

discharges from the external and internal surfaces. It is in the first period of this stage, or incipient collapse, that any well founded expectation of attaining these objects can be indulged.

General bloodletting, which in the forming stage proves the most prompt and efficient of remedial means, becomes in this stage an uncertain remedy, