supervene, the patient is of a mild and gentle disposition, but sensitive and easily alarmed about herself. Again, when the After Pains are very severe, and an inclination to relieve the bowels when in a recumbent posture, passing away when rising, followed by spasmodic pains in the lower parts of the abdomen exists, they are speedily subdued by *Nux Vomica*. In cases of a want of contractile force in the uterus, to which many females are unfortunately predisposed by the causes we have before alluded to, which is generally indicated by metrorrhagia, when the blood is of a black, or dark colour and viscid consistency, and the discharge is attended with stabbing pains in the groins, and in both sides of the region of the loins, *CROCUS* is an invaluable remedy.

CINCHONA, when the blood is coagulated, and the discharge comes on by starts.

DURATION OF CONFINEMENT.

Even in strong and healthy females, during the first five days the patient should remain in bed; in the four following, if she feel herself perfectly strong, and desirous to rise, she may gradually accustom herself to longer periods of sitting up; the great risk is from the extreme susceptibility of the system to cold. After this period, females who still find themselves weak and languid, should prefer the horizontal to the half-recumbent posture; and if this prove wearisome, she may sit up for an hour or two, but not so as to fatigue

herself. The diet should be extremely light, and not of a very nutritious quality; she ought only gradually to partake of food of a more nourishing nature, never having recourse to any thing in the least degree stimulating, and all strong odours from flowers, or other aromatic substances, are to be carefully avoided, the mind kept in a state of perfect tranquillity, and the room dark.

DISEASES FOLLOWING PARTURITION.

DIARRHŒA IN LYING-IN WOMEN.

Diarrhœa, during this period, is a state to be looked upon as highly injurious, and immediate means should be taken for its suppression, by the administration of *Dulcamara*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Rheum*, *Antimonium Crudum*, *Phosphorus*, and *Acidum Phosphoricum*.

The first remedy is generally indicated by the cause, being the check of the natural increased perspiration in lying-in women, and it then acts specifically.

In painless and almost involuntary evacuations, *HYOSCYAMUS*, is most effectual.

RHEUM, and *ANTIMONIUM CRUDUM*, in watery or putrescent evacuations; the former when they emit a sour smell.

In very *obstinate* cases, when the discharge is watery, almost involuntary, and painless, *PHOSPHORUS*, followed, if necessary, by *ACIDUM PHOSPHORICUM*.

SUPPRESSED OR EXCESSIVE SECRETION OF MILK.

It is of paramount importance that the normal operations of the organism peculiar to this state, proceed with due regularity. Among these, the secretion of milk takes a prominent position, and its sudden suppression is apt to be followed by internal and local inflammation, determination of blood to the head, and all the terrible array of symptoms which form the disease commonly denominated puerperal fever, which, however, also results from internal injuries, consequent upon difficult or protracted labour; but if the precaution of administering *Arnica*, already enjoined, has been taken, that source of danger will have been effectually guarded against.

When, however, puerperal fever arises, or threatens to set in, from a sudden suppression of the lacteal secretion, the immediate administration of *PULSATILLA* will frequently be found sufficient to check it at the outset, restore the flow of milk, and re-establish the equilibrium of the organism; if any unpleasant symptoms still remain, they will, in most cases, yield to the administration of *CALCAREA*, followed by *ZINCUM*, if it appear called for.

If the suppression of the secretion arise from any sudden *mental emotion*, we must consult that article for the suitable remedy.

Should feverish symptoms, such as hot dry skin, &c., denoting internal inflammation, set in, *ACONITE* should be immediately administered

at short intervals, according to the intensity of the symptoms ; if the fever run high, we must have recourse to medical assistance, as this is by far too serious and critical an affection to be treated by non-professional Homœopathists.

We may here refer back to our remarks upon the evil effects of aperients, which, by their action upon the intestines, frequently cause a suppression of the lacteal fluid, and the consequent fever.

Sometimes, on the other hand, it happens that too abundant a secretion takes place, causing distention of the breasts, and involuntary emission of milk, productive of extreme emaciation, and sometimes development of phthisis. *CALCAREA* will be found useful in this affection ; or should it fail to relieve, *PHOSPHORUS*.

When the febrile symptoms evidently arise from distention of the breasts, induced by excessive secretion, and indications of what is generally denominated milk fever, (which, however, frequently arises from other causes,) set in, we may, with great effect, administer *RHUS TOXICODENDRON*.

ACONITE, as a precautionary measure, when there is high febrile action of the whole system, and we are ignorant of the exciting cause.

PERSPIRATION AFTER DELIVERY, SUPPRESSION OR EXCESS OF.

The increased perspiration which takes place after child birth, is, as we have before observed, a substitute for the suspended action of the alimentary canal ; consequently its sudden suppres-

sion is unavoidably followed by an injurious result, and not unfrequently puerperal fever.

Exposure to cold, or a sudden chill, is the most frequent cause of this affection; we consequently find that the immediate administration of *DULCAMARA* will suffice to restore the action of the skin, and prevent further injurious consequences. Should it fail, *NUX VOMICA* will generally be found efficacious.

On the other hand, an excessive perspiration is almost equally prejudicial; it is generally brought about by keeping the room of the female at too high a temperature, too great a quantity of bed-clothes, or stimulating beverages; it is chiefly injurious from the extreme debility and high susceptibility to taking cold it occasions. Our first care must be the removal of the exciting causes; and should the malady still continue, we may administer *SAMBUCUS NIGER*, which will generally be found effectual in its removal.

IRREGULARITIES OF THE LOCHIAL DISCHARGE.

This varies considerably in different females; with some it continues for several weeks, in others only a few days; sometimes it is thin and scanty, at others so profuse and long continued, as imperatively to call for medical assistance, and may be frequently traced to sitting up too soon after confinement, to errors in regimen, keeping the chamber of the female at too high a temperature, or mental emotions. If, after nine days, the discharge continues profuse, containing pure

blood, whereby an abnormal state is indicated, *Crocus*, *Bryonia* and *Calcarea* are the principal remedies.

CROCUS. When the blood is black or dark and of a viscid consistency.

BRYONIA. When of a deep red, with internal burning pains in the region of the uterus.

CALCAREA is more particularly indicated when there is an itching kind of sensation in the uterus.

When the lochia are suddenly suppressed, which they frequently are, from a variety of external causes, such as mental emotions, &c.; and from this cause puerperal fever threatens, the danger may frequently be warded off by the administration of PULSATILLA.

When the sudden suppression arises from fright, with febrile symptoms, ACONITE will generally be found sufficient, or *Opium*, when the indications given under MILK FEVER or MENTAL EMOTIONS, are present.

When caused by exposure to cold or damp, DULCAMARA will be found efficacious, and may be advantageously followed by PULSATILLA.

On the other hand, when the discharge continues, but becomes sanious, fœtid, and offensive, BELLADONNA will generally suffice to restore it to its normal state; if it prove inefficient, we may administer CARBO ANIMALIS; and if the occasion seem to require it, SECALE CORNUTUM.

SILICEA, when *pure blood follows with the lochia each time that the infant is applied to the breast.*

ABDOMINAL DEFORMITY.

Although in natural cases, and healthy constitutions, no abnormal derangements should follow parturition, still we frequently find that a number of unpleasant symptoms, generally arising from maltreatment, supervene. Among these we may mention the thickening of the abdominal coats, occasionally ending in a permanent malformation and pendulous appearance. This affection is more commonly incident to females who have borne many children, or who present a predisposition to corpulency, and is found especially difficult of treatment, when tight stays, which we have already remarked as one of the principal exciting causes, have relaxed the abdominal muscles, and by so doing, increased the existing bias. When, however, it is caused by the natural strain upon these muscles during pregnancy, the inconvenience may be successfully obviated, by following Professor Jörg's method, of an external application of equal parts of rum, white wine, and vinegar.

The internal administration of *SEPIA* is recommended by Dr. Gross as still more effectual, who at the same time advises the adoption of an elastic bandage, laced at the back, and exerting an equable pressure over the whole of the abdominal region. In some cases where there is a tendency to this affection, particularly in corpulent habits, we may, *after delivery*, have recourse to mechanical aid, by transferring the weight from the abdominal muscles to the shoulders, by the

aid of a properly constructed apparatus ; but we must in the strongest manner object to this or any other pressure being exercised upon the abdominal region *during pregnancy*, as calculated to entail malformation, such as club feet, &c., upon the offspring.

FALLING OFF OF THE HAIR.

Another evil that some females, particularly those who nurse their infants themselves, suffer after confinement, is the falling out of the hair of the head. This arises from an *innate delicacy of constitution*, against which the following medicaments have proved particularly efficacious, and should be repeated every eight days :

TINCTURA SULPHURIS, NATRUM MURIATICUM, CARBO VEGETABILIS, SEPIA, LYCOPODIUM, and CALCAREA ; the latter, in those cases in which the lochial discharge has proved very profuse, or in which the catamenia are generally too abundant.

With regard to the other medicines, we would in most instances recommend a commencement with *Tinctura Sulphuris*. The indications for the rest, would be out of place in a work of this nature in many cases, the index given at the end of the work will prove of some slight service in the selection.

LEUCORRHŒA AFTER PARTURITION.

A third evil is Leucorrhœa, which, although at the commencement, merely a consequence of

the relaxation of the internal uterine economy, after the completion of the lochial discharge, and at first of an innocuous character, frequently proves exceedingly troublesome, and finally puts on a morbid appearance, becoming acrid, and productive of excoriation. We generally find a predisposition to the disease in scrofulous, torpid, and leuco-phlegmatic temperaments; in some families this malady is hereditary, and only to be removed by a careful course of anti-psoric treatment; in fact, it generally is of too difficult and obstinate a nature, to be treated otherwise than by a regular practitioner; we may content ourselves therefore, with mentioning, that when an acrid and excoriating discharge sets in, BOVISTA has been recommended as specific, and may be taken as a precautionary measure, until a physician's advice is attainable.

INTERNAL UTERINE SWELLING AND PROLAPSUS.

A swelling of the interior economy is frequently the result of a difficult labour; and in some cases of mismanaged parturition we sometimes find it complicated with uterine prolapsus; if the precaution of exhibiting ARNICA, which we have before noted, (page 155,) have been taken, this will rarely occur; if, however, it set in with a burning pain, and bearing down, a single dose of NUX VOMICA will generally remove the evil.

WEAKNESS AFTER DELIVERY.

We frequently find a high degree of weakness or exhaustion remaining after delivery ; when it has been caused by very considerable hemorrhage, during or after that period, CINCHONA is particularly indicated, and will generally be found efficient in restoring the vital energies. When, however, the arrangement depends upon nervous weakness, and is attended with restlessness and want of sleep, we may administer ACONITE followed, if necessary, by COFFEA ; or substitute VERATRUM for the latter medicine, when the prostration of strength is excessive.

When the patient is of a psoric habit, we must have recourse to KALI CARBONICUM and in some instances to SULPHUR or ACIDUM NITRICUM.

MILK FEVER.

The secretion of milk must be looked upon rather as an operation of nature, than one requiring medical aid for its regulation. Nevertheless, many females suffer some slight uneasiness for a few days following confinement, during the first period of that process ; when any of the under-mentioned group of symptoms present themselves, the affection is known by the name of milk fever, and appears to arise, in a great measure, from an increased excitability of the vascular and nervous system.

Thirst, shivering, and heat, terminating in perspiration ; the pulse, at first weak, changing

to various phases, sometimes quick and frequent, at others soft and regular; in some instances, these symptoms are attended with a drawing pain in the back, extending to the breast, a disagreeable taste in the mouth, and headache; the exacerbation declares itself regularly about evening, and towards morning perspiration comes on, with alleviation of suffering, or temporary termination of the attack, which not unfrequently recurs on the following day, but rarely rises to such a height as to threaten danger; nature herself, if not disturbed by improper treatment, will, in most cases, suffice to restore the equilibrium of the system. When the secretion is re-established, and the lochial discharge resumes its normal course, the derangement generally ceases; should however, the affection become aggravated, we may dread the setting in of puerperal fever.

When the symptoms are as above described, and medical assistance is required for their alleviation, we must, if possible, in the first place, endeavour to discover the exciting cause; when the affection is traceable to MENTAL EMOTIONS, we may consult that article for the remedy.

PULSATILLA will be found particularly useful in severe cases, especially when caused by taking cold, and bearing a closer approximation to a rheumatic affection, than to the general symptoms of milk fever; this medicament is very efficacious in restoring the lacteal secretion, and may be regarded as a prophylactic against puerperal fever, especially when the precautionary measure of the administration of *Arnica* has been neglected.

ACONITE may be had recourse to in all instances where high inflammatory fever is present.

BRYONIA may with great advantage follow *Aconite*, when the inflammatory symptoms are in a great measure subdued, and is particularly indicated when constipation is present, and the pain in the breast partakes of a rheumatic character.

BELLADONNA is useful in particular cases; a reference to INFLAMMATION OF THE BREASTS, and other places where that medicament is mentioned, will serve to point out in what instances it is most likely to prove efficacious.

OBSTACLES TO SUCKLING.

DISINCLINATION OF THE INFANT.

Where there is a tendency to consumption in the mother, or she is of a strumous habit, the infant ought, for its own sake, to be reared with the spoon, or a nurse provided; but even some healthy mothers find a difficulty, before they become accustomed to it, in nursing their children, which a little perseverance will soon effectually overcome: but when (a rare instance, if applied soon after delivery,) the child itself refuses to take the breast, the administration of CINA, followed, if not speedily efficacious, by MERCURIUS SOLUBILIS, is generally found to remove this repugnance in the course of a few hours.

EXCORIATION OF THE NIPPLES.

In the majority of those cases in which no malformation of the parts is present, the main difficulty arises from the nipples having become sore and cracked, which the efforts of the infant tear open afresh, and cause to bleed.

This excoriation of the nipples is frequently prevented by following up the treatment, of which we have already spoken, under the head of PREPARATION OF THE NIPPLES, of course taking the precaution of laving them with a little warm milk and water before the child is applied to the breast; the shield before mentioned, ought always to be worn during the intervals of suckling.

When there is a tendency, however slight, to rawness or excoriation, great care must be taken lest the shield adhere to the skin; it ought to be frequently removed, and together with the nipple, kept perfectly dry; attention to these particulars will generally remove this difficulty. The mother ought, however, gradually to accustom herself to nourish the infant, using a sucking glass, which should be carefully washed every day. Should, however, the nipples have already become very sore and irritable, from the neglect of these precautionary measures, it is necessary to have recourse to specific remedies, without which, if suckling be persisted in, suppuration frequently ensues.

In the first stage of the affection, ARNICA should be administered internally, and the breasts

laved with a *weak* lotion,* say two drops, of the *Mother Tincture*, to one ounce of rectified spirits of wine. If this fail, we must have recourse to antipsorics, as this disease almost always arises from a psoric cause, females of healthy temperament being generally exempt from it. These remedies, when necessary, may be taken even during the use of the glasses, or suckling. Among the antipsorics, *TINCTURA SULPHURIS* seems particularly indicated for most cases of this affection, and will generally remove the disease in eight days; if this fail, *CALCAREA*, will in most instances suffice. We may also mention *LYCOPodium*, *SEPIA* and *GRAPHITES*, the latter especially, when the female has formerly suffered from scaliness of the head, with a gnawing or itching sensation. In the choice of the fitting medicament in complicated cases, the physician can be guided by the aggregate of the symptoms.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BREASTS.

Another, and one of the greatest obstacles to a mother nourishing her infant, is an erysipelatous inflammation and swelling of the breasts, of which anything tending to disturb the lacteal secretion, such as fright, passion, cold, &c., serves for an exciting cause, although we frequently find it present, without being able to trace its origin; it not unfrequently arises from a too tardy administration of the breast to the infant, or from a

* This lotion may also be applied with advantage in the PREPARATION OF THE BREASTS, when irritation or inflammation appears to arise from the pressure of the shield.

sudden cessation of suckling, from the death of the child, or other reasons, causing a distention of the lactiferous tubes. When a sudden suppression of the secretion occurs, the breasts become red, inflamed and indurated, occasionally suppurating in some parts, which open and discharge, while others remain still hard and inflammatory, finally either ending in suppuration, or the formation of obstinate nodosities.

This disease, if not checked, and but too frequently under Allopathic treatment, exhibits a variety of phases ; and the suppuration that takes place, leaves behind it disfiguring cicatrices ; frequently the breasts are so far destroyed, as to be rendered ever after incapable of performing their functions, and, in many instances, the foundation of cancer is laid.

It is our firm conviction that this malady can only be effectually combated by the Homœopathic treatment, and that any other mode, so far from even alleviating, can only aggravate the evil.

The principal remedy in this affection before the inflammation becomes fully developed, is *BRYONIA*, especially when the breasts are hard and tumefied, and the secretion of milk suppressed. *BELLADONNA*, when the inflammation is more intense, and the erysipelatous appearance of the skin clearly defined ; after which remedy, the disease is generally vanquished.

When, however, a degree of induration still remains, *MERCURIUS SOLUBILIS*, should be given ; in more severe cases, when the psoric virus has been roused, and in which suppuration has already commenced, *ACIDUM PHOSPHORICUM*, fol-

lowed by *HEPAR SULPHURIS*, in extreme cases, in which it is absolutely necessary to bring the matter to a head.

In instances in which we find a foetid and serous discharge, which is frequently brought about by neglect or by improper treatment under the old system, such as the application of deleterious salves, &c., *SILICEA*, in about three weeks, will restore the breast to its former condition.

If this disease evidently arise from the effect of a sudden chill, *DULCAMARA* ought to be given immediately, and will generally obviate all injurious consequences.

In cases where the disease has arisen from external injury, *ARNICA* should be administered, and a lotion, one part of the tincture to seven of pure water, locally applied.

In psoric habits, tincture of *SULPHUR* and *GRAPHITES* should be exhibited, when the indications before noted, under *EXCORIATION OF THE NIPPLES*, are present.

MENTAL EMOTIONS AFFECTING THE MILK.

It is a well known fact, confirmed by numerous examples, that Mental Emotions have a most powerful effect upon this secretion, in a moment changing it from a source of nutriment into a substance most injurious to the infant. Mothers ought to bear this in mind, and after having suffered from fright, passion, &c., should desist from suckling until the mind be perfectly tranquil,

and ere the infant be again applied to the breast, draw off a portion of the milk. Fortunately, for evils arising from these causes, Homœopathy presents prompt and efficacious remedies, (for which see MENTAL EMOTIONS,) which, if at hand, should be administered immediately, according to the cause and symptoms.

DEFICIENCY IN THE SECRETION OF MILK.

Sometimes a deficiency of milk is found to arise from a want of energy, either functional or general. For disturbance of the secretion arising from an inflammatory action, vide INFLAMMATION OF THE BREASTS.

When the suppression arises from the first cause, the chief medicines useful in restoring a proper and healthy flow of milk, are PULSATILLA, CALCAREA and CAUSTICUM. The physician is the best judge in the application of these remedies, as there are many minute symptoms by which his choice must be guided in the selection. In simple cases PULSATILLA will most frequently be found efficacious; the others presume the existence of psora, and the patient consequently requires to undergo a complete course of antipsoric treatment, in which the two latter are particularly indicated.

DETERIORATION AND DISCOLORATION OF MILK.

If the milk becomes too clear and watery, or is repugnant to the child, CINA and MERCURIUS

SOLUBILIS or SILICEA in obstinate cases, (and particularly if the infant vomits immediately after suckling,) will frequently bring about an amelioration.

RHEUM, when the milk becomes thick and yellow, and the child is restless and fretful, will generally remove the derangement, in cases when it has not been brought about by an abuse of Rhubarb.

MOTHERS NOT SUCKLING THEIR CHILDREN.

In the present state of society, there are many mothers, who, from a variety of circumstances, find themselves necessitated to engage the services of a nurse for their offspring ; in such cases, a female, who has the slightest regard for her health, should be particularly careful in her diet, and until the secreting process has completely ceased, she should live as low as possible : the application of dry cupping glasses to the outside of the arm, a little below the shoulder, or to the inferior extremities, will materially hasten the suppression of the lacteal secretion. When suffering from inflammation ensues, we may have recourse to BELLADONNA and BRYONIA, for which indications are given under INFLAMMATION OF THE BREASTS ; CALCAREA is serviceable, when the breasts are considerably distended with milk ; these same directions will serve as a guide during the period of WEANING.

We have thus far treated of the different affections of females, and of the conduct to be observ-

ed by them before, during, and after pregnancy, and shall now proceed to the second part of our subject, the Treatment of Infants, and endeavour to point out the best mode of warding off the dangers that encompass that peculiarly critical period of man's existence.

TREATMENT OF INFANTS.

TREATMENT AFTER BIRTH.

As soon as the child is born, it should be wrapped in fine flannel, with a piece of soft linen rag inside, the flannel itself being too rough for its delicate skin ; the wrapper should be heated to a temperature of 98 degrees, as it is only gradually that the infant becomes inured to the temperature of the surrounding atmosphere. The skin should be gently washed with a little lukewarm water and bran, applied with a sponge, taking care not to continue the first washing too long, for fear of irritation ; soap must on no account be used ; the room should be kept rather dark, and perfectly quiet, and all strongly scented substances removed. After washing, the body ought to be immediately dried, to avoid the risk of taking cold ; the child should be bathed twice a day, to keep up the action of the skin, gradually lowering the temperature of the water after weaning.

The best time for bathing the infant is in the morning, when taken out of bed, and again on returning to it for the night ; immersing the whole body, with the exception of the head, is preferable to any other mode of washing, as the practice of placing it in a tub, with part of the frame alternately laved with tepid water, and exposed to the action of the atmosphere, is apt to bring on a chill.

Nothing can be more evidently opposed to nature and the dictates of common sense, although like many of the absurdities bearing the impress of custom, than the practice of swathing and bandaging the tender bodies of infants, and loading them with a superfluity of clothing, which, by its weight and length, presses upon their lower extremities, and is the frequent cause of deformity and weakness in after life ; in this opinion we are fully borne out by the corroborative testimony of the most eminent practitioners of the old school.

UMBILICAL HERNIA IN INFANTS.

In cases, however, where there is an evident tendency to Umbilical Hernia, we may apply a bandage of soft linen folded, and at the same time exhibit one dose of *Nux Vomica*, which, if no alteration take place, may be repeated next day ; we may then wait a couple of days, and, if no action declare itself, again repeat, bearing in mind the directions upon the repetition of medicines given in the introduction ; if, however, we discover no amelioration from the administration of *Nux Vomica*, we may have recourse to *Veratrum* in the same manner. Obstinate cases are frequently found to yield to the application of the NORTH POLE of the MAGNET. All these remedies are equally useful in those cases of inguinal hernia we occasionally meet with, generally effecting a cure with wonderful promptitude.

This disease being frequently brought on by the violent fits of crying that delicate children are subject to, the bandage may be worn, and re-

tained for some time after the cure, as a precautionary measure against its return.

SWELLING OF THE HEAD.

Immediately after birth, the head of the infant appears more or less swollen; this is in most cases but a trifling affection, and generally goes off of itself; the immediate administration of *ARNICA* to the mother, acting through the medium of the milk, will materially hasten its disappearance; should, however, the swelling be at all excessive, bathe the part affected with a weak lotion of three drops of the tincture of *Arnica* to a wine-glassful of water.

Occasionally a considerable swelling in the larger mould, (*fontanel*,) consisting of fluid, is observable; this is of greater import than the other, though seldom dangerous; if it does not disappear in a day or two, we may administer *RHUS TOXICODENDRON* to the infant.

MECONIUM, EXPULSION OF.

After having been permitted to sleep for five or six hours undisturbed, the infant should be applied to the breast as soon as the mother feels herself sufficiently recovered to permit it, which is generally from eight to ten hours after delivery, and should never be deferred, as we elsewhere observed, longer than twelve; the milk of the mother exciting a mechanical action of the alimentary canal, and assisting in the expulsion of the meconium. Here again we cannot too

strongly reprobate the too general practice of administering *laxative medicines* for this purpose, possessing, as they do, a most deleterious effect upon the tender organism of the infant, and, if not productive of jaundice, a too frequent consequence of their administration, at least laying the foundation of bowel complaint, debility of the stomach, and a host of diseases in after life.

Mothers need not be under apprehension should a temporary delay occur in the passing of the meconium; far greater evil results from the violent methods taken for its expulsion, than could possibly occur from its continuance in the alimentary canal for a few hours longer than ordinary.

Should, however, an unusually long period elapse, and the child appear costive, which in many instances arises from the mother having indulged in the use of ptisans, such as chamomile tea, &c., or in coffee, the administration of a few tea-spoonfuls of warm sugar and water will generally answer every purpose; if it fail of immediate relief, we may then make use of a lavement of equal parts of sweet oil (or pure honey) and water; if these simple means do not effect the desired object, and the infant appear to suffer inconvenience, more particularly when the origin of the constipation seems to be from the mother or nurse, we may administer *Nux Vomica*, *Bryonia*, *Tinctura Sulphuris*, or *Opium* to the female herself—for the indications of which medicines see CONSTIPATION.

SUCKLING OF THE INFANT.

While upon this subject, we shall quote the expressions of a well-known writer, in whose opinion, in this respect, we perfectly coincide.

"Unless very peculiarly urgent reasons prohibit, a mother should support her infant upon the milk she herself secretes. It is the dictate of nature, of common sense, and of reason. Were it otherwise, it is not probable that so abundant a supply of suitable food would be provided to meet the wants of an infant, when it enters upon a new course of existence.

"It is difficult to estimate the mischief resulting from infants being deprived of their natural nourishment; for, however near the resemblance may be between food artificially prepared and breast milk, still, reason and observation demonstrate the superiority of the latter to the former." (*Conquest's Outlines of Midwifery*, p. 193.)

And again:—

"As a further inducement, it should be remembered that medical men concur in the opinion, that very rarely does a constitution suffer from secreting milk; whilst the health of many women is most materially improved by the performance of the duties of nurse." (*Ibid.* p. 194.)

Upon the same subject he says in another place,

"But few mothers, comparatively, are to be found, who, if willing, would not be able to support their infants, at least, for a few months, and parental affection and occasional self-denial would be abundantly recompensed by blooming and vigorous children.

“ Presuming that the laudable determination is formed to indulge the child with that nutriment which is designed for its support, it becomes necessary to state, that unless very strong objections should exist, *twelve hours* should never elapse before the infant has been put to the breast. Instinct directs it what to do, and the advantages of allowing it to suck soon after birth, are many and important, both to the mother and child.

“ By this commendable practice, the patient is generally preserved from fever, from inflamed and broken breasts, and from the distressing and alarming consequences resulting from these complaints.

“ If the breasts should not have secreted milk previous to delivery, the act of sucking will encourage and expedite the secretion. Thus the mother will be saved from much of the pain connected with distended breasts. Besides which, if the infant be not put to the nipple till the breasts become full and tense, the nipple itself will sometimes almost disappear, on account of its being stretched; and without much, and often ineffectual labour on the part of the child, it cannot be laid hold of, and even then the pain endured by the mother is exquisitely severe, and not unfrequently the cause of sore nipples.” (Ibid. p. 195.)

Having premised thus much upon the advantages resulting to both mother and child from following the law of nature, which enjoins the female to nourish her own offspring, and having, moreover, elsewhere noted some of the causes which may prevent its being fully carried into

effect, we shall now proceed to that important point, for those who do not intend nursing their own children, the choice of a nurse, and the regimen to be observed, which is equally applicable to both parties.

THE CHOICE OF A NURSE.

In the selection of a nurse, the medical attendant ought generally to be consulted ; the following points merit particular attention :

She should be apparently of sound health, full and moderate plumpness, with a fresh complexion and clear *eyelids, free from any appearance of redness, scurfiness, or thickening.* She should be thoroughly exempt from glandular enlargements ; possess deep red lips without cracks, sound white teeth, and well formed, moderately firm breasts, with nipples free from excoriation or appearance of eruption ; the child of the nurse is one of the best criterion to judge by ; its being plump and healthy is a great point in her favour. We should also endeavour to discover if she is free from any hereditary taint ; she should moreover be of a mild, patient, and equable temper, not irritable, or disposed to fits of passion, or nervous ; of regular and temperate habits, neat in person, and fond of children. She ought also to be about the same age, and delivered about the same time, or at least within three months of the same period as the mother. With respect to the age, we must of course avoid extremes : a woman, having given birth to a child very late in life, should choose a nurse several years her junior, and fully qualified

for her duties ; the reverse of the rule applies to extremely young mothers.

DIET DURING NURSING.

As regards her diet, it should be simple and easily digested, and she ought to live upon a proper proportion of animal and vegetable food. Nature generally provides for the increased call upon her powers, by the suppression of the menstrual discharge, and moderate increase of appetite, which may be safely indulged ; but all food of a highly concentrated, nourishing nature, is injurious, causing the milk to become too rich and unsuited to the delicate digestion of the infant ; the best guide is the regular Homœopathic regimen, which may be consulted with advantage.

We cannot too strongly repudiate the too prevalent, but deeply erroneous idea, that women, during the period of suckling, require *stimulants* to keep up their strength ; under this impression both wine and malt liquors, and among the latter more particularly porter, are frequently resorted to. Porter is not only injurious from its stimulating properties, but the deleterious effect which the different ingredients, which enter into its composition, have upon the milk, forms one of the most prolific causes of the many evils that attack infancy. Our opinions in this respect are corroborated by the physicians of the old school, though we regret to say, not to the same extent. We shall here content ourselves with a single quotation from a well known medical writer.

“There is an evil too generally prevalent, and

most pernicious in its consequences on individuals and society, and by no means confined to mothers in the lowest classes of the community, which cannot be too severely reprobated; it is the wretched habit of taking wine or spirits to remove the languor present during pregnancy and suckling. It is a practice fraught with double mischief, being detrimental both to mother and child. The relief afforded is temporary, and is invariably followed by a greater degree of languor, which demands a more powerful stimulus, which at length weakens, and eventually destroys the tone of the stomach, deteriorates the milk, and renders it altogether unfit to supply that nutriment, which is essential to the existence and welfare of the child."

SUPPLEMENTARY DIET OF INFANTS.

Unfortunately, some mothers do not possess sufficient milk for the proper nourishment of their offspring; if this arise merely from a deficiency in the secretion, and the female is in other respects healthy, we must have recourse to a supplementary diet, to make up for the diminished quantity of the natural nutriment. Goats', asses', and cows' milk, are excellent substitutes, especially the latter, diluted with one third of water; goats' milk being apparently objectionable from its peculiar aroma. The milk, therefore, of the cow ought, when possible, to be obtained, and if given undiluted, boiled; cows' milk being generally considered too heavy, which boiling in a great measure obviates; it ought also to be slightly

sweetened, so as to resemble as closely as possible that of the nurse ; it should, moreover, be about the same temperature, say ninety-six to ninety-eight degrees, a point less regarded than it should be, and easily determinable by the thermometer. If any constitutional taint exist in the mother, the sooner the child is transferred to another breast, the better for both parties ; if a nurse be not procurable, the above will generally prove sufficient nourishment until the front teeth appear, which is a clear indication that the digestive organs are prepared for more solid food ; if, however, the milk diet appears to disagree with the infant, we may mix a little thin arrow-root, rusk, or well toasted bread in water, to which the milk may be afterwards added ; such alterations in diet are, however, but rarely required.

We may remark, that no portion of the milk ought to be retained for a subsequent meal, from the quickness with which it becomes sour ; the same remark applies to any of the above preparations, in which milk forms the principal ingredient.

In the cows' milk, which was at first diluted, we may, after two or three weeks, gradually diminish the quantity of water, as the digestive organs become stronger ; but we cannot too stringently press the point, that where it is at all practicable, the child ought to derive as great as possible a portion of its nutriment from the breast, as no food can efficiently supply the place of that which nature intended for it at its birth.

When it is necessary to give supplementary nourishment, a suckling bottle ought to be used, as the best imitation of nature in giving the food

slowly; particular care being taken to observe the utmost cleanliness. The child ought, in feeding, to be kept in a reclining, not supine position, as the latter frequently causes it to incur the risk of suffocation; and when it evinces disinclination to its food, no more should be offered. When the front teeth appear, which is about the fifth or sixth month in healthy children, an alteration may take place in the diet; and a well made panado, diluted milk sweetened, and thickened with a small quantity of arrow-root, sago, semolino, or rusk, may be given twice a day. When milk, even prepared with farinaceous substances, disagrees, barely-water, fine well boiled gruel, or weak chicken broth, and beef tea, may be substituted, adhering to that which seems best to agree with the infant, and taking care to vary as circumstances require it, as too long an adherence to barely-water may occasion looseness in the bowels, while the animal diet is liable to lead, if too long continued, to a contrary result; the best precaution in these cases, when the predisposition becomes evident, is an immediate change of the articles of diet.

The child should be accustomed to take its nourishment from each breast alternately; as, if this precaution be not adopted, inflammation is likely to arise in the one not used, and the child is apt to become crooked from being always retained in the same position.

The physician is frequently asked, how often the child ought to be applied to the breast; the best rule is to give it when the infant appears to desire it, and to withdraw it when it appears

satisfied. As it increases in strength, it may easily be accustomed to regular hours, giving it the breast late at night and again early in the morning ; but during the first six weeks or two months, three times during the hours of rest, late in the evening, middle of the night, and early in the morning, will generally be found sufficient.

DURATION OF SUCKLING, AND WEANING.

The period of suckling ought seldom to last longer than forty weeks ; but in this we must be guided, in a great measure, by the constitution of the infant ; weak psoric children, in whom the teeth are long in making their appearance, it has been recommended to continue at the breast for eighteen months, or even a longer period. Weaning ought, in fact, to be regulated both by the constitution of mother and child ; the full *development* of the front teeth, which in healthy children is from nine to ten months, but in delicate or psoric constitutions, is delayed for several months later, is the best indication for weaning. If, however, the strength of the mother appear unequal to the task, and the supply of milk begin to fall off, the child may be gradually weaned, even before the teeth appear ; but if the infant is healthy, a continuance of suckling beyond the tenth month is injurious to both parent and child ; the re-appearance of the monthly discharge is another indication for ceasing suckling ; if this take place early, the child ought to be weaned, or a nurse provided, as, if suckling be continued,

the injury will soon declare itself, by the child falling off and becoming emaciated ; if after the sixth or seventh month, and the mother or nurse be otherwise healthy, the secretion of the periods ought to be kept up by the usual artificial means, and the child supplementarily nourished till the period is past, when it may be again applied. Weaning should not take place *suddenly*, but the child should be gradually accustomed to other food and a less frequent administration of the breast, till entirely weaned ; the time to commence this gradual course, is from the first appearance of the front teeth, so that the weaning terminate with their full developement ; thereby the secretion lessens by degrees, preventing all evil consequences of swollen or inflamed breasts, and the child also becomes quietly reconciled to the deprivation. Weaning ought not, however, to take place, if the child suffers considerably from the irritation of teething, or any acute infantile disease.

After the child has been weaned, his nourishment should generally consist of the same simple food before mentioned, with an occasional light pudding, without spice or eggs, made from semolino, tapioca, or other farinaceous substance. The transition to a more substantial diet ought to be extremely gradual and guarded, and no material alteration made, till after the appearance of the eye teeth.

SLEEP.

The sleep of the child is the next consideration ; from the inability of the infant itself to

maintain a proper degree of warmth, it should sleep by its mother's or nurse's side, for at least the first six weeks, particularly during winter or early spring. Care must be taken not to overburthen it with bed clothes, and to place it in such a position as to prevent it slipping under them, thereby becoming exposed to the risk of breathing a vitiated atmosphere, or even of suffocation ; after six or eight weeks, when the organism becomes stronger, and able to preserve a proper degree of natural warmth, placing it in a separate bed or cradle, will be more conducive to its thriving ; this change of arrangement will be found beneficial to both parties ; to the child, by its breathing a purer air, and by the continual appetite for the breast being diminished ; and the mother, being freed from the necessary watchfulness and restlessness consequent upon its sleeping with her, will enjoy better health, and be more likely to secrete good and nutritious milk. Moreover, it is generally known, that sleeping in the same bed with an adult is detrimental to the health and proper development, not only of infants, but even of children ; a child sleeping in the same bed with a very old person, will very soon begin to exhibit signs of a falling off in its general appearance.

With regard to the kind of bed best suited for the infant, the suspended cradle seems the most eligible ; we must, however, be careful not to allow the nurse to abuse its use by continual rocking, which frequently causes irritation of the brain ; it should not be closed up with curtains, but the room may be a little darkened ; in cases

where there is danger of draughts, a screen will answer every purpose.

As to the length of sleep allowed, the chief business of the first months of its existence being sleep and nourishment, we may safely leave the point to nature, and not attempt to coerce the inclinations of the child; if the infant is lively on awaking, we may conclude it has not slept too much; as it increases in vigour, with longer intervals of wakefulness, we may proceed (recollecting that night is the proper period for sleep) so to regulate its habits of taking its food and rest, as to accustom it to a uniform system, and particular hours. Children, up to two years of age, require rest during the day, and the nurse ought to endeavour to get them into the habit of taking it in the forenoon; for if in the afternoon, it generally interferes with their night's sleep. Whether by night or day, we must carefully exclude both light and noise from the nursery; for although they may be insufficient to *arouse* the infant, still they cause its sleep to be disturbed and unrefreshing, and by acting upon the nervous sensibility, predispose it to convulsions or spasmodic attacks from slight accidental causes.

It is true, that during the first month, the infant sleeps immediately on leaving the breast, and no evil consequences ensue; but it must be borne in mind, that it takes but little at a time, and the tenuity of the milk is at that period wisely adapted to its delicate digestion; but as the secretion becomes richer, and suited to the increasing power of those organs, it is injurious to put the child asleep immediately after a full meal; his

rest is then restless and disturbed from the process of digestion being interfered with, more particularly when nurses foolishly endeavour to force nature, by resorting to the baneful practice of rocking.

Nothing causes greater annoyance, and even anxiety to the mother, than a disposition to wakefulness on the part of her infant. A healthy child should always be prepared for its rest at the usual hours ; if, instead thereof, it appear restless, fretful, and disinclined for its accustomed sleep, it is an evident indication of some derangement of its general health ; and if no other symptom be present, the mother ought generally to lose no time in consulting a physician, as the cause may be too remote and serious for other hands ; frequently through ignorance, nurses, instead of attending to this warning voice of nature, which by the sleeplessness of the infant demands appropriate relief, endeavour to stifle it, and sometimes, to free themselves from a little temporary annoyance, administer opiates, which induce an unrefreshing slumber, and not unfrequently a deep stupor, mistaken for sleep, while the original evil still continues to make head against the vital power. This baneful practice has not only been the ruin of many constitutions in after life, but to it, conjoined with diet drinks, carminatives, and other quack medicines, together with the highly erroneous practice, sanctioned though it be by names of medical repute, of a frequent administration of that active mineral preparation calomel in infantile maladies, to say nothing of laxatives, an infinite numbers of diseases and deaths are annually

attributable. Every mother should not only caution her nurse against the use of opiates, but use her utmost vigilance to detect any breach of her injunctions, which should be visited with the immediate discharge of the person so offending ; for she must be truly unfitted for such an important trust, who, after being warned of its injurious tendency, will persevere in a practice placing in jeopardy the life of her infant charge.

EXERCISE.

For the first six or seven months, the great business of nature seems to be the proper development of the infant organism, and of the respiratory and digestive functions. During this period, the cartilage is gradually forming into bone, and its delicate muscles acquiring power and strength. We find also, that consciousness is yet indistinct, and the infant evinces no anxiety to indulge in voluntary motion, the muscles of the neck and back not possessing sufficient power to support the head, or to keep the body in an erect position ; for this reason, children during this period should, when carried in the arms, be kept in a reclining position, so as to avoid an undue pressure upon the vertebral column ; a neglect of this precaution, and a premature carrying of the infant in an upright position, are a too frequent cause of deformities of the spine, and derangement of the internal functions in after life.

As its powers gradually develope, the infant seems inclined to exercise them, and evinces a

desire to sit upright, which we may safely indulge, taking care that they be not over tasked by keeping it sitting up during the greater part of the time it is awake. A careful attention to nature in this, as in all other cases, is the best guide.

The practice of dandling the child in an upright position, seems rather to proceed from the pleasure of indulging the feeling of parental affection, than from any benefit the child can, by any possibility, be expected to derive from it; in fact, it is highly injurious, even at a rather more advanced period, as exciting a premature involuntary exercise of the muscles, and consequent deformity. The act of respiration bringing into play a great variety of muscles, occasional crying seems sufficient active exercise during this period.

In mild spring and summer weather, the child may, after the first fortnight has elapsed, be carried out into the air for a quarter of an hour, and the period of exercise gradually increased; in fact, if the weather be fine, it can scarcely be too much in the open air. Should its birth occur in winter, advantage may be taken of a fine day after it is a month or five weeks old, as the frame is gradually acquiring the power of generating heat; but at the same time, *great care* must be taken to prevent its catching cold; and should it exhibit the slightest sign of being affected by the coldness of the atmosphere, the practice should be immediately discontinued, and it should be carried up and down in a well ventilated room, the nurse moving it quietly in her arms from side to side. Many children are lost through a foolish

idea of *making them hardy*, by accustoming them to endure cold; this can occur only through ignorance, for nature in very early infancy, does not possess sufficient energy of re-action, to overcome the power of a sudden or long protracted chill. We may recommend an occasional gentle friction of the hand over the body and limbs, which materially assists in the promotion of the circulation of the blood, and will, in unfavourable weather, serve in some measure as a substitute for exercising the infant out of doors.

In carrying the child, it should be from time to time transferred to different arms, as a continuance on one side is a frequent cause of deformity and in some cases, of squinting.

The child, as the organisation develops itself, seems to evince a desire for independent movements, in which it may very properly be indulged, by removing every impediment in its dress, and allowing it to roll about, or crawl upon a soft carpet. The practice of assisting children to walk, or of exciting them to a premature exercise of their powers, is highly reprehensible, causing curvature of the limbs, the bones not being yet sufficiently formed to bear the burden imposed upon them. By allowing nature to act, the infant's powers will become more gradually, but at the same time, more fully developed, its carriage will be firm and erect, and its limbs straight and well formed; moreover, it will walk with greater confidence and independence by the expiration of the first year, than those who have been *taught to walk* by the assistance of the nurse, leading strings, or mechanical inventions. When the

period at which a child should make attempts to walk, is retarded by evident debility of constitution, Homœopathy affords us the means of obviating this evil, by acting against the constitutional cause. Dr. Gross has found *CALCAREA* very useful in a case of this nature; and Dr. Hartmann has frequently administered *CAUSTICUM* with great effect.

DISEASES OF INFANCY.

INFLAMMATION OF THE EYES IN NEWLY-BORN INFANTS.

A sudden exposure to the strong light of day or the glare of a fire, is the general cause of this affection; and no doubt many children who are, what is vulgarly denominated born blind, owe their misfortune to the neglect of those precautions which we have so strongly enforced under the head of *TREATMENT OF INFANTS*; in many cases the external indications of this affection being so very slight as to escape observation.

As soon, however, as, on a careful examination, we become aware of the existence of this evil, we should administer *ACONITE*, which will generally be found promptly efficacious in its removal.

When, from the constitution of one or either of the parents, we have reason to suppose that the exposure to light has been merely the exciting cause, but that the real origin of the evil is more deeply seated, or if the *Aconite* seems to

produce no effect, and the disease continues to aggravate, we may have recourse to *TINCTURA SULPHURIS* and *CALCAREA*, alternating them every eight to ten days. If, however, the inflammation disappear after the administration of either of these remedies, we need not have recourse to further treatment.

CHAMOMILLA is useful some weeks after birth, when the perceptive faculties are more developed and the child exhibits great intolerance of light; also when redness, swelling, and agglutination of the eyelids, with other indications, given under *ACUTE INFLAMMATION OF THE EYE*, (Part I.) are present.

HICCOUGH.

This affection, though in itself of slight importance, frequently causes no small degree of uneasiness to young mothers; it generally arises from exposure of the body, even in a warm room, to the atmospheric air, even during the operations of dressing and undressing the new-born child; wrapping it warmly in the bed, or, better still, applying it to the breast, will frequently lead to its cessation; should it, however, continue, the administration of a small quantity of white sugar, as much as will cover the top of a spoon, dissolved in a tea-spoonful of water, will effectually abate this evil.

COLD IN THE HEAD.

This frequently arises from the same cause as the above mentioned, but very generally from

infection, namely, from a person suffering under that affection kissing the lips of the infant; other severe maladies may be, we have little doubt, occasionally communicated to children through the same medium, which should serve as a caution to mothers in being exceedingly careful whom they allow to kiss their infants.

This affection frequently becomes exceedingly distressing to the infant, when it appears in the form of *an obstruction in the nose*, impeding the action of the suckling, by not allowing the breath to pass through the nostril, obliging the infant to release the nipple frequently in order to breathe, causing it to become fretful and irritable, sometimes leading to irritation and excoriation of the nipple, and thus, in its repeated efforts to suck, causing suffering to both itself and the nurse.

Whilst this state continues, it operates considerably against the infant's thriving, both by hindering it from taking a sufficient quantity of nutriment, and by the impediment it causes to respiration, preventing the child sleeping at night. When the nose is dry, and the secretion of mucus suspended, we may, while administering a remedy calculated permanently to remove the evil, afford relief, by imitating the natural secretion by the application of a little almond oil or cream to the interior of the nostrils with a feather.

This malady presents itself under many different phases, which of course demand remedies suited to the entire group of the symptoms. Among these, *Nux Vomica* has been most frequently successful; when the nurse is similarly affected, it will be sufficient to administer the remedy to

her. And when the child only is attacked, we may give or administer it by olfaction and inhalation, applying the bottle alternately to the nose and mouth for two or three seconds, and withdrawing it at each expiration.

The indications for this medicine are, when *obstruction of the nose, with dryness*, or, nocturnal obstruction, with discharge during the day, exists, with irritability and peevishness.

SAMBUCUS NIGER has proved most effectual in cases when there is *an ACCUMULATION of viscid mucus in the nostrils*; and if no amelioration quickly appear, we may repeat the dose, if necessary, at the termination of twenty-four hours.

CHAMOMILLA is very useful when there is cold in the head, *with a watery discharge from the nose*, more particularly when there are febrile symptoms, soreness of the nostrils, and redness of one cheek.

CRYING AND WAKEFULNESS OF NEW-BORN CHILDREN.

As we have already remarked, the occasional crying of new-born children is a wise provision to bring the respiratory organs into play, and to expand the chest. When, however, the crying becomes excessive, and threatens to prove injurious, we must, in the first place, endeavour to discover its origin, which frequently will be found to be some mechanical cause, such as derangement of the infant's dress, or a pin sticking into its flesh. When, however, we fail in this point, and no guiding symptom of disease presents itself,

and the infant is peevish, irritable, with whimpering, and wakeful, *Belladonna*, administered by *olfaction* will frequently be found sufficient in removing the evil.

When a fit of crying comes from the child having been irritated or excited by any cause, such as suddenly rousing it from its rest, and when it seems willing to sleep, but finds a difficulty in composing itself to slumber, *COFFEA CRUDA* will prove efficacious.

CHAMOMILLA is indicated, when we can trace the fits of screaming and wakefulness to a derangement of the digestive functions, and the following symptoms present themselves:—when the child appears to suffer from griping pains and draws up its little limbs upon the abdomen, and when a whitish, yellowish, or greenish, or watery and excoriating diarrhœa is present.

In similar cases, without diarrhœa, *JALAPPA* is indicated.

When the screaming and vigilance are attended with colic pain and flatulence, *SENNA* deserves a preference.

RHEUM is more appropriate, when with screaming and wakefulness are combined colicky pains, with ineffectual efforts to relieve the bowels; and when there are only occasional, scanty, sour smelling evacuations of *greyish* appearance, which seem to afford no relief.

PULSATILLA is very efficacious, when it arises from overloading the stomach, or improper food, and the crying or wakefulness is accompanied with flatulence, constipation, and sometimes diarrhœa.

REGURGITATION OF MILK.

Children, in suckling, sometimes overload their stomachs, and regurgitate a *portion* of the milk ; so far mothers have no cause for uneasiness, nor is medical assistance requisite ; but when this changes into vomiting, and the whole of the nutriment is returned from the stomach, at times followed by mucus and watery fluid, and even bile, it must be looked upon as a disease, and may generally be eased by IPECACUANHA, which may be repeated, if not followed by a speedy amendment, giving the medicine twenty-four hours to allow time for its action.

In case the disease is attended with constipation, uneasiness, or irritability, we may administer *Nux Vomica*.

CHAMOMILLA, when attended with *convulsions*, with diarrhœa, as described elsewhere, where the medicine has been mentioned.

Followed by ANTIMONIUM CRUDUM, when the *Chamomilla* has not given the required relief.

MILK CRUSTS.

This affection, as it occurs in infants at the breast, usually consists of an *eruption of vesicles filled* with transparent fluid, and appearing in clusters ; these vesicles generally show themselves, in the first instance, on the face, and sometimes spread over the whole body ; the lymph therein contained soon becomes yellow, dark, or even sanguineous, and on their bursting, forms

into crusts. Frequently there is considerable surrounding redness and swelling, with distressing itching, which renders the little patient excessively restless and fretful, and causes it to keep continually rubbing the affected parts, by which the discharge and crusts are repeatedly renewed.

ACONITE should commence our treatment, when we find excessive restlessness and excitability produced by this affection, and when the skin around the parts is red, inflamed, and itching.

As soon as we have found beneficial effects result from the administration of the remedy, we may follow it up with VIOLA TRICOLOR; this remedy is generally regarded as specific to this affection, in its simple uncomplicated form.

In cases of hereditary psoric tendency, however, we must have recourse to medicaments more particularly adapted to combat this virus. In general cases, we may administer SULPHUR every day an hour before a meal. Sometimes the eyes of the little patient present an appearance of inflammation, in which case we may exhibit BELLADONNA, followed by HEPAR SULPHURIS, when the affection becomes obstinate, or EUPHRASIA, when extensive lachrymation and agglutination of the eyelids, with a tendency to ulceration, exist.

THRUSH, OR APHTHÆ.

This disease commences by the formation of small isolated, round, white vesicles, which, if not checked, become confluent, and sometimes pre-

sent an ulcerated appearance, filling the whole of the cavity of the mouth, and in severe cases extending to the throat. This affection, although of itself neither malignant nor dangerous, frequently causes not only considerable suffering to the child by preventing it from suckling, but great pain and inconvenience to the mother by its being communicated to the nipples, and causing excoriation, &c.

This disease is most generally produced by the want of a proper attention to cleanliness, both as regards the personal and constant laving of the infant; but especially from the suckling glass, when employed, not having been carefully washed after use. Improper aliment is another of the principal causes; thus we find that children who are what is commonly called, reared by the hand, either partially or wholly, are more liable to this affection than those whose sole nourishment has been from the breast.

One of the remedies in this affection, although perfectly Homœopathic in its action, has long been in use, in its external application, by practitioners of the old school, namely, *Borax*; and a weak solution applied to the mouth with a brush has not unfrequently been found efficacious. We would, however, prefer its internal administration, which will frequently dissipate the affection without the necessity of having recourse to any other medicament. We may administer one dose morning and evening for a week; if at that period no amelioration has taken place, we must have recourse to *SULPHUR*.

