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AN

ESSAY

ON

TYPHUS FEVER,

BY

DOCTOR MARTIN TUOMY,

PROFESSOR OF THE PRACTICE OF PHYSIC,

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN;

AND HONORARY FELLOW

OF THE KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

IN IRELAND.



DUBLIN:

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TO THE
PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS
OF THE
KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
IN
IRELAND.

Gentlemen,

To you, as the legitimate Guardians and enlightened Promoters of Medical Science, I submit this Essay. As to the theory which I attempt to sketch, I own that it is with hesitation and diffidence I venture to lay it before you; but whatever opinion may be formed respecting its character, however sound or crazy it should be deemed, I have some confidence in offering the practical results, as being founded on uniform experience.

I have the honor to be,

With esteem and respect,

Your obliged and faithful Servant,

MARTIN TUOMY.

TO THE

PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS

OF THE

KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

IRELAND.

I beg to inform you that I have the honor to receive from you a copy of the Report of the Committee of the Council of the College of Physicians, Ireland, on the subject of the proposed Bill for the Amendment of the Statute in relation to the Medical Profession in Ireland, and I have the honor to acknowledge the same with much satisfaction.

The Report is a most valuable and interesting document, and I have the honor to express my sincere thanks to the Committee for the care and attention which they have bestowed upon it.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

MARTIN TUOHY

With esteem and respect,
Your obedient and faithful servant,
MARTIN TUOHY

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vacillating, and often modified by rising symptoms
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cessful practice; but it appears to me that even
the phænomena of the disease afford grounds for
establishing a more settled, and I trust a more

PREFACE.

THE extensive range of Typhus Fever, and the mortality which frequently marks its course, render it a subject of serious interest to the medical Practitioner and to the Public.

In offering a few observations on this important disease, I do not arrogate to myself the merit of having discovered a new remedy; neither do I disapprove of the established modes of cure: what I intend to submit on the practice of the disease, relates to the propriety of acting on principles more defined and certain than those which ordinarily regulate the judgment of the Physician. In other diseases of a febrile nature we are better acquainted with the precise seat of the disease; and hence, in those diseases, our judgment is generally sounder, and our prognosis more certain. The bilious remittents of hot climates, the phlegmasiæ, and many of the exanthemata, are of this description. Guided by the phænomena of those diseases, as well as by morbid dissections, the Physician more readily directs his view to the seat and nature of the disease, and to the appropriate cure. In Typhus I conceive those guides are not

so certain, and therefore our practice is more vacillating, and often modified by rising symptoms as much as fixed by established principles. If dissections had been carefully attended to, we might be enabled to adopt a more clear and successful practice; but it appears to me that even the phænomena of the disease afford grounds for establishing a more settled, and, I trust, a more successful treatment.

It sometimes happens that several Patients afflicted by Typhus Fever at the same time, are apparently in similar circumstances as to peculiarities of rank, age, constitution, &c. Under the care of the same Physician, and with the same outlines of treatment, some of those shall recover, and some fall victims to the complaint, although in the beginning there might not have been any facts that could point out which of those cases would, in their progress, assume appearances of greater severity, and which of them would continue milder, and terminate favourably: such is the state of our knowledge respecting Typhus. Impressed with an opinion that we might act upon a system more uniform and successful in the management of this complaint, I thought it my duty to publish my sentiments, particularly at this awful period of public anxiety, when accounts from so many parts of the Kingdom teem with details of the dreadful ravages of Typhus.

TYPHUS.

The principal Symptoms.

TO communicate, in the most satisfactory manner, my notions of the cure of Typhus, it will be necessary first to exhibit the leading symptoms of the disease, from which I will endeavour to demonstrate, that the practice might be regulated upon more scientific and successful principles than have been generally supposed.

The incipient symptoms are, an uneasy feeling of cold, in some instances amounting to a shivering, and then passing into a sense of morbid heat; a general lassitude, as if produced by great fatigue, and mostly accompanied by a pain of the back; often a soreness of the flesh, as if the patient had been bruised or beaten.

Symptoms referred to the Head.

There is a disagreeable sensation in the head, which assumes the character of an heaviness, of a reeling, or of a swimming, attended by an unaccountable restlessness, an intolerance of light, and noise, even where there is no complaint of head-ach; an incapability of sleeping, technically called *vigiliæ*, but in some instances there are broken and unrefreshing slumbers, interrupted by frightful dreams; a noise within the head, often referred to the ears, and frequently

quently attended by a disagreeable throbbing noise of the arteries of the head. However those morbid sensations of the head might be modified at first, in their progress they pass into a pain of the head, in many instances extremely violent, and in all highly disagreeable and distressing: low spirits accompany those symptoms: there is a reluctance to make an exertion of either body or mind, with a slow and weak memory, and a pain or difficulty in connecting and arranging the thoughts: these are succeeded by visionary and fanciful notions, at first broken through by intervals of reason, of considerable duration, but which become gradually shorter, until, in many instances, at length they vanish altogether, and leave a delirium, either violent and furious, or low and muttering, and in some persons it is at one time the low, and at another the violent kind. At its commencement the delirium attacks commonly in the evening, or at night, and when the patient is slumbering, but after some time it continues during the day, and whilst the patient is thoroughly awake, and thus often becomes permanent. It is sometimes accompanied with expressions of anger, and a strong wish in the patient to leave his bed and apartment, and attend to his ordinary occupations: sometimes he makes great exertions to rush out of the house, and considers those who resist him as acting with severity, and even cruelty. In those cases there is generally a turgid redness of the face, an inflamed appearance of the whites of the eyes, a strong pulsation of the temporal and carotid arteries, and a tinnitus aurium, or a loud noise in the ears, often compared to the roaring of the sea: frequently the patients fancy themselves in company with absent persons, which circumstance occasions low muttering conversation, and sometimes those imaginary persons are so extremely disagreeable to them, that they anxiously request they may be removed from them. Another delusive consequence of the disordered brain is, what is commonly called *floccos colligere*, and is very common in Typhus; it consists

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in the patients putting forth their hands, and feeling for something which they fancy before them; under this impression they pick at the bed-cloaths, catch them with their hands, pull them up, and examine them with attention. Sometimes the patients neither know their most intimate acquaintance, nor hear the noise of conversation, nor even very loud sounds; and this disordered state of the brain is accompanied with delirium. The pain of the head is commonly most severe in the forepart of the head, and between the temples, but in various persons it affects different parts of the head, and sometimes the back part of the head is the seat of the pain. The eyes lose their natural animation, become slow and heavy in their motion, and are tinged with a red suffusion. The face is different from its healthy appearance, for there is sometimes an unequal redness of the complexion, and sometimes it is a yellowish paleness, and not unfrequently the heightened colour of the commencement of the disease becomes a morbid paleness in its progress; and sometimes too, the face is pale, when there is a noise and violent throbbing within the head.

