

QUININE "GRIPPE."

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Already the victims of this very common malady, which crops up during an indefinite period following a "grippe" season, are presenting themselves.

One man informed the writer that he had swallowed 60 (sixty) grains of quinine in two days. He was pale and trembling and exhausted, but said if I thought it necessary he would try a few more doses of it. I begged him to spare his system further assault and allow the balance of the available supply to go to Manila to the poor fellows who believe they have to swallow a certain amount daily to comply with army regulations.

What a difficult thing it must be to practice in the U. S. Army with a grip-sack full of quinine, a hypodermic syringe and half a peck of blue pills!

The patient will drop into your office and tell you he has had "grippe," and seemed to get over it after a few days, but now has what he chooses to call "secondary grippe;" that he has no appetite, his bowel is constipated, mouth is dry or gummy, tongue coated, bad taste, general lassitude, and perhaps he cannot get warm, his eyes are red or dull looking, his skin sallow or pale, and he is irritable and disgusted with everybody and everything. He is a quinine (poisoning) case. Do not scold the poor fellow—give him *Gelsemium*, *China*, or whatever his poor abused system seems to call for, and wait a few days to read your second book of Job to him, he couldn't bear it now; but it is your duty to try to impress on him later that no sane man would use quinine more than once in many years, if that often, for any condition where there is threatened or actual engorgement or inflammation of mucous structures, pelvis, abdomen or chest, or in fact for anything I can think of just at this moment, and certainly not for "grippe." I never use it; it is a *protoplasmic poison*. We need the protoplasm in our business, especially that very necessary factor in all repair, the leucocyte, and this most important systematic constituent (of whose kindly utility we have much yet to learn on top of what we already know) never long survives the quinine treatment, and indeed never fully recovers after the first severe shock of it (malarial—quinine—cachexia).

How sorry we should feel for any intelligent physician of the "New" or physiological school, who could so far forget himself and the basic principles of his therapeutics and drug pathology

as to employ this destroyer of life for a few hours of palliation or counter-irritation!

Its use in fevers is little short of criminal. How much better is the fever than the destroying angel sent to quell it!

Doubtless the Bolivian monks were excusably impressed with their discovery of the bark, and no doubt the Countess of Cinchon believed the Creator had left it for her and her monastic friends to "smash" all sorts of fevers (?) in record-breaking time and rid the world in general, and the sick in particular, of everything that looked like "heat and thirst" wherever found. Strange that even the Bolivians could not see that "heat and thirst" had saved more people from "dust to dust" than all the doctors under the vault of heaven.

The patient who gets quinine usually has only the grace of God left to him, as vital statistics will prove beyond question, now that there is a new school—imperfect, but perfect by comparison—in diseases that are simple as well as those that are profound in systematic disturbance; but it is, perhaps, not unreasonable to presume that even dense minds—made so by prejudice and false training—will in time yield to the inevitable, and come to admit that the human economy is never benefitted, but, on the other hand, is inevitably injured to a greater or less degree by the administration of crude drugs. And QUININE is one of the worst of these.—A. C. Stewart, M.D., Denver, Col., in *The Critique*.

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL PREPARATIONS.

Essences are preparations from medicinal plants rich in juice. The plants, or certain definite parts of them, are pressed out, and equal parts of the juice are mixed with an equal quantity of alcohol. Kept in well-corked bottles these essences, which are not much used in allopathy, will keep for many years. For this mode of preparing essences we are indebted to Hahnemann, who first introduced this method.

Tinctures are made from dried plants and their parts, etc., in the proportion of 1:5.

Solutions are made from substances soluble in water or alcohol, in certain proportions.

Triturations are most intimate mixtures of the drug with sugar of milk,