

the half-drachm brom. sod. In the following fortnight had 13 fits; cannabis indicæ gr. 1-6 was added to the pills. In the next fortnight had six fits; zinc was raised again to five grains, and he went for a fortnight without a fit. Towards the end of the following fortnight he had seven or eight fits in a few days, then he went a month with only two fits in one day. Went on pretty well from April, 1882, to Oct., when he had 15 fits in three weeks. Ordered: *R. Sodii nitriti, Dj. Aquæ, ʒ j. t. d. s.* In the following week had nine fits; and dose was raised to half a drachm. That week had three or four fits, so the medicine was continued, but the next time he came he said he had had 15 fits in the week, and felt sick and giddy after each dose of the medicine. Was therefore ordered: *R. Pot. brom. gr. xxv. Tr. digitalis. Mx. Aquam ad ʒ j. t. d. s.; R. Zinci oxidi, gr. iii. Extr. cann. ind. gr. 1-6. Ft. pil. t. d. s.*; and in the following month no fits occurred.

CASE 3. A. K., æt. 32, took the bromides and zinc without benefit for two months: had three or four fits daily. Ordered: *R. Sodæ bibor. Dj. Liq. arsen. Mii. Aq. ad ʒ j. t. d. s.* Had eight fits in the next four weeks, and then went three weeks without a fit. A large carbuncle formed on his buttock, and he had nine fits in a fortnight. The carbuncle healed well under Mr. Furneaux Jordan's iodine treatment, and in the next month he had eight fits. An ill-marked psoriasis broke out on his legs, presumably due to the borax; borax was stopped, and bromides substituted. The rash got well, but the fits became worse, and the borax was resumed without good result: had ten fits the first fortnight, six the second, two the third, and six the fourth. Was then ordered scruple doses sodium nitrite, and in the following week had four slight fits, but had been taking half-doses of his medicine by mistake; in the next week had three bad fits and resumed the bromides. In the following week had seven fits, and was ordered to have a seton put in the back of his neck. In the next week he had five slight fits.

CASE 4. M. R., female, æt. 24, had been taking bromides with zinc and cannabis indica pills for nine months, without cessation of fits, about one a fortnight. Ordered: *R. Sodæ bibor. gr. xv. Liq. arsen. Miii. Aquam ad ʒ j. t. d. s.* After this she was free from fits for four weeks, when she had three in one day. The dose was increased to a scruple, and she has gone eight weeks without a fit.

CASE 5. A. J. S., æt. 16, was under treatment by bromides for six months, having about a fit a week, but in the last week has had 12 fits. Ordered: *R. Sodæ bibor. Dj. Liq. arsen. Mii. Aq. ad ʒ j. t. d. s.* Went after this for nine weeks without a fit, when he had one in bed. Then relapsed, but was ordered his medicine every four hours, when the fits stopped entirely. The ends of his fingers desquamated while taking the medicine.

CASE 6. G. C., æt. 16, had been taking bromides for ten months with no benefit. Was ordered

scruple doses of borax three times a day. He had been having about one fit a fortnight. In the following fortnight he was not so well, having two bad fits, and in the next fortnight he had several fits, and was so ill that he had to go to bed. Ordered: *R. Sodii brom. Dj. Tr. belladonnæ, Mx. Aquam ad ʒ j. t. d. s.* In the next fortnight he had two fits; a five-grain oxide zinc pill was added. In the next fortnight had no fits, and in the next only one: brom pot. was substituted for the sodium salt, and he had no fits in the next fortnight. After this he had bad attacks now and then, but sometimes went for a fortnight without fits. His prescription was, a drachm bromide sodium at bed-time, and half an ounce inf. cinchonæ three times a day. For a little time seemed better, but the fits returned as badly as ever. Ordered: *R. Sodii nitrit. Pot. bromidi ʒa Dj. Tr. digitalis, Mx. Aquam ad ʒ j. t. d. s.* Since taking this has gone eight weeks with only nine fits, and thinks himself better.

CASE 7. H. B., female, æt. 21, has been attending as an out-patient for years, taking bromines without benefit, having fits every day or two. *R. Sodæ biboratis, Dj. Aquam ad ʒ j. t. d. s.* Was better on this treatment for about five weeks, when fits returned, and she was ordered her medicine every four hours. I have no further notes of this case, and presume she ceased attending. I think there is evidence of decided benefit from the use of borax in Cases 4, 5, 7. Sodium nitrite has done good definitely in no case; doubtfully in Case 6.

Dr. Gowers speaks in favor of iron, together with specific remedies. Hughlings-Jackson and Brown-Séquard oppose this practice. I am certain that I have seen cases made worse by iron, and I think its routine administration very undesirable. Although there can be no doubt of the power possessed by the bromides to control the fits, they appear to be quite useless to stop the minor attacks of epileptic vertigo, which are often by their frequency more distressing to the patient than the graver but rarer convulsions.

I have found that caffeine and theine, which I had previously discovered to possess the power of relieving the vertigo of Bright's disease, are very useful remedies in this condition. I have also found benefit from nitro-glycerine. The following cases are illustrations:

CASE 8. John D., æt. 27, had been epileptic for seven years before coming under observation, Aug., 1881. Fits were readily stopped by ten-grain doses brom. pot. combined with digitalis, but he suffered much from vertigo. Was given theine, and dose was gradually raised to three grains three times daily, with great benefit, the vertigo ceasing entirely. In course of treatment the theine was twice discontinued, but its use had to be renewed on account of the recurrence of the old symptom. Case 9. John S., æt. 20, never had fits, but was subject to attacks of vertigo, in which he often fell down and lost consciousness for a moment. Attacks had occurred about every week for last two years.