

you, but the extreme exigency, I think warranted it. The lobelia in injection acted like a charm. I have employed it with the same success in 4 cases during the past week. I am persuaded that it is perfectly safe. One man was so exhilarated that he requested a second. It administered after the first effort to vomit, it makes the vomiting extremely copious and easy. One patient declared that in the whole single course, he had but 4 minutes in which he was not a happy man.

I think that the vast amount of the electric fluid contained in lobelia, and suddenly evolved, produces this salutary effect. In a case of the piles of 2 years standing, one course thus directed completely cured the patient. He rubbed the parts by my direction, with *pure hog's lard, mixed with the ashes of burnt tobacco*. This soon cured all soreness, and completed the work. The same course pursued in the case of a patient who had taken from the minerals 3 doses of tartar emetic, and could not be made to vomit, was strikingly successful. He threw from his stomach to the amount of the contents of a hen's egg, a thick viscid phlegm. Had not the volume struck the edge of the basin, I should not have observed it. As it was, the half struck over the edge and fell on the chair in which the vessel sat, while the parts were held together by a connection as large as a goose quill.—Putting my finger between it and the dish, I lifted it six inches without breaking the ropy consistency. I am persuaded that it was this which prevented the electrification of food, both induced disease and prevented the mineral emetics from operating. This lays the foundation in a disturbed electric balance for dyspepsia, palpitation of the heart, consumption, &c. We cannot carry out the science in this brief communication. We believe that your system is destined to prevail. As far as I have practiced, I have found, in all instances, a single course expedient, and in no instance an injection attended with any but salutary consequences. I believe a warm injection, strongly tinctured with lobelia, may be as safely administered as an emetic. The tincture of warm teas should be in proportion to the comparative weakness of the organ. I have made this communication, believing that it will be of advantage to practitioners.

With respect, &c.

JAMES S OLCOTT.

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TYPHOID FEVER.

The patient, a male, aged 23; constitution very good; habits regular and abstemious; general health excellent. He had been treated with mercury, nitre, and the lancet, ten days previous to the Thompsonian's visit; by one of the most celebrated mineralists among us. When the Thompsonian came, he found

the patient so weak that he could scarcely raise his arm. He had been bled and purged to such an extent that he had become as weak as an infant. (Purging the food out of the stomach and bowels, and drawing the blood [the life] from the arm, is an odd way to restore health—lost vitality!) He also found the patient laboring under high cerebral, thoracic and abdominal inflammation. The meninges of the brain, the vertebrae and its coverings, the mucous membrane and the peritoneum, evidently highly inflamed, but there was no symptom of inflammation in either the stomach, the smaller, or the larger intestines.

The steamer commenced operations by drawing off the morbid contents of the bowels with his syringe well charged with Nos. 2 and 3; then filled the patient's stomach with the hottest of your preparations, and applied several steaming stones to his feet and different parts of his body. In the course of a few hours, the sick man found himself, much to his surprise, covered with a gentle perspiration, and the intense pain in the head considerably diminished. Preparation was now made to administer a full course; but as the patient was too weak to sit over the steam, warm stones were placed all around him, which produced sufficient perspiration. Half a pint of lobelia tincture was then given which at the end of 15 or 20 minutes operated admirably. However a pint of thin gruel having been swallowed by the patient, another operation of tincture was taken, which also operated well. In about 15 minutes after the last operation, the steam was again applied. This second application of the steam produced the most profuse diaphoresis ever witnessed by the practitioner, and was wound up with the cold dash,—that is, by having three or four pints of water, just from the spring, thrown on the patient's breast and shoulders, who, after having been thoroughly rubbed with dry cloth, and put into a dry fresh bed, asked for something to eat! This request astonished all present, except the steamer. It was something they had never seen before, and they earnestly objected to his having anything but a little rice soup or toast water. The steamer told them that the sick man had been starving long enough, and that he must now have food,—must put wood in the stove if he wished the room to be warmed, and expressed a determination that the patient should have his choice of food.—They at length consented, and he preferred a piece of *fai beef boiled, and corn bread!* It was given to him. He ate to his satisfaction, fell into a deep sleep of three hours duration, and awoke, proclaiming to all that he "felt prime." The steamer then directed him to take golden seal and cayenne with molasses three times a day, until his next visit, also injections of the same. Having much other business to attend to, the next visit was on the