*Symptoms affecting the Digestion, the internal Secretions
and Excretions.*

Upon the commencement of fever, there is a failure of appetite, with a loathing of food, particularly of animal food; soon after there is a nausea, and a sickness of stomach, which increases to a vomiting; an oppression and soreness felt at the pit of the stomach; a bad taste of mouth, with a slimy clamminess of the tongue and mouth. The tongue at first is covered with a viscid slime, which in the course of the complaint becomes more deeply coloured, first yellow, and more thick, then brown, and by degrees darker, until at length it is turned

into a black thick crust, which, in many instances, is scarred and cracked, and this morbid covering spreads over the teeth, the lips and inside of the mouth, and from having been slimy and moist at first, those incrustations become at length dry and parched. (It is proper, from time to time, to clear away, gently and gradually, those foul crusts, because, whilst they remain, they not only injure the taste, but also communicate their effects to the stomach, so that an impaired appetite and a vitiated taste are produced, whence the most grateful drink has not its proper flavour, but partakes of that which belongs to the incrustations, or, more properly speaking, it is the foulness of the tongue, of the teeth, and of the lips, and not the proper flavour of the food or drink, that is tasted by the patient.) It sometimes happens, that, notwithstanding those morbid coverings within the mouth, the patient feels no desire for drink, and, as Huxham observes, this is an alarming symptom: it shews great insensibility in the nervous system, and points out the necessity of attending carefully to the state of the brain, from the pressure and morbid action of which, this insensibility in the nervous system arises. In some instances those morbid secretions are propagated downwards along the Œsophagus and alimentary passages. Sometimes the tongue clears off and becomes clean, but its colour is then a deep red, much darker than its natural flesh-colour, and it is soon dry and parched again, and again covered with those crusts. Sometimes, too, strict and careful attention to the bowels will be accompanied with the effect of removing the foulness and discolouration of the tongue entirely, and yet the brain might be dangerously and even fatally diseased, and this healthy improvement of the tongue is also sometimes soon followed by the formation of dark foul dry crusts upon it. There is commonly a slowness of bowels, and sometimes a stubborn constipation, attended not unfrequently, in the course of the complaint, with a sense of weight, and a painful swelling of
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the abdomen, especially at the hypochondria and pit of the stomach, which cannot bear to be rudely pressed upon; and it sometimes happens, too, that a purging of foul slimy stools comes on, without, however, removing or diminishing those painful sensations. Sometimes the pain stretches downwards to the bottom of the abdomen, and laterally to the loins, and in a few instances remains fixed, notwithstanding the use of active purgatives, even when they procure copious evacuations. In those cases we have reason to apprehend peritonæal inflammation, particularly when the pain and distress affect one side more than the other; and this is an inflammation which, if not carefully attended to, must prove certainly fatal. In the progress of Typhus there is sometimes a black foetid purging without the interference of purgatives, and frequently too the stools come away without the knowledge or control of the patient. (This description of purging supervenes most commonly where there had been long neglected costiveness in the beginning, or where, although purging medicines had been employed, they were ill-chosen or inadequate.) In fatal cases the torpor of the intestines is sometimes so great for a short time before death, that the most powerful cathartics, in very large doses, are retained without affecting them, or procuring the slightest evacuation.

From the beginning, the patients are distressed with thirst more or less, and long most particularly for cold and acid drink; thus they will prefer cold water to the finest flavoured fluids, and it is an article which in fever may be allowed without hesitation. Oranges, small-beer, buttermilk, whey, raspberry vinegar, sharpened with a redundant portion of vinegar, and mixed with water, and cider, either unmixed, or qualified with water and a little sugar; those, and such like, are very palatable in fever.

The urine is commonly in small quantity, and of various colours, from a pale whey colour, with a light cloud floating in it, to a deep brick colour, and in some instances

to a dark porter colour ; but in general it is high coloured. As the disease advances, the urinary discharge is attended by heat, and sometimes by pain, and in some rare cases there is a painful strangury, which requires the use of the catheter : those distressing urinary affections are most severe where the secretion of the bile is very morbid, and the liver diseased ; and in dangerous cases, like the stools, there is an incontinence of urine, and the patient is insensible of its passage, and in bad cases too its odour is very offensive.

Appearances of the Skin and Surface.

Soon after the commencement of Typhus, the skin becomes dry and hot, which state of it generally continues throughout the whole course of the fever : the heat in some instances is so pungent, as to communicate to the hand a biting irritating sensation ; this sensation most commonly happens in that modification of Typhus called malignant or putrid. The skin acquires a dirty colour, somewhat inclined to yellow ; and in those seasons and countries where the secretions of the liver and other abdominal viscera are uncommonly morbid, the surface has from the beginning a yellow tinge ; this yellowness is most remarkable in the whites of the eyes : although in the greatest number of cases there is a deficiency of moisture and softness of the skin, yet instances are met with in which there is a profuse secretion of cold and clammy sweats, which, by their weakening effects, appear to precipitate the fatal termination. Hot regimen, and drink likewise, in the old treatment of fever, along with stimulating remedies, often caused an ardent heat and burning sweats, which added to the anguish, the debility, and the danger of the patient. Spots, called *petechiæ*, often appear first, and principally over the upper part of the body, such as the breast, neck, and shoulders, and they afterwards spread over the whole
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of the trunk, and the extremities also : they are various in extent, shape, and colour, but the deeper or more livid their colour, the greater is the danger. In most instances they resemble the small punctures of flea-bites ; in some patients they are thinly scattered over the skin, so that large portions of it appear fair between them, but often they are crowded and dusky, and sometimes too they are large and irregularly circular, and impart to the skin the appearance of being marbled. A little before death the petechiæ sometimes acquire a paler colour, in consequence of the deadly paleness of the whole skin at that period. Sometimes, although rarely, there is a complexion of the face consisting of patches variously tinged, some appearing of a deep red, others of a dirty pale, and others of a bilious colour. In all cases of fever, the face, from the commencement, may be observed to differ from its natural appearance ; it is mostly pale, but not unfrequently red and turgid. The whole surface of the trunk and limbs appears contracted generally, and sores and eruptions become more dry than before ; in the progress of the disease the flesh seems wasted, and the entire body more shrunk than natural.

State of the Muscular powers, and of some of the Senses.

Lassitude and weariness are amongst the first symptoms of Typhus, and they commonly increase intensely throughout the whole course of the fever ; they are accompanied with great depression of spirits, which, in some cases, amounts to despondency ; the whites of the eyes are often seen when the patients are slumbering, and when awake the eyes are dull and heavy, and torpid in their motion : deafness is a common symptom, and not unfavourable. During the latter part of the complaint, the strength becomes greatly exhausted, so that, instead of lying on the side, the patients feel inclined to remain mostly on the back, and, towards the conclusion of the disease, always on the
back.

back. The tongue trembles in the effort to thrust it out, and cannot be pushed beyond the lips. The speech is tremulous, thick, and indistinct; the muscles are agitated with irregular contractions, particularly in the fore arm, a circumstance which often makes it difficult to examine the pulse, and the hands and upper eye-lids are affected with similar tremors, and sometimes the muscles about the lips. The face at length becomes so contracted and collapsed, that the features, and particularly the nose, become sharp, with the countenance lengthened, and the eyes hollow, sunk, and of a dirty colour, and sometimes their muscles are so palsied that they acquire an unusual squint, and objects appear sometimes different from their real nature; at last the eyes acquire a shining fixed look, and in some instances lose the sight altogether: the muscular powers become so feeble, in bad cases, that the patients cannot support themselves, even on their backs, but slide downwards in the bed with the knees bent and turned up towards the belly, from an inability to lift them off the bed, and stretch them out; the lower jaw falls down towards the breast; the tongue becomes so palsied, that the speech becomes inarticulate, and sometimes totally lost; swallowing becomes difficult, and sometimes impossible; colliquative black foetid purging supervenes, with a painful elastic swelling of the belly; often singultus or hiccup, and general convulsions; the patient feels extremely heavy to the attendants, and a cadaverous or slaughter-house foetor issues from his body a short time before death.

Circulation in the Trunk and Limbs, and Respiration.

The pulse in the beginning is weaker than natural, and somewhat quickened, but still regular; in the progress of the fever, however, its quickness and debility increase, and at last it frequently becomes compressible, indistinct, intermittent, and irregular: at first its frequency in an adult

is from 90 to 100, it becomes more quick in a few days, so as perhaps to increase to 110, and frequently to 120; the latter is not very alarming; in some instances, however, it rises to 130, and in a few cases it is 140, and even more; this latter is a dangerous symptom, but death has often been the event when the pulse did not exceed from 120 to 130; and sometimes too the patient recovers when the frequency is 140; the irregular, and particularly the intermittent, pulse is highly dangerous.

Hæmorrhages, or discharges of blood, sometimes, although rarely, occur in fever: they issue most commonly from the nose, but they have sometimes been observed to come from the anus; in some very rare instances, from the vessels of the skin, and even from the tops of the fingers. In the early period of the disease, when there is an increased impetus of the circulation in the head, as may be known from the head-ach, intolerance of light, flushed face, and pulsation of the temporal arteries, and of the vessels within the skull, an epistaxis, or discharge of blood from the nose, uniformly relieves the distress of the head: (this circumstance is a strong corroboration, if not of my theory, at least of the justness of the principles and outlines of practice which I recommend;) but when the powers of life are much exhausted, (an event which is sure to occur in the progress of Typhus,) discharges of blood are unfavourable, as they induce great relaxation, but most particularly the hæmorrhages from the surface, because they are marks of extreme relaxation, and perhaps of a morbid resolution of the crisis of the blood. In excessive weakness, likewise, large evacuations of any sort are bad, but of all evacuations loss of blood is the most wasteful and alarming: sometimes the state of the circulation is so feeble, and the relaxation and putrescency of the system so great, that mortified spots or blotches form upon the haunches, and upon those parts of the trunk which are most prominent, and consequently upon which the weight of the patient's body presses

presses most, and sometimes dropsical swellings of the limbs, deadly coldness of the extremities, and livid incurvated nails, are produced by the same causes.

From the commencement the breathing, along with the pulse, becomes somewhat quickened, and this quickness increases as the disease advances: at length it becomes very quick and hurried, particularly from an exertion of the slightest kind, such as that of shifting from one attitude in the bed to another, and also from the effort to talk: in bad cases it becomes very quick, noisy, laborious, and performed, as it were, by fits and starts, so that the respiration is rapid, and succeeded by a pause, and attended by an heaving of the shoulders: sometimes the quickness of the respiration increases beyond its healthy ratio to that of the pulse, so that there shall be, perhaps, one respiration performed in the time of two pulsations: this is always a very unfavourable sign. In fatal cases the respiration is, some time before death, generally accompanied by a disagreeable rattling noise, in consequence of mucus accumulated in the cells of the bronchiæ, which the patient has not strength enough to expectorate, and which, by the suffocation that it causes, accelerates the fatal termination.

If we carefully examine those appearances as they occur in Typhus, we shall find that the leading symptoms of the disease, soon after its commencement, indicate a morbidly increased excitement in the brain and nerves of the head, which produces an increased determination to the vessels of the brain and head. The *vigiliæ*, the intolerance of light and noise, the violent throbbing of the arteries of the head, the roaring noise within the head when it takes place, the delirium, particularly that of the outrageous kind, frequently the flushed face, and the inflammatory aspect, and suffusion of the eyes, leave no doubt of this morbid excitement in, and increased determination to the head; and even in those cases where the face is pale, there is generally an intolerance of light, a red suffusion of the eyes, and other symptoms

symptoms indicative of excitement within the head; and in the rest of the system the symptoms shew diminished excitement morbidly modified, and following as a consequence from this morbidly excited state of the brain and head, and of their vessels. The quick and feeble pulse, the hurried and anxious breathing, the weakened tone of the intestines, the exhaustion of the muscular strength, and the shrinking or reduced bulk of the whole surface, (except the head) are evident proofs of diminished excitement and weakened vascular action in the rest of the system. It is true, that in the progress of the disease the increased excitement of the brain passes into diminished excitement, an event which is analogous to many other phænomena in the animal œconomy; for increased muscular action and increased nervous energy, in any part of the system, are uniformly succeeded by a diminution or relaxation, proportioned, more or less, to the intensity of the preceding action. We observe likewise that increased muscular action and increased nervous energy in one part, beget diminished energy in other parts very generally; and hence it is that blisters are found so often useful. In farriery, too, the application of the actual cautery is, on the same ground, often a good remedy: and among the Chinese red hot irons are said to be applied, in cases of internal pain, the value of which practice can be explained on the same principle. A remarkable circumstance in Typhus appears to prove the justness of this reasoning, viz. that after the distress of the head is relieved, purgatives, which had proved inert before, now act with sufficient effect on the intestinal canal: the morbidly increased energy in the brain, which was accompanied by diminished energy and torpor in other parts of the system, particularly in the intestines, being removed, the natural tone and action of those intestines are restored, and, as a necessary consequence, they become more susceptible of impressions from appropriate causes; therefore medicines of a purgative quality

are now more active in producing their appropriate effects. From this reasoning it follows, that we should early in fever reduce the morbid excitement of the brain, which, if neglected, passes through those dangerous stages that ultimately induce death. I must here observe, that we have no control over the nervous movements directly; but the nervous energy excited in any part modifies the action of the blood-vessels, so as to cause an increased determination to, and an excited action in the vessels of that part; and, on the other hand, a diminution in the excited action of the blood-vessels has a reacting effect on the state of the nervous excitement, and tends very much to diminish it in its turn: hence a pointed and direct indication of cure is early to reduce the action of the blood-vessels of the head by a quick detraction of blood from them, and thereby to diminish the morbid excitement of the brain itself; for we know by experience that, by reducing suddenly the quantity of circulating fluids in the blood-vessels, we can diminish their action very considerably. This appears to me, in theory, to be a most essential part of the treatment of Typhus, and I do affirm that I have uniformly found it so in practice.

There are some other remedies employed for this purpose, such as spirituous and acetous applications, ice, and blisters. The ice, the vinegar, and spirituous embrocations, abstract much heat from the head, and by their cooling effects are often serviceable in reducing the morbid excitement of the brain. Blisters act on the principle already mentioned; but the most powerful of all those remedies is the local bleeding: the blood may be taken away by cupping and scarifying, by leeches, or by opening the temporal artery: the last is decidedly the most effectual in dangerous cases, and the most æconomical, and hence it is the mode commonly employed in the excellent practice of the Fever Hospital in this town. In private practice I usually apply leeches, and I find them generally successful. I
consider