In cases where there is much salivation and

the thrush indicates an inclination to ulceration, we may administer *MERCURIUS SOLUBILIS*, followed by *ACIDUM SULPHURICUM*, if necessary. In very bad cases, when the *Aphthæ* assume a livid, blue, or violet appearance, attended with excessive weakness and diarrhœa, *ARSENICUM* is specific.

When this disease frequently, notwithstanding every precaution, reappears, we may safely infer that it arises from some virus in the constitution of the mother or nurse, who ought immediately to be put through an anti-psoric treatment, under the direction of a medical practitioner.

EXCORIATION.

Against this affection cleanliness is the best preventive; however, we frequently find it proceed to such an extent as to require the aid of medicine for its removal.

CHAMOMILLA will be found in most instances speedily effective, when we are certain that the disease is not the medicinal effect of chamomile tea taken by the nurse or child, in which instance *IGNATIA*, or *PULSATILLA* should be given. In very obstinate cases we may have recourse to *TINCTURA SULPHURIS*. *ACIDUM SULPHURICUM* and *GRAPHITES* are also extremely valuable in this malady.

Although pointing out the most efficient remedies, we would, at the same time, advise the mother, when the disease has attained to such a height, not to rely too implicitly upon her own judgment, but to have, where possible, immediate recourse to medical assistance.

JAUNDICE.

This disease, as we have before observed, frequently takes its rise from the mischievous practice of administering aperients immediately after birth; exposure to cold is also one of its exciting causes.

When it has arisen from the last mentioned, and when there is, together with the distinguishing characteristic of the disease (a yellow hue of the skin (considerable distention of the stomach, the administration of CHAMOMILLA will be found prompt in affording relief; when an abuse of this medicine has been the cause, we may substitute the medicaments mentioned under EXCORIATION in a similar case.

NUX VOMICA, when the complaint is combined with costiveness, and the little patient appears *generally* of irritable temper.

DERANGEMENTS DURING TEETHING.

As already stated, about the fifth to sixth month the teeth generally begin to protrude. Under a proper system of treatment, a healthy child ought to pass through this period with scarcely any suffering; if a due attention has been paid to the rules for exercise and diet which we have already laid down, and the child is free from any constitutional infirmity, we may safely calculate upon the period of dentition being almost free from pain.

Broths and jellies should, during the acute

stages, be wholly prohibited, and its food, if it take other nourishment than the breast, be of the lightest and simplest description. The mother, or nurse, should pay particular regard to her regimen, and avoid all substances of a stimulating or indigestive nature. Here, again, we may remark, that the indulgence in vinous or fermented liquors, is, from their irritating propensities, one of the most frequent causes of the suffering of children during this period.

During dentition there is always a tendency of blood to the head, which from simple irritation may, if not quickly checked, terminate in inflammation of the brain; the best preventive against this affection is keeping the head perfectly cool.

In order, as much as possible, to allay the anxiety of parents, who may be led to mistake the natural symptoms attendant upon dentition for those of disease, we shall in the first instance, briefly enumerate those which frequently take place in healthy children, and may be safely left to nature; and afterwards proceed to point out in what cases, from any of the symptoms diverging from the usual track, it may be necessary to have recourse to medicines, or to call in the assistance of the physician.

During Teething, the child is more restless than usual, especially at night; has flushes of heat alternating with paleness; the gums gradually swell and become hot; it evinces a difficulty in suckling, sometimes forcibly bites, and frequently lets go the nipple; it drivels at the mouth, and its bowels become relaxed; the two latter symptoms may, in some measure be looked upon

as a wise, precautionary measure of nature, to prevent a congestion to the head and lungs, to which all children are at this time more or less disposed; and the sudden cessation of either, after having once set in, is a sign of derangement of functions, demanding prompt attention.

When the child appears to suffer much pain in the gums, accompanied with redness, swelling, and burning heat, and also when it is exceedingly restless and feverish, we may administer ACONITE.

COFFEA, when the child is unable to sleep, irritable, liable to start, and difficult to soothe.

CHAMOMILLA, when the excitability is very great; the infant starts at the slightest noise; evinces great thirst; spasmodic twitches or convulsions in the limbs during sleep: short respirations, quick and loud, sometimes with a hacking cough; excessive diarrhœa, with *green*, whitish, or watery evacuations; and especially when the mother has been in the habit of taking coffee, which we have already so strongly reprobated as an article of diet to women nursing.

When in the assemblage of these symptoms, *constipation* takes the place of diarrhœa, we may administer NUX VOMICA.

When strong symptoms of cerebral irritation exist, we should have instant recourse to BELLA-DONNA.

When the irritation seems to arise *from difficulty of teething*, we may administer CALCAREA, repeating it every eight days, which will materially assist the protrusion of the teeth.

CONVULSIONS OF YOUNG CHILDREN,

BY DR. HULL.

In no case of infantile sufferings are the maternal sympathies more agonizingly excited than by the occurrence of convulsive paroxysms. These maladies are frequently developed completely in a very rapid manner. Almost without a single instant of warning the transition from the calm repose of the unwatched cradle, to the frightful contortions of a most perilous state, makes the awful appeal to the mother, in whose bosom God has implanted the most earnest will to protect, defend and soothe her offspring, for the immediate and most effective interpositions of art. Ignorance of the few necessary and simple rules of art for these dreadful exigencies must, independently of a fatal issue in any case, be productive of indecision and helpless dismay, or lead to the adoption of violent, inappropriate and even destructive measures. No mother of tolerable education can willingly remain unqualified for the discharge of the preliminary medical offices which may be put into action before the physician can be summoned to the charge of her little sufferer; and, as in our mode of cure, there are certain steps which we deem more efficacious than those of the ordinary practice, and which are certainly more in accordance with our indispensable general maxims, we consider it our duty to call the attention of those females who employ Homœopathic physicians to the following considerations and practical expedients.

PREDISPOSITION.—Early childhood is pecu-

liarly exposed to these maladies in consequence of anatomical and physiological peculiarities. Thus the relative volume of the brain and nerves is greater at this than at any other period of life, and especially the nerves that appertain to the most important part of the system (technically designated, *ganglionic*.) The circulation of the blood is exceedingly rapid; the pulsations of the infant approaching 120 in a minute, while those of the adult average about 75.

The muscular system is delicate and acutely susceptible in consequence of the redundant vitality of the nervous and circulatory systems. The infant system is on these accounts very highly susceptible to impressions, whether mental or physical; as is manifest in the sunshine of smiles and showers of tears—the swift-bounding leaps and almost convulsive springs that alike gladden and terrify. As long as this mobility of the infantile system endures, so long are convulsive difficulties to be apprehended, for its dependent susceptibility is only subdued in the ratio it matures as it approximates nearer and nearer to the period of puberty.

Hereditary predispositions form a second consideration of importance. Numerous generations of particular families have been observed to inherit convulsive habits in conjunction with malformations of the head, nervous irritable temperaments, and also, sometimes, lunacy. Dr. Eberle observes that convulsions occur most frequently among the denizens of crowded cities, especially in the luxurious and pampered classes, and proportionate infrequency among the temperate and

laborious who enjoy the free and uncontaminated air of the country. Dr. North, who has investigated the phenomena of infantile life with diligence and acuteness, has observed that the offspring of parents who marry prematurely, or at an advanced age, are more frequently subject to convulsive disease than the children of those who are united at sexual maturity. An opinion which we think deserves the attention of those who are hastening mere children into relations they are physically unfit to sustain.

EXCITING CAUSES OF CONVULSIONS.—These causes deserve a more careful attention on the mother's part than those of constitutional predisposition, which however should never be lost sight of. If any of these we are about to enumerate exist during childhood, appropriate measures should be speedily adopted to arrest their progress; for, if the paroxysms of convulsions are not entirely suspended by the suppression of the causes that frequently create them, they will be so far modified by anticipatory treatment as to be quite mild, and certainly exempt from all danger. Again, if the development of the paroxysms is immediately dependent upon one of these causes, the specific cause must never be forgotten in the selection of the remedies apposite to the occurrent symptoms.

1. *Dentition*.—This is one of the most frequent causes of convulsions in children; either when the vascular system seems crowded to excess in very healthy plethoric infants, or when the teething has been protracted beyond the ordinary periods by tedious sickness or immature constitutions.

2. *Repelled Eruptions.*—Experience has demonstrated that, in acute eruptive diseases, as scarlet fever, measles, &c., the sudden repulsion of the eruption has been frequently followed by convulsions. The sudden and quackish suppression of ulcers and chronic diseases of the skin, by external applications, has been followed by the same results. We seize the present occasion to reprobate this pernicious and unscientific practice, which every physician of any observation has known to prove hurtful and even fatal. We can recur to three marked cases we have been called to, where all the symptoms of dropsy in the head supervened upon the suppression of scaldhead disease through the external application of unguents and washes—an immoral expedient adopted to satisfy the demands of parents who required an immediate extinction of the disease because “it was unpleasant to the sight!”

3. *Irritating substances in the stomach and intestines.*—Irritating and poisonous substances, acrid and indigestible food, and the overloading and distension of the stomach have been observed to engender convulsions. The possibility of such results from these provocatives, points emphatically to the adoption of a plain and rational diet for children, and to the avoidance of confectionary, cakes, pastry and coffee, with which their tender stomachs are too often surfeited, abused and permanently injured.

4. *Worms.*—Verminous irritation unquestionably produces convulsions. The existence of this cause should not be too hastily decided upon, for with all the care taken to elaborate its symp-

tomatic phenomena, they so closely simulate those arising from other kinds of irritation, that no strong reliance can be placed upon this discrimination, except when aided by the *absolute presence of the worms* in the evacuations either from the stomach or intestines. This uncertainty should serve as a salutary caution to the presuming, who are so fond of deluging infants with pink-root and other vermifuges, thus producing or magnifying the very sufferings they aim to relieve. The *maw* or *thread worms*, (*ascarides vermiculares*) small white worms that gather in countless numbers at the lower part of the intestinal canal; and the *common round worm*, (*ascarides lumbricoides*) are the two prominent species to be sought for as exciting causes of convulsive difficulty in children.

