

Therapeutic Suggestions.

CHLOROFORM IN EPIDIDYMITIS.—Great benefit is obtained in treating cases of epididymitis, both specific and non-specific, by means of chloroform locally applied. Lay cotton wool, saturated with chloroform and spirit, at the bottom of a large glass vessel, into which put the genitals, and pack round with dry cotton wool, the buttocks and thighs forming a cover; this application being continued for from fifteen to twenty-five minutes, and repeated two or three times a day.

Pathologically, the condition is one of venous congestion of the epididymis and the cord through retention of semen. Epididymitis is very likely to occur when gonorrhœa has been contracted in excessive venery.

Thirty-six years ago a case of periodical "heat" in the human subject was treated in this way: The man used to suffer periodically from a form of orchitis, during which the testes felt hot and swollen, and the plexus pampiniformis was full and turgescient like a varicocele. He was ordered the local application of chloroform for nearly thirty-five minutes, after which the pain of the severe attack completely ceased and the swelling considerably decreased. This treatment lasted three days, during which time he was able to walk about the cotton wool which had been used for the chloroform being put into the suspensory bandage and the testes covered with it. After that both the swelling and sensibility disappeared.

Another case was only epididymitis caused by continuous pressure of a rudder handle on the hypogastrium, in which similar treatment proved entirely successful.

Again a class of cases that is usually very difficult to treat is, gonorrhœal orchitis, but that proves fairly tractable when managed with the help of chloroform. Here one of the first signs of improvement is frequently the re-establishment of an old discharge, which is cured simultaneously with the epididymitis.—CLEMENS (*Allgemeine Medicinische Central Zeitung*.)

(We can fully endorse the foregoing, and a mixture of one ounce of commercial chloroform in two parts of alcohol, will be found most efficient.—Ed. *Medical Council*.)