consider the head and the alimentary tract to be the principal seat of the fever, and accordingly my attention is directed to those parts primarily and chiefly. If called the first or second day, I recommend an emetic, mostly Ipecacuan wine or Ipecacuan in powder; for robust constitutions Tartar emetic in solution is a better emetic, because it acts more powerfully on the stomach, and afterwards frequently produces evacuations by stool; and, finally, because it gives a greater shock to the system: but for delicate constitutions it is by much too rough and severe. An emetic at this early period sometimes, but not often, cuts short the fever, by discharging the morbid contents of the stomach, determining to the surface, and thus restoring action to an extensive system of vessels, which, in fever, are morbidly inactive; and, in consequence of the shock which it communicates to the system, by probably breaking the association between the several parts of the morbid actions of the fever before they are formed into a confirmed habit. If there be vomiting already, an emetic should not be given; we should then merely recommend draughts of some light bitter, as infusion of Chamomile flowers, in order to enable the stomach to unload itself sufficiently; but an emetic given in an highly irritable state of the stomach (which is not uncommon in the beginning of Typhus) might induce inflammation. After the second day emetics very seldom cut short the fever. If during the two first days the exhibition of an emetic fails to cut short the fever, or if the physician is not called in until a latter period, (which is the most usual event) I advise blood to be taken immediately from the head, and this step I recommend, whatever be the modification of that distress which is perceived in the head; whether it be *vigiliæ*, vertigo, intolerance of light and noise, head-ach, painful throbbing and noise within the head, or delirium: whether it be either of these, or two or more of them combined, I refer them all to the same morbid excitement, and consider them as individuals
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of the same family. I have advised this plan where the patient did not complain even of head-ach, and only mentioned that it was an unaccountable restlessness and want of sleep that distressed him; and the result was, relief from this state of inquietude, and a refreshing sleep. If the detraction of blood is to be effected by means of leeches, we may order from twelve to twenty of them for an adult: if the blood-letting is to be in another manner, we may recommend from eight to sixteen ounces to be taken away: the hair should be cut as close as scissars can clip it, before the leeches or other means of blood-letting be employed; and if the symptoms are alarming, the head ought to be shaved completely. I do believe that the difference between taking away blood thus early and suddenly from the head, and the practice of delaying the operation until symptoms of severe head-ach, and perhaps delirium, or pressure on the brain appear, sometimes virtually amounts in its consequences to a difference between life and death. The bleeding is generally followed by a great mitigation of symptoms, not only in the head, but in the vital functions throughout the system, and even the alimentary passages are more easily affected; hence purgatives, after the bleeding, act for the most part with sufficient energy.

I have ascertained, likewise, that in the most delicate patients afflicted with Typhus fever, bleeding from the head in the incipient stages of the fever is perfectly safe, and, so far from weakening, that it actually relieves and refreshes the patient; and should it so happen that there might be a feeling of weakness, it is of little moment, when compared with the immense advantage of relieving the brain. I have known a relapse of the cephalic symptoms sometimes to require the bleeding to be renewed three different times; and once in the instance of an incorrigible drunkard, I had blood taken away four times before symptoms of convalescence began. In a general way I may observe, that if any of those cephalic symptoms return,

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I have recourse to the bleeding without hesitation, and that as often as a return of the symptoms may seem to require it, (there are exceptions which I will explain hereafter.) If the fever be mismanaged, or if we are called in very late in the course of it, we may be obliged to repeat the blood-letting more frequently; four repetitions of the local blood-letting is the most frequent that I had occasion to employ, and that was the instance I mentioned of a desperate drunkard. I have met with patients in whom the one blood-letting was sufficient, and in the majority of cases I believe two or three shall answer; but certainly under untoward circumstances more may become necessary. We never meet with an instance of Typhus in which there is not some sign of disordered brain from the very beginning, and consequently the indication of relieving the brain immediately is obvious in every instance; and for this purpose I am persuaded that bleeding from the vessels of the head is the most powerful remedy. I may be deemed presumptuous for claiming any merit from the employment of a remedy which is in common use; I admit that it is in common use, and frequently resorted to with great advantage. It is not my wish to detract from the merit of others, but I do apprehend that in general it has not been used on principles sufficiently strong; that it has been frequently delayed too long, and not had recourse to until violent head-ach, or delirium, or symptoms of torpor have occurred: for my part, I advise it as decidedly in fever, where the patient only complains that he cannot sleep, even although there be neither head-ach nor delirium, as in those instances where there is violent head-ach, or outrageous delirium; and I believe that employed thus early, it will be the means frequently of saving the patient from violent head-ach, from delirium, and death. The worse the type or character of the Typhus, the more rapid is its course, the sooner is it disposed to prove fatal; and therefore the necessity for early blood-letting from the head is obvious. We ought to
recollect

recollect that excitement, if very violent, has the shortest duration, passes most speedily into the opposite state of atony and relaxation, when the means of relieving that excitement, which has now passed away, cannot avail, and when the brain has perhaps already sustained that injury, that bids defiance to the resources of medicine.

The principal seat of fever, next to the head, appears to be the alimentary canal. The secretions and excretions, which are detained in it now in a morbid state, are an irritant of a deleterious nature; they are found to exasperate all the other symptoms of fever: we may therefore conclude, upon sound principles, that the remedies which remove those excrements are valuable, by withdrawing the irritation of a morbid cause; and so extensive is the sympathy between the several viscera of the body, and so uniform the principle of reaction to which I have already alluded, that the relief of the alimentary canal, produced by appropriate purgatives, is generally attended with a considerable mitigation of the symptoms that affect the head. Hence purgatives are to be regularly administered throughout the fever, both to carry off morbid excrements from the alimentary passages, and also to restore diseased functions and secretions to an healthful state. The latter effect, in my opinion, is produced by purgatives in two ways; first, the removal of accumulated fæces is virtually the removal of an irritant which oppresses and interrupts the sound actions of the system; and nature, now relieved from its distress by the operation of a purgative, acts with more health and energy. Secondly, there are some cathartics which have the effect not only of carrying off the intestinal fæces, but likewise of acting on the vital powers of the secreting and excreting organs themselves, and thereby of improving the tone of their vessels. Mercurial purgatives seem to possess those two qualities in a superior degree, and hence they are very properly much employed in fever, blended with vegetable cathartics: their effects, however,

however, are slow, and therefore they are commonly followed up with moderate doses of liquid purgatives, to quicken their operation, as with solutions of purgative salts and purgative tinctures added, or with Castor oil and purgative tinctures, or with enemata. I have often found great benefit from exhibiting the dose of the mercurial early in the day, from giving small doses of the purgative solutions in divided portions through the day after until they operate, and if the evacuations proved too scanty, from exhibiting an enema before bed time. Of the vegetable cathartics which are generally combined with Calomel, I conceive Aloe to be the surest and the most active: I therefore commonly prefer it in cases of strong persons, who require large doses of purgatives: if well triturated in a mortar with Calomel, and a little Capsicum or ginger, it agrees with most constitutions; but sometimes it irritates the large intestines severely: we may, for such persons, substitute the compound Colocynth pill, or Scammony, or Jalap, or Rhubarb, in its place. There are some, too, who are sickened very much by Calomel, however blended or modified, and to those we may give the blue pill as a substitute, with advantage.

In mentioning the advantage of resorting to local bleeding from the head as often as cephalic symptoms recurred, I observed that there are exceptions, for often when the patient had laboured for some time under severe head-ach, although local blood-letting shall remove it, yet slight irregularities and trifling causes are apt to excite it anew in some degree. Thus, if the fæces happen to remain not sufficiently dislodged for one day, the subsequent night is commonly passed in an uncomfortable and restless state, and the following morning, upon visiting our patient, he will complain of head-ach: under such circumstances it will be the best plan to exhibit a full dose of the mercurial purgative, &c. succeeded, as above mentioned, by a good purgative solution: sufficient evacuations procured in this way

way shall remove the head-ach ; but it may happen that a doubt might arise respecting the cause of the pain, and then we should order the purgatives until they operate, and direct that if the head-ach still continued, notwithstanding their operation, blood should be taken forthwith from the head. I have found that an enema at bed-time is attended with great relief in most instances ; it often brings away a copious stool, after purgatives given during the day only procured scanty but frequent evacuations, and it contributes to cause a refreshing sleep ; it is therefore an excellent auxiliary to purgative pills and purgative mixtures, and particularly well adapted to irritable and delicate constitutions, and to the advanced stages of fever, where the system labours under dangerous debility, because it operates with much less distress and pain, than purgatives taken by the mouth. Enemata, however, are most effectual when exhibited in some hours after other purgatives ; by themselves they are insufficient. The stomach is generally very irritable in Typhus, and hence it becomes necessary that we should give the medicines in that form in which they are most likely to be retained ; pills are perhaps the best form in consequence of their small bulk, and the little taste which they leave in the mouth. Castor oil is usually very nauseous, hence it is seldom given, or retained by the stomach of a fever patient ; there is however a manner of giving it, which I have sometimes found effectual in causing it to be retained. I pour about twelve drachms of Peppermint or Cinnamon water into a large wine glass ; to this I add from half an ounce to an ounce of tincture of Senna, and then I drop into it, very gently, from half an ounce to one ounce of Castor oil ; the oil remains suspended in the mixture ; if the patient swallows this quickly he does not taste the oil : this is an excellent purgative draught after a mercurial purgative, particularly where there are feelings of pain or griping in the bowels, and in this shape it generally agrees with the stomach. I lately attended a child in a bilious

bilious fever, who never took Castor oil before without instantly vomiting it. I treated the little one with mercurial purgatives, and in a few hours after gave it a full dose of Castor oil, suspended in double its bulk of Cinnamon water; in this form it was not only retained by the stomach, but actually liked.

There is a circumstance, which however insignificant it might appear, seems to me to have considerable weight, viz. the time of visiting a fever patient, I believe the morning to be the best time, and if the case be alarming we should repeat the visit before night.

In the intervals between the periods of employing active remedies, the saline mixture may be given with benefit; when well prepared it is grateful to the palate; it serves to settle the stomach; sometimes it helps to soften the skin; and it is in some cases gently laxative; but it is always most agreeable when the quantity of lemon juice is a little above the point of saturation.

As it is not my purpose in this essay to enter minutely into an enumeration of all the remedies that are used in the several aspects of fever, but only to shew that there are certain principles which might guide our practice, so as to render it steady and successful, and to point out those leading remedies by means of which most particularly we might accomplish that desirable object; I will mention solely one article more of essential utility in fever.

There is frequently a strong tendency to putrescency in Typhus, especially when it assumes a malignant character; this is proved by the fœtor of the patient's excretions, by the rapid sinking of the strength, by petechial ecchymoses on the surface, by tympanitic swellings of the abdomen, by harrassing singultus, and most particularly by gangrenous blotches, which are sometimes formed on different parts of the surface, particularly those on which, in consequence of their greater projection, the patient pressed most heavily in bed, and around which, in some cases, the

involuntary stools and urine are apt to lodge. In those alarming cases, wine, bark, mineral acids, and Camphor mixtures are very properly used. The remedy on which I have the principal reliance to protect the system from this putrescency, and to arrest its progress after it has appeared, is the wort of strong ale or of porter; to this I add another article of old and popular celebrity in fever, I mean yeast or barm; the mixture of those is one of the most powerful anti-emetics I ever saw employed; it corrects in a short time the morbid fœtor of the excretions, it helps considerably to support the strength, and it is sometimes gently laxative, and where it fails to shew laxative qualities, the addition of a little tincture of Jalap will assist its operation without imparting any disagreeable flavour to it. For the knowledge of this excellent remedy I am indebted to Dr. William Harvey. To persons labouring under habitual morbid secretions of bile, it is a remedy of inestimable value. My method of preparing it is, to mix a pint of the strong wort with three or four table spoonfuls of rich barm, and a desert spoonful of brown sugar, and to place the whole in an uncorked quart bottle before a fire, so as to be just not cold; a fermentation soon sets in, and then it is fit for use; this quantity is the ordinary allowance for an adult during twenty-four hours, but I have known large athletic men take double this quantity, and some times even more in the course of the day.

From several conversations respecting Typhus fever which I had with Dr. Anthony Gilhooly, the present president of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, I feel particular pleasure in mentioning that his sentiments uniformly corresponded with my own, and also that I am indebted to him for some useful suggestions on this subject.

With a view to the practical illustration of my principles, I annex the following cases, which I select, because I
conceive

conceive the patients suffered from circumstances and predispositions peculiarly unfavourable to their recovery, as will appear from the detail of the reports.

MR. J. B.

September 26th, 1817.

FOURTH DAY OF THE FEVER.

An athletic large man, about 40 years of age, of habitual constipation of bowels, and labouring under chronic hepatitis, had got Typhus fever from contagion.

I was called to see him on the fourth day after the commencement of the fever: the usual symptoms of shivering, succeeded by heat, restlessness, pain of back, lassitude, want of appetite, sickness of stomach, and vomiting, with head-ach, set in from the beginning. He complained to me that his bowels were full, and inflated, and that he felt the necessity of being freely purged; he had severe head-ach, with intolerance of light and noise; his face was highly flushed, and he had not even slumbered from the very beginning; his tongue was loaded and yellow, and his pulse about 106.

Having known from former experience that he required very large doses of purgatives to affect him, I preferred the use of Aloes to other vegetable cathartics, and ordered the following remedies:

R. Calomelanos gr. septem.

Aloes hepaticæ gr. quatuor.

Pulv. Capsici gr. duo. His probe in Mortareo contritis adde Tincturæ Aloet. q. s. f. pilæ. tres argenti foliis obvolvendæ.

Sumat omnes statim.

R. Sulphatis

R. Sulphatis Magnesiæ unciam unam, Solve in Infusi Sennæ cum tamarindis unciis septem, & adde tincturæ Sennæ unciam unam & dimidiam.

Elect. aromat gr. quatuor. Solve. Sumat unciam horis quinque post pil^s, si op. f. & repetat 2^{nda}. qq. hora postea ad eff^m.

App^f. statim fronti & temporibus hirudines sexdecim.

Let his hair be cut quite close.

FIFTH DAY.

The leeches were applied with effect; head-ach removed; had a few hours sleep; four scanty foetid stools; face less flushed; complains still that the evacuation by the bowels is insufficient; belly still full; stomach irritable, and inclined to reject the liquid purgative and drink; pulse and tongue as before.

R. Submuriatis Hydrargyri præcipitati gr. quinque.
Pulv. Rhei gr. quatuor.

Pulv. Capsiei gr. unum. Conterantur probe ut f. pilæ.
duæ argenti foliis obvolvendæ.

Sumat ambas statim.

R. Carbonatis Sodæ dr. tres, solve in Aquæ unciis sex & adde Tincturæ cardamomi comp. Semunciam

M. Sum^t. unciam cum semuncia succi Limon. recent. statim post pil^s. & repetat 2^{nda}. qq. hora postea durante die.

Mitt^f. Spiritus camphorati unciæ octo.

Signa

Embrocation with which the head is to be wetted from time to time, particularly when any sting may be felt in it.

SIXTH DAY.

Disturbed slumbers; head-ach returned with severity; face flushed; five dark coloured small and foetid evacuations;
irritability

irritability of stomach, flatulence and griping pains; pulse about 110. Hypochondria swelled, and sore on pressure.

R. Calomelanos gr. sex.

Aloes hepat. gr. quatuor.

Pulv. Capsici gr. unum. conterantur omnia probe in Mortareo per duo minuta, & adde Tincturæ Aloet. q. s. ut f. pilæ. tres argenti foliis obvolvendæ. Sumat omnes statim.

R. Sulphatis Magnesiæ unciam, Solve in Infusi Rosæ unciis septem, & adde tincturæ Sennæ uncias duas M. St. cochlearia duo horis quatuor post pil^s. & repetat 2^{nda}. qq, hora postea ad eff^m.

R. Decocti pro enemate uncias duodecim.

Sulphatis Sodæ unciam. Solve & adde

Tincturæ Sennæ.

Olei olivar. â unciam. M. f. Enema inj^m. hora 8^{va}. vesperi hodie.

Appl^r. statim fronti & temporibus hirudines 20, continetur embrocatio.

SEVENTH DAY.

Head-ach removed; four hours broken sleep; abdomen full, but less painful on pressure; vomituration; four dark scanty and foetid stools; pulse about 114; great irritation at the rectum, with a slight appearance of blood in the stools; complains that the purgatives are not sufficiently strong; tongue loaded and brown, but soft.

R. Guttar. Gambogiæ gr. tria.

Scammonii gr. quatuor.

Calomelanos gr. sex.

Capsici gr. unum. Conterantur omnia probe in Mortareo, & dein f. pilæ. tres.

Sumat omnes statim.

R. Sulphatis

R. Sulphatis Magnesiæ unciam. Solve in infusi Rosæ unciis sex, & adde Tincturæ Jalappæ uncias duas.

Elect. arom. gr. quatuor. Solve; Sum^t. more solito.

Hora 8^{va}. vesperi inj^r. enema heri præscriptum.

EIGHTH DAY.

Pulse as yesterday; passed four large dark stools; had no sleep, but is free from head-ach; the irritability of the stomach continues; belly full, and somewhat sore on pressure; tongue soft, but loaded.

R. Calomelanos gr. sex. gutt. Gambogiæ gr. tria.

Scammonii gr. tria. Pulv. Capsici gr. unum. Conterantur probe ut f. pilæ. tres. Sum^t. statim.

Rep^r. mistura salina more solito sumenda.

Rep^r. enema hora 8^{va}. vesperi, & iterum horis duabus postea si opus fuerit. Nocte nisi somnus obreperit Appl^r. hirudines viginti fronti & temporibus.

Let him have a pint of wort and barm, to be repeated during the twenty-four hours, if he likes it.

NINTH DAY.

The leeches were applied; he had about four hours good sleep; five large dark green stools, with great relief; stomach settled from the use of the porter wort, as he conceives; belly free from soreness; tongue less foul; complexion more natural; pulse 106.

Rep^r. enema hora 8^{va}. vesperi.

Rep^r. mistura effervescens.

Continuetur embrocatio.

Let the wort be continued

TENTH DAY.

Pulse as yesterday; had some sleep; gums somewhat sore; abdomen still full, but not painful on pressure; relishes the wort and barm mixtures; some pale scattered petechiæ, which appeared early in the fever, had now totally disappeared; dislikes the liquid purgative.

R. Gambogiæ gr. duo. Scammonii opt. gr. sex. pulv. Capsici gr. unum. Calomelanos gr. tria. f. pilæ. tres ope conservæ ros. St. omnes quamprimum.

Hora 8^{va}. vesperi inj^r enema antea præscriptum.

ELEVENTH DAY.

Mouth very sore; ptyalism; two stools of a more natural appearance; bad sleep, but no head-ach; pulse 106; abdomen still somewhat full.

R. Scammonii gr. sex. Massæ pil^m. Aloes & Zingiberis gr. quinque. Conserv. ros. q. s. f. pilæ. tres statim sumendæ.

R. Infusi Rosæ uncias decem. Acid. muriat. gutt. triginta. Tincturæ Kino. Tinctur. Myr. à unciam. Syrup. Croci dr. duas M. utatur pro Gargarismate. Rep. enema M. S.

TWELFTH DAY.

Five natural stools; mouth very sore; no head-ach; got some refreshing sleep; pulse 98; complains of flatulence; countenance good.

R. Magnesiæ

R. Magnesiæ ustæ dr. duas.
 Mucilag. g. arab. dr. duas.
 Conterantur paulatim addenti Aq. Cinnam uncias sex.
 Tinctur. Cardam. comp. dr. sex.
 Liquor. æther. oleosi drachmam.
 Syrup. Cort. aurant. dr. tres M.
 Sumat cochleare amplum statim, agitâtâ phialâ, & repetat
 3tia. qq. hora.
 Repetatur enema M. S.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

No head-ach; one stool; flatulence continues; no
 pain of belly; pulse 106; tongue moist, but foul; mouth
 as yesterday.

R. Magnesiæ ustæ dr. duas
 Mucilag. g. arab. dr. duas.
 Terendo Misce, & inter terendum adde
 Aq. Cinnam. uncias quinque.
 Tincturæ Cardam. comp. semunciam.
 Syrup. Cort. aurant. dr. duas. M. St. semunciam omni
 hora agitâtâ phialâ.

Rep^r. enema M. S.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

Some very scanty stools; pulse as yesterday; tongue
 less foul; belly more swelled; bad night; head some-
 what uneasy.

R. Scammonii gr. sex.
 Submuriatis Hydrargyri præcipitati gr. sex.
 Pulv. Capsici gr. duo. His probe contritis adde Conserv.
 ros. q. f. ut f. pil^x. tres statim sumendæ.

Hora 8^{va}. vesperi inj^r. enema.

FIFTEENTH

FIFTEENTH DAY.

Two large feculent stools; good night; all the symptoms better; skin soft; no head-ach; pulse 96; tongue more clean.

Repetatur enema hora 8^{va}. vesperi cnm olei Ricini sescuncia loco olei olivarum.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

Good night; tongue nearly natural; pulse about 86; appetite improves.

From this day forward his convalescence was rapid. I directed that he should have some Castor Oil, and tincture of Senna, to be taken occasionally in a glass of peppermint water, and that the enema at night should be continued, if there should be any slowness of bowels at that time.

If any distress of flatulence or fulness of the abdomen should return, I advised that he should take a dose of Calomel, Rhubarb, and Capsicum.

This patient lived in one of the most noisy streets in Dublin, and was frequently startled out of his slumbers by the roaring of drunkards, and female street-walkers; and there can be no doubt that those untoward circumstances very much retarded his recovery, and exasperated his symptoms. He is now in better health than he has enjoyed for many years.

MISS M.

About twenty years old,

October 9, 1817.

FIFTH DAY OF THE FEVER.

Had been attacked with the usual symptoms of Typhus, five days before; at my first visit had intolerance of light

and noise, with violent head-ach; suffered from restlessness and want of sleep from the beginning. Her skin was hot, and of a muddy colour, her eyes suffused, and of a yellow tinge; her stomach irritable, and inclined to vomit whatever she took. Whenever she began to slumber, she was instantly roused by frightful dreams, and then was delirious in a slight degree. The hypochondria were tense, and very painful on pressure; bowels constipated for the five preceding days and nights: pulse 110.

Appl^r. quamprimum hirudines sexdecim fronti & temporibus.

R. Submuriatis Hydrargyri præcipitati gr. quinque.

Scammonii gr. sex.

Pulv. Capsici gr. unum. conterantur probe ut f. pilulæ tres quamprimum sumendæ.

R. Sulphatis Magnesiae unciam. Solve in Infusi Ros. unciis septem, & adde

Tincturæ Sennæ unciam unam.

Conserv. Ros. dr. duas.

Elect. arom. gr. quinque. Solve. Sumat cochlearia duo ampla horis quinque post pil^s, & repetat 2^{nda}. qq. hora postea ad alvi solut^m.

SIXTH DAY.

Pulse as yesterday; no head-ach; four clay coloured fœtid stools; had a few hours sleep, after the slumbers of which she had slight, but transient, delirium; hypochondria swelled, and painful; skin less muddy; countenance better; stomach inclined to vomit.

R. Calomelanos gr. quatuor.

Pulv. Capsici gr. unum. conterantur & f. pilæ. duæ argenti foliis obvolvendæ.

Sumat ambas statim.

R. Carbonatis

R. Carbonatis Sodæ dr. tres. Solve in Aquæ unciis sex
& adde Tincturæ Cardamomi comp, semunciam

Syrup. Zingiberis dr. unam M. St. unciam cum semuncia
Succi Limon. recent. statim post pilulas & repetat 2^{nda}.
qq. hora.

SEVENTH DAY.

Passed several scanty yellow stools; complains that the
pills sickened and griped her; flatulence; swelling and
pain of hypochondria, particularly severe at the pit of the
stomach; pulse about 104.

R. Magnesiæ ustæ dr. unam.

Mucilag. g. arab. dr. unam. contere paulatim addens Aq.
Cinnam. uncias quatuor. Syrup. cort. aurant. dr. tres
M. St. cochleare amplum statim & repetat 3^{tia}. qq. hora
agitat^a phial^a.

R. Massæ pil. Hydrargyri gr. quinque.

Pulv. Rhei gr tria.

Pulv. Capsici gr. unum. fiant pilæ. duæ hora nona hac
nocte sumendæ.

EIGHTH DAY.

Abdomen somewhat inflated; a few small evacuations
by the bowels; præcordia painful on pressure; tongue
soft; pulse 110; had some short slumbers; no head-ach.

R. Submuriatis Hydrargyri præcipitati gr. sex.

Scammonii gr. sex.

Pulveris Capsici gr. unum.

His probe contritis adde Gel. sap. q. s. f. pilæ. tres: St.
unam statim & repetat 3^{tia}. qq. hora ad alvi solut^m.

R. Decocti pro enemate uncias duodecim.

Sulphatis Sodæ unciam. Solve. & adde Tincturæ Jalappæ
semunciam; olei olivar. unciam M. f. Enema injiciendum
hora 6^{ta}. vespertina hodie

NINTH

NINTH DAY.

The pills were all taken, and did not cause any sickening sensations; four watery but foetid and small stools; the enema was not given; no head-ach; a bad and restless night, but without delirium; præcordia painful on pressure; tongue soft, and not very foul; pulse as yesterday; she longs for the saline Julep, but plain.

R. Submuriatis Hydrargyri præcipitati gr. quatuor.

Scammonii opt. gr. tria.

Pulv. Capsici gr. unum. Conterantur ut f. pil^æ. duæ statim sumendæ.

Inj^r. enema vesperi.

Rep^r. solutio alkalina cum Succo Limon. sed omittatur Tinctura cardamomi comp.

TENTH DAY.

No sleep; four small stools; flushed face; pulse 112; intolerance of light; pain of præcordia

R. Calomelanos gr. sex. Extracti Colocynthidis comp. gr. tria. His probe contritis adde Tincturæ aloet. q. s. f. pil^æ. duæ statim sumendæ.

Appl^r. hirudines duodecim fronti & temporibus.

ELEVENTH DAY.

No pain of head, nor intolerance of light; some refreshing sleep; had several stools, but foetid and slimy; præcordia painful on pressure, but in a less degree; pulse 116; eyes considerably inflamed, and watery, from being exposed to cold in applying the leeches.

R. Massæ

R. Massæ pil^m. Hydrargyri gr. quinque.
 Capsici gr. unum,
 His probe contritis adde Conserv. ros. q. s. f. pil^æ. duæ
 statim sumendæ.

R. Unguenti spermatis Ceti semunciam.
 Acetatis plumbi gr. decem. Conterantur probe in un-
 guentum quo curentur oculi subinde.

TWELFTH DAY.

Some short, but refreshing sleep ; countenance improved ;
 no head-ach ; præcordia less painful ; abdomen less tumid ;
 pulse 112 ; two natural stools ; some flatulence.

R. Massæ pil^m. hydrargyri gr. quinque.
 Pulv. Zingiber. gr. duo, conterantur probe ut fiant,
 pil^æ. duæ. Sumat anibas statim.

R. Decocti pro enemate uncias duodecim.
 Sulphatis Sodæ unciam. Solve & adde
 Tincturæ Sennæ dr. sex.
 Olei olivar. unciam. M. f. Enema hora 8^{va}. vesperi
 inj^m.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

Pulse as yesterday ; some sleep ; some scanty black and
 slimy stools ; no head-ach ; præcordia less painful ; abdo-
 men somewhat swelled.

R. Submuriatis Hydrargyri præcipitati gr. quinque.
 Scammonii gr. tria, conterantur probe ut f. pil^æ. duæ
 statim sumendæ.

Mitt^r. Aq. Cinnam. uncia octo.

Mitt^r. olei Ricini uncia duæ.

Mitt^r. Tincturæ Sennæ uncia duæ. Sumat Tincturæ
 Sennæ semunciam, & olei Ricini semunciam, ex Aquæ
 Cinnamomi sescuncia horis quatuor post pil^s.

FOURTEENTH

FOURTEENTH DAY.

Pulse as yesterday; some sleep; several fœtid scanty stools; hypochondria somewhat full, but less painful; tongue bilious.

R. Calomelanos gr. quatuor.

Pulv. Zingib. gr. duo. terantur simul ut f. pil^æ. duæ ope Conserv. ros. statim sumendæ.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

Appearances improved, but she is very nervous; pulse 116; she relishes a little broth; belly somewhat full.

Repetatur vesperi enema catharticum antea præscriptum

On the 16th the appearances were such as to require no medicine; but on the seventeenth the following report was made:

Pulse as before; but there is still a fulness of the hypochondria and pit of the stomach, with slight soreness on pressure; four dark, but small stools.

R. Calomelanos gr. tria.

Pulv. Rad. Rhei gr. tria.

Pulv. Zingiber. gr. unum f. ope gel. sap. pil^æ. duæ. Sumat ambas statim.

Inj^r. enema more solito vesperi.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

Four copious stools; hypochondria depressed, and free from pain; some refreshing sleep in the night; countenance languid, but natural; pulse 110.

R. Decocti pro enemate uncias duodecim. Sulphatis sodæ unciam unam. Solve & adde olei Ricini unciam. Tincturæ Jalappæ semunciam. f. Enema vesperi inj^m.

NINETEENTH

NINETEENTH DAY.

Had a good night; one large stool from the enema; pulse 104; hypochondria neither sore nor swelled; appetite improved.

From this day forward her convalescence advanced regularly; some warm and bitter draughts were directed to improve her appetite and strength, and a few laxative pills to assist her bowels if necessary.

For six years before this fever she had been in a very delicate state of health, subject sometimes to hysterical attacks, and often to head-ach; sudden dimness of sight, and fainting fits: those circumstances, in which there was a marked determination to the head, rendered her fever more alarming, and her recovery more tedious. She got the worst mixture, but disliked it, and preferred Soda water.

MR. J. H.

October 31, 1817.

FIFTH DAY OF THE FEVER.