5. *Mechanical injuries*.—Falls and blows upon the head and other parts of the body have produced convulsions both immediately and remotely. The mechanical depression of a part of the skull-bone, or the presence of a splinter in the fleshy part of the body, have been known to excite convulsions until the bone was elevated or the splinter removed.

6. *Fright*.—This is not an infrequent agent in the production of spasms. Nurses who, having some ulterior views of comfort or occupation, were desirous of silencing crying or fretful children, have been known to frighten the little sufferers into convulsions. Thoughtless children have pursued the same course with their younger associates with similar results. Mothers, as they value the future health and mental capacity, or

the very existence of their offspring, should guard against such misconduct with extreme vigilance.

7. *Various unknown causes.*—Convulsions occasionally occur, and we find it quite impossible to recognize the cause. When we feel assured that dentition or indigestion are the factors of the illness, we possess corresponding confidence in alleviating or removing the suffering; but when children, seemingly in perfect health, and without the least premonition are seized with convulsions, there is reason to apprehend that some organic conformation exists which may render all our efforts hopeless and useless.

TREATMENT.—*Directions preliminary to the use of Homœopathic Medicines.*—1. PRESENCE OF MIND should ever prevail with all females who have assumed the responsibilities of mothers, as its exercise, on the sudden emergencies of the nursery, may *save*, or its absence may *sacrifice* the lives in their custody. The mother's affection should transform and concentrate her energies into a "master spirit," competent to guide in the midst of danger, and rising in magnitude and power in proportion as new perils environ her offspring. She should adopt a calm deportment and resolute firmness; and she will have the satisfaction of inspiring those about her with confidence in the pursuance of efficient measures of relief. This self-command is to be acquired more readily by learning what may be safely and judiciously done in case of accidental or other sudden dangers, than by any merely moral discipline, although the latter ought by no means to be neglected. Of course a messenger will be

dispatched for the family physician on the instant in which the signs of convulsions become at all manifest.

2. On the access of a convulsion let *warm water* be ordered and procured as speedily as possible. The lower extremities should be immersed in the same up to the knees, from five to ten minutes, until the paroxysm seems evidently subdued, when the patient should be wiped dry and wrapped in a warm blanket. We will, at this place, mention a rule in regard to the benefit that is obtainable from warm water whenever needed for local bathing—that the water should always be *hot* but not *scalding*—if a decided and favourable impression is to be anticipated. If the water and other means afford no relief after the patient has been put into the warm wrapper, let the immersion be repeated, at the same time pour a small stream of cold water on the crown of the head until animation becomes apparent, and then renew the dry envelope. The alternation of this course upon the *fifth* trial has been found to restore convulsed children, although the prior trials were perfectly inefficient.

3. *Lavements* or *injections* are auxiliaries of great importance. They are perfectly harmless under all circumstances, and at times absolutely necessary, if irritating food or foreign material in the stomach and intestines, are the known causes of the paroxysms. When such causes exist the injection should *precede* the foot bath; otherwise the intervals between the baths will furnish the most suitable time for their application. A lavement of simple warm water or milk is generally

sufficient; if not, one of equal parts of sweet oil and warm milk; or a composition of warm water, salt and molasses.

4. If the arrival of the physician be protracted, or if Homœopathic medicines be not at hand, weak camphor-water applied to the nostrils and forced into the mouth of the patient, at occasional intervals, is perfectly admissible. *Camphor* in some instances has proved of great value in relieving convulsions, but requires caution as to its too abundant administration.

5. The administration of Homœopathic remedies forms a consideration of great moment, if they can be discriminatingly applied. It is a safe rule for every family to possess a small *pharmakon* or medicine chest, with appropriate directions as to the mode of using the medicines, not only for the disease in question, but for all the trifling ailments that are constantly occurring in large families of children. Effective relief can thus be rendered, serious diseases frequently anticipated, and, what is of importance, substitutes at command which, it is to be hoped, will banish from every house the pernicious "*simples*," as paregoric, laudanum, cough syrups, panaceas, bilious pills, freckle and pimple lotions, (many containing corrosive sublimate and arsenic,) plasters, unguents, &c.

MEDICINES FOR CONVULSIONS AND THEIR SYMPTOMS.—In offering instructions to laymen in regard to the selection of medicines for disease, whether here or elsewhere, we feel satisfied that the intelligence of those who extend their attachment to Homœopathia to a provision of

medicines, will guard them from an abuse of these means by thoughtless prescriptions or random experiments. The practice of Homœopathia by laymen, in all acute and dangerous maladies, is unquestionably hazardous, as our arguments in their proper place will prove ; but, in particular cases, careful practice is not only commendable but necessary. The present disease will illustrate the propriety of this position, either when the parent has become accurately familiar with the treatment of special forms of convulsions by watchful experience—or, when a physician cannot be procured—or, when no resource is left beside, but application to Allopathic physicians or measures.

The selection of remedies is to be made with reference to the *causes*. The symptoms in *italics* represent the distinctive indications of their remedies in convulsive diseases.

1. CONVULSIONS FROM DENTITION.—*Belladonna*.—This remedy is principally indicated for *plethoric* and *corpulent* children and those of *sanguineous temperaments*. Characteristics of the paroxysm : the child starts suddenly *while sleeping*, seemingly under the impression of a frightful dream, stares about wildly, *the pupils are much enlarged*, the whole body or single limbs become stiffly convulsed, the forehead and hands are dry and burning, and occasionally there follows clenching of the hands and involuntary urination. On returning consciousness the attacks will sometimes recur *from the least touch*. Belladonna is applicable also when the spasms are preceded or attended *by smiles or laughter*.

Chamomilla is indicated for children of *nervous*, sanguineous *temperaments*, and endowed with *extreme sensitiveness, and peevish, fretful irritability*. Characteristic symptoms: the child is fretful, restless, and disposed to drowsiness *while awake*; the eyes become half closed, *one cheek is red, the other pale*; moaning for drink, consciousness ceases, twitches of the eye-lids and muscles of the face, with contortions of the eye-balls, *jerks and convulsions of the arms and legs, with clenched thumbs, while the head is constantly rolling from side to side*.

The *Belladonna* and *Chamomilla* harmonize in alternation. If the *Belladonna* is first indicated and does not promptly suppress the convulsion, it will frequently modify the symptoms so that the group will be successfully controlled by *Chamomilla*, which, if it does not, will in its turn create a susceptibility, so that the repetition of the *Belladonna* will remedy the predicament it primarily failed to reach. If the *Chamomilla* is first indicated, the converse also holds good as to its succeeding alternation with *Belladonna*.

Ignatia. This remedy applies to the *melancholic temperament*—to pale and delicate infants of tame or peevish dispositions—and to *hysterical alternations of vivacity and sadness* in children, such as laughing and crying at the same breath. Characteristic symptoms: the child, while reposing in a moaning, *light slumber*, becomes suddenly and repeatedly *flushed with burning heat*; awakes and springs with a convulsive start, the most soothing attentions scarcely availing to quiet the excitement; *a tremor seizes the entire body*,

attended by *violent crying* or agonizing shrieks, and the muscles or single limbs become convulsed. The *Ignatia* is further indicated when the spasmodic paroxysms occur *every day at a regular hour*, followed by fever and perspiration; or when they recur *every other day at variable hours*; or, again, when the *Belladonna* and *Chamomilla* do not appear to be efficient in teething convulsions.

Cina best accords with the *melancholic temperament*. It is especially suitable for children who are scrofulous; have become debilitated and emaciated from continued disease; are painfully sensitive to motion and society; have hooping cough; or have had a tedious dry cough resembling hooping cough; or who are having their second teething, attended with picking at the nose, and griping and itching at the fundament, both prior and subsequent to the spasms; who have had previous convulsions from worms; and habitually wet their beds. Distinctive symptoms: *spasms of the breast*, then of the limbs, and finally paleness and *rigid stiffness of the entire body*.

Arsenic has been used with great benefit in the spasms of dentition. As illustrative of its indications we refer to a case in the Archives successfully treated by the prior administration of *Stramonium*, the intermediate use of *Arsenic*, and concluded by *Belladonna*. Collateral indications: the child is irritable and restless; cries for some particular thing, which, when offered, it rejects; has an insatiable thirst; frequently throws off the little it will scarcely eat; has a diarrhoea; often of indigested food; constantly points with a pain-

ful expression of countenance to the lower part of the abdomen ; tosses about at night ; and obtains short restless sleep toward morning only. *Paroxysms* : they recur frequently ; the child cries as if from a perverse temper ; stretches its feet out, and hands convulsively backward (*opisthotonos*) ; then throws his hands about and rolls over with violent shrieks ; alternates his position, convulsively bending forward (*emprosthotonos*), with *clenched fingers* and *extended thumbs*. All efforts to allay the spasmodic excitation by soothing expressions irritate instead of allaying, so that the child attempts to strike and bite those around him.

Stannum. This remedy has been advised when spasms, occur upon the appearance of each tooth, every paroxysm increasing progressively in violence. Characteristics : burning heat of the skin with violent bounding pulse ; spasmodic twitches of the muscles of the face, eyes and neck ; and fœcal and urinary evacuations in the midst of the spasms.

2. REPELLED ERUPTIONS.—*Belladonna* is a specific remedy in convulsions derived from suppressed *Scarlet Fever* ; also in alternation with *Opium* and *Stramonium*. Its symptoms are detailed above.

Bryonia relieves spasms dependent upon suppressed *Measles*. *Bryonia* is also indicated for the results of some forms of *Chronic* eruptions. Characteristic symptoms : *the child is seized with great lassitude and debility* ; there is a great tremor of the entire body ; the face becomes very pale ; *the limbs flaccid ; twitchings of the muscles*

and of single limbs ; and, finally, convulsions. Occasionally the convulsions are *preceded by deep and violent coughing and oppressed respiration*, especially if owing to suppressed measles.

Stramonium is sometimes applicable to spasms arising either from acute or chronic eruptions suppressed. Symptoms : sudden flushes of heat, thirst, vomiting and watery diarrhœa ; general tremor ; foaming at the mouth ; the eyes fixed and the pupils dilated ; the respiration laboured and groaning ; and rigid stiffness of the body. A premonition, characteristic of this remedy, is occasionally witnessed—an extreme aversion or dread of water, similar to that of hydrophobic sufferers.

Tartar Emetic has been a successful remedy in our hands in the treatment of spasms arising from *repelled eruptions of the head*, when the symptoms closely resembled those of *dropsy in the head*.

Sulphur, however, is to be esteemed one of our prominent agents when the spasms are directly attributable to repelled *chronic* eruptions. If the symptoms indicate any one of the previously named remedies, let it be administered at once ; but if an immediate impression is not obtained, apply the *Sulphur* speedily, and continue the alternation until successful. After the paroxysm is past, the *Sulphur* and other appropriate eruptive remedies should not be spared until such a possible cause of peril to children has been effectually eradicated.

3. IRRITATION OF THE STOMACH, &c.—*Nux Vomica* is a remedy quite apposite to the *infantile*

age, and also to *lively, sanguineous and nervous temperaments*. It is also peculiarly adapted to all spasmodic difficulties dependent upon *derangements of the digestive system*, as acid eructations, colics, constipation, &c. Symptoms: cough with expectoration of slime, and difficult hurried respiration; *gripings and distention of the abdomen*; constipation; *violent spasms attended by shrieks, bending the body backward, especially the head, fixed eyes and trembling of the limbs*. The paroxysms are constantly repeated, with much thirst and excessive perspiration during the intervals.

Pulsatilla is suited to *dull, phlegmatic* or to *mild, merry temperaments*, and to *female infants*. It answers for such spasms as are directly traceable to an *over-loaded stomach*. It also relieves the subjects of its peculiar temperament when the *Nux* would be otherwise indicated. It acts efficiently in alternation with *Nux* when the temperament is questionable.

Coffea. This remedy will relieve spasms that arise from the immoderate use of laudanum, purgative, &c., given habitually to quiet the restlessness and cries of infants. If it is not prompt in its action, follow its administration by *Spirits of Camphor*, every five or ten minutes. If the spasms become frequent, consult the indications of *Mercury*, *Nux Vomica*, and *Belladonna*.

Ignatia, the symptoms of which have been already recorded, will be found to correct spasms that have sprung from the domestic use of "*Chamomile tea*."

Ipecacuanha applies to convulsions preceded

and attended by pale bloated face ; *frightful distortion of the muscles of the face* and twitchings of the extremities ; *aversion to every thing but water* ; oppression of the chest ; *nausea, vomitings and diarrhœa*.

4. WORMS.—*Hydrargyrum*. This mineral forms an admirable agent in the cure of verminous spasms. It is prominently indicated when the attacks are developed *about evening* and *the skin is disposed to perspiration*. Paroxysm : the child is taken with painful *eructations* ; *water drools or is ejected from the mouth* ; a watery diarrhœa sometimes succeeds ; the limbs are thrown about and become convulsed ; stupefaction follows, attended by *fever and moist skin*. Previous to, during and after the fit, *the abdomen is distended and hard*. After the paroxysm the child will frequently lie for a long time apparently exhausted and dying.

Cina is also applicable to convulsions from worms, which correspond with the symptoms of this remedy *detailed* under Dentition. It also succeeds when the *Hydrargyrum* fails to affect *its* group, or materially aids in *alternation* with this latter remedy, or with *Hyoscyamus*.

Hyoscyamus. The distinctive indications of this medicine point to spasms that occur *periodically* and *immediately after meals*. Paroxysm : the child *sickens after eating*, and sometimes vomits, with evident suffering in the pit of the stomach ; or, else, *suddenly shrieks and becomes insensible* ; the limbs or entire body are moved convulsively, and especially the *muscles of the face* ; the face is somewhat pale and bluish, or

turgid and fiery-eyed; the eyes are exceedingly protruded and distorted; grinding of the teeth and *foaming at the mouth* follow; while the respiration is sonorous and oppressed.

Cicuta is pre-eminently serviceable, while during the undoubted existence of worms, the child is first taken with *violent abdominal gripings and colic* which persist until they are merged in convulsions. *Tremor of the limbs, jerks like electric shocks* and final insensibility, constitute the paroxysm.

5. MECHANICAL INJURIES.—*Arnica* is the specific for convulsions derived from contusions, &c., when the presence of foreign bodies, or the derangements of the bones, are not the causes, in which predicaments surgical aid must mainly avail. But after appropriate surgical assistance, this remedy can be depended upon for efficient impressions of a favourable character.

6. FRIGHT.—*Opium* is antidotal to the effects of this cause. Paroxysm: the child is taken with a general tremor; throws his arms and legs about; a melancholy expression of countenance is supplied by one of stupidity, during which he cries, seemingly unconscious; finally becomes senseless; the body swells, and the fœcal and urinal evacuations are quite suppressed.

Ignatia avails according to its indications.

Stramonium is useful when the child becomes suddenly convulsed and senseless from fright.

Secale answers when the *Stramonium* fails, and also in alternation with it.

7. UNKNOWN CAUSES.—*All the preceding remedies* may be administered when the causes are

not discoverable, provided their *symptoms coincide accurately with the convulsive phenomena.*

Aurum has been used by Rau in convulsions attended with alternations of laughing and weeping.

Aconite. Dr. Hartmann values this medicine in spasmodic affections attended with high fever.

Other remedies, as *Cocculus*, *Cuprum*, *Cicuta*, &c., have been recommended by some physicians, in consequence of their utility in convulsive difficulties of adults, but, as the testimony is not explicit, and as children are amply provided for by the medicines already enumerated, we do not deem it necessary to enlarge on their effects at the present time.

ASTHMA OF MILLAR.

This affection is by some denominated the Spasmodic Croup, or Acute Asthma of infants ; it bears a considerable resemblance to croup, yet differs from it in many respects, by the extreme suddenness of the attack, while that of croup is generally preceded one or two days, by hoarseness and a slight cough, and by the cessation from suffering the patient enjoys between the attacks, while, when croup has once set in, the excitement is permanent ; moreover, this disease generally attacks in the evening or at night, whereas croup in most cases makes its first appearance during the day.

Croup, as we mentioned in the article upon that subject, is an inflammation of the membrane of the windpipe, exciting the formation of a

peculiar secretion, which if not checked, concretes into an abnormal membranous tissue, constituting what is technically called the *false membrane* of croup; whereas, in the Asthma of Millar, the suffering appears to arise from a *spasmodic contraction of the top of the windpipe*, impeding the process of respiration.

This affection commences with a sudden spasmodic inspiration, with a species of stridulous or crowing noise; if the fit continues, the face becomes purple, and the extremities partake of the same hue, frequently accompanied, as in convulsions, with a clenching of the thumbs inside the palm, and spasmodic constriction of the toes, giving an appearance of distortion to the foot; if proper means are not promptly taken, these attacks recur frequently, and at short intervals, and occasionally the little patient perishes during one of the paroxysms.

This affection rarely occurs except in infants of a psoric habit, which due means should be taken to eradicate by a proper course of treatment; it is a frequent accompaniment of the period of dentition, and excited by similar causes to those bringing on convulsions.

With regard to the treatment: when there is considerable lethargy present, difficult respiration and whistling; sense of suffocation, with constriction of the chest; the face swollen, and livid or purple, and especially when coming on at night, with cough and weeping after each paroxysm, *SAMBUCUS* is almost *specific*. It may be administered every one or two hours, according to symptoms.

Should, however, the administration of *Sambucus* be found ineffectual, we may have recourse to any of the following medicines, that appear indicated by the symptoms ; *Aconite*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Arsenicum*, *Moschus*, or *Pulsatilla*.

ACONITE, when a suffocating cough comes on at night, with shrillness and hoarseness of voice ; respiration short, anxious, and difficult, more particularly if any marked febrile symptoms be present, or we have reason to dread determination of blood to the head.

IPECACUANHA, when there is *rattling in the chest* from an accumulation of mucus, with spasmodic constriction, and symptoms as from suffocation ; anxious and short, or sighing respiration, with purple colour of the face, and cramps or rigidity of the frame ; it may be advantageously followed by ARSENICUM, when many of the above symptoms are still present, or in a measure subdued ; also we find *great anguish, cold, perspiration, and considerable prostration of strength*, during and after the paroxysms ; when these last indications are particularly prominent, *Arsenicum* may supersede *Ipecacuanha* at the commencement.

MOSCHUS is frequently of value in cases that occur at a more advanced period of life, when a *constriction in the larynx, as if caused by the vapour of sulphur*, is complained of ; difficult respiration and short breathing ; *severe spasms in the chest*, with inclination to cough, after which (especially in children) the paroxysm becomes *much exacerbated*.

PULSATILLA will often be found successful in

cases in which the foregoing remedy fails in producing the desired effect.

VACCINATION.

This is an operation purely Homœopathic, and one which, from its efficacy in the prevention of a disease exhibiting analogous symptoms, has been frequently quoted by our Great Founder and his disciples, as one of the best illustrations of the immutable law of *SIMILIA SIMILIBUS CURANTUR*.

Vaccination, when the child is strong and healthy, may be safely performed during the fourth or fifth month; but when the small pox is rife as an epidemic, we may have recourse to the prophylactic with infants of a still more tender age. If, however, we are allowed a choice of time, summer is the best period for performing the operation, as then the infant, after having taken the infection, incurs least risk of catching cold.

It is of the utmost importance, to obtain the lymph from a perfectly pure source, as experience has too truly proved, that other diseases have, from a neglect of this precaution, been frequently transmitted to healthy children. For this reason, a child that has suffered from eruptions of the skin, affections of the glands, or soreness of the eyes, or one born of scrofulous parents, is an unfit subject for taking the vaccine matter from, although at the time apparently in health; as, however, in many cases, notwithstanding every care, psoric symptoms develope themselves when

the pustules are drying up, we may, during that period, administer SULPHUR, as a precautionary measure, exhibiting one dose and repeating it twice, at intervals of a fortnight ; each time *from a fresh solution*.

VACCINATION AND RE-VACCINATION.

Copenhagen is extremely subject to epidemic diseases, and, during the last few years, to smallpox. From the various observations which he has made during these epidemic attacks, Professor Otto concludes, 1. That the vaccine virus has lost nothing of its original force. 2. That a child cannot be vaccinated too soon after birth. 3. That the protective influence of the vaccine virus gradually diminishes with time ; in some, perhaps in the greater part of those vaccinated, it is lost after a certain lapse of years. 4. The nature of the cicatrix does not enable us to determine how far the disease will be modified. 5. Smallpox, when it occurs in the vaccinated, is always modified, and the more so, the younger the person is. 6. Regular variola, in the vaccinated, only appeared in persons who had passed the age of fourteen. 7. Out of 10 vaccinated persons who died, none had passed the age of 23. 8. Not a single case of smallpox had, as yet, occurred in the re-vaccinated.



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