

the pulse was 86 and regular, but so weak that I could not count it at the wrist. The heart sounds were faint, the temperature normal.

I thought that the symptoms were caused by something that she had eaten. On inquiry they stated that she had only taken her ordinary food. She took no oysters, no shell fish, canned goods, etc. On questioning more closely, I found that she had eaten Bologna sausage to her tea. It seemed that this had caused the trouble. I emptied the stomach by giving a hypodermic of apomorphia, which brought on free vomiting. For the itching I bathed the body with vinegar, and this soon brought relief. I happened to have cocaine with me, so rubbed this over the tongue after which I swabbed the tongue and throat with dilute tannic acid and made her swallow pure vinegar. The swelling soon got less and patient could speak distinctly in a short time. The heart's action and general condition soon improved. I ordered a purge to be followed by powders of bismuth and soda. Next morning she was much better and in a day or two felt quite well.

I regard this as a case of ptomaine poisoning, the variety known as sausage poisoning or Botulism. The symptoms were due to gastric irritation causing a reflex vaso-motor paresis. The poison seemed to attack mainly the vaso-motor system, indeed the weakness of the pulse and heart would seem to have been due to the sudden flooding of the peripheral vessels. The general disturbance was slight, there was no vomiting and no rise of temperature. So far as I can learn the swelling of the tongue and glottis is not common in these cases.