About 30 years of age; on the fifth day of the fever reported, that he had suffered from total inability to sleep for the five preceding nights and days. He had intolerable pain of head; swelled and inflamed appearance of the face, and whites of the eyes; great sickness of stomach, and straining to vomit; total loss of appetite; bowels constipated, from the very commencement; his pulse was about 100; light coloured petechiæ were thinly scattered over his arms, and the upper part of his body. He told me that he felt the necessity of active purgatives, and of bleeding from his head; præcordia very sore and tense; ten leeches had been applied before I saw him.

R. Applicentur

R. Applicentur statim hirdines viiginti temporibus.

Abradatur Capillus statim & madefiat vertex subinde
mistura constante ex Spiritus Vini camphorati, & aceti a
unciis quatuor.

R. Calomelanos semidrachmam.

Scammonii semidrachmam.

Pulv. Capsici gr. sex. f. pil^æ. quindecim.

Sumat tres statim.

R. Sulphatis Magnesiae unciam. Solve in Infusi Sennæ
cum Tamarindis unciis septem & adde

Tincturæ Sennæ Sescunciam M. Sumat cochlearia duo
ampla horis quinque post pils. si op. fuerit, & repetat 2^{nda}.
qq, hora ad alvi Solut^m.

An intelligent practitioner was in attendance regularly,
and I did not visit the patient again until the 7th day of
his fever.

SEVENTH DAY.

The head-ach, and other distressing symptoms, had been
immediately relieved by the bleeding; on the 5th day the
bowels were moved by the purgatives, which were
repeated, on the sixth day, and with such good effect, that
the pain of the præcordia had subsided, but still he had no
sleep; and on the seventh day, when I saw him a second
time, his head-ach had returned with great severity; his
face and eyes were again turgid and red, and he told me
he was just preparing to send for me again. The attention
paid by his medical attendant, and which procured copious
evacuations by stool, with a diminution in the inflation and
size of the præcordia, had however failed to check the
aching, and to prevent the appearances of violent morbid
action in the vessels of the head; accordingly the following
remedies were ordered:

Educatur

Educatur statim ex arteria temporis Sanguis ad uncias duodecim.

Continuentur pilulæ purgantes cum mistura purgante more præscripto.

Hac Nocte, hora Somni, injr. enema sequens.

R. Decocti pro enemate uncias duodecim.

Sulphatis Sodæ unciam.

Olei ricini unciam.

Tincturæ Sennæ unciam. M. f. enema.

EIGHTH DAY.

The purgative pills and the other evacuants were given with the effect of procuring several fœtid excrementitious stools; head free from pain; some troubled slumbers, succeeded by slight wandering; petechiæ little altered from the beginning; pulse 120, but regular; intellect very clear from the beginning, except in the moments after awaking from his slumbers; towards evening there is an exacerbation of symptoms very regularly.

Continuentur doses pilularum purgantium; detur postea mistura purgans antea præscripta et nocte repetatur enema.

The spirituous part of the wash for his head gave him pain, and increased the heat of his head, and therefore the vinegar alone was afterwards employed.

NINTH DAY.

On this day the appearances were truly alarming; face and eyes very red; rending head-ach; intolerance of light and noise; no sleep, not even slumbers through the night; pulse very irregular, some strokes quick and weak, and succeeded by others very slow and strong with long intermissions, and these intermissions returning at frequent but irregular intervals. Bowels not as free as usual; petechiæ more crowded and dark; head confused, according to his own statement, but without delirium; Subsultus tendinum, and twitches of the muscles of the face.

Educantur statim ex arteria temporis sanguinis uncia quatuordecim.

Habeat quamprimum Calomelanos scrupulum in partes quatuor divisum, & misturam catharticam more solito, & nocte enema catharticum.

I waited until the blood had been taken away: the eyes and the complexion immediately after lost their suffusion and redness; the head-ach vanished entirely; his intellect became more clear; the pulse, which had so many marks of irregularity before, now became quick and weak, but regular: it beat about 140.

Seeing the alarming state of the danger which threatened his head, (for he had been often subject to apoplectic attacks,) an effort was made to procure ptyalism, by the remedies used for opening his bowels, and therefore he was ordered a scruple of Calomel in divided doses, to be followed with the purgative mixture if necessary, and the enema was directed for the night.

TENTH DAY.

The medicines were all given with the effect of bringing away several excrementitious stools; he had some troubled slumbers; petechiæ paler; head quite clear; had some slight exacerbations the preceding evening; face and eyes free from suffusion; pulse about 140, but regular; complains of weakness; no soreness of mouth; some dulness of hearing.

Let him have a little light chicken broth.

Rep^r. Calomelas, & horis quatuor post Calomelanos dosin Sumat, si opus fuerit, olei Ricini.

Tincturæ Sennæ â semunciam.

Aquæ Cinnam. unciam M.

Hora somni inj^r. enema

The vinegar to be kept regularly applied to his head.

ELEVENTH DAY.

Appearances improved; petechiæ as yesterday; bowels freely relieved; better sleep; relished the broth very much; no soreness of mouth, but he had an exacerbation, as usual, in the afternoon, when his pulse was up to near 150; pulse now 135; the broth to be continued more freely.

Repet^r. med^a. omnia.

TWELFTH DAY.

Deafness greater; bowels opened several times; some broken slumbers; pulse about 132; head free from pain; eyes free from suffusion; complains of confusion in his thoughts; speech somewhat hurried; petechiæ darker than yesterday; abdomen a little tumid; has got cider, which he relishes; likes his broth.

Let them be continued.

Repetantur medicamenta hesterna.

Si exacerbatio vespertina redierit Appl^r. vesicatorium temporibus & fronti.

Foveantur Crura.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

Head free from pain; eyes clear, but dull; pulse as yesterday; petechiæ very crowded, and much darker; speech greatly hurried; much nervous agitation; belly inflated and tense; breathing quick and anxious; the blister was applied; no soreness of mouth; had some sound sleep; no singultus.

Let him continue his food.

Let him get some wine, under the controul of his medical attendant.

Sumat

Sumat dosin Calomelanos quamprimum.

Horis quatuor postea Sumat haustum constantem
ex olei Ricini & Spiritus Terebinthinae â semuncia.

Vesperi hora 8^{va}. inj^r. enema cui adde olei Terebinthinae
semunciam.

Foveantur Crura vesperi & si opus fuerit
Appl^r. Sinapismi plantis Pedum.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

The state of this gentleman yesterday alarmed us very much, and therefore we resorted to all the expedients which we conceived likely to be useful. In the afternoon of that day he grew worse; his weakness increased; his belly swelled more considerably; his petechiæ became more thick; his nervous agitation more violent; cold sweats broke out upon him; wine was given freely; Sinapisms were applied to his feet, and a blister to his head; at length the purgatives began to operate very freely; he got his broth from time to time; towards morning the violence of his symptoms abated; his skin grew warm; the tympanic swelling of his belly almost entirely subsided; he fell into a sound sleep, which lasted for a few hours. The report in the course of this day was—pulse 120; skin clearer; tongue soft, but somewhat loaded; countenance improved; had some copious and dark coloured stools in the latter part of the night; appetite a little better; roof of his mouth and gums a little inflamed.

Let the cider, and the several articles of his food, be continued.

Perstet in usu purgantium sed in minori dosi.

After this day his convalescence advanced prosperously; in two days afterwards his pulse was 96, and his appetite keen, and in a few days more he was quite recovered.

FINIS.