

occur in children bottle-fed on milk too much diluted; the digestive action of the gastric fluids suffering embarrassment by the very great amount of fluid, to say nothing of the grave derangements of the digestive organs, which are produced by insufficiency of nutritive material given in such habitually dilute food. The slow starvation produced by insufficient diet, and by diet which, though sufficient as to quantity, is unsuited as to quality, has many symptoms in common with much of the fatal infantine diarrhoea. This diarrhoea of indigestion is usually ushered in by more or less sudden anorexia, vomiting, thirst, nervous disturbance, and heat of skin, followed in a few hours by diarrhoeal discharges, containing more or less undigested food. Unless, the cause is repeated, the attack generally subsides with the expulsion of the offending material. It is therefore an exceedingly easy disorder to treat in both the young and old. The treatment, as a rule, need be nothing else than *physiological* and *physical* rest. This is attained by withholding food—a practice readily followed, for the patient does not desire food—quieting thirst by cold water without stint or measure, keeping the patient still, and, finally, when desire for food may return, to allow it in moderate amounts, and, if it be milk, *undiluted*.

In bottle-fed babies, whose milk has been diluted in the usual manner, from one-half to three-fourths water, nothing can be more striking than the change to undiluted milkman's milk, except, perhaps, when the dilution has been with barley, or other farinaceous decoction. Of all the compounds fruitful of infantile diarrhoea, in our city especially, those by farinaceous decoctions with milk rank first.

Children over six months often desire, and are benefited apparently, by farinaceous food occasionally; but the child should be allowed its choice to take it or not. This cannot be done by mixing it with its milk. All such articles should be given by themselves. The observation of these few plain rules for the treatment of the diarrhoea of indigestion, will be quite sufficient for most cases, medicinal aid being generally unnecessary. To avoid these attacks of diarrhoea of indigestion during our summers, every mother or nurse should be instructed to offer cold water to the infant, whether breast or bottle-fed, before offering it its food, for by so doing, the infant has the opportunity to quench its thirst with water, preserving the unembarrassed energies of the stomach for the digestion of the food.

Following the intestinal disturbance produced by an attack of diarrhoea of indigestion, the annexed train of symptoms are very often met with:—

Frequent alvine dejections of greenish, very fluid, and foetid character, frequently containing portions of undigested casein coagulum—if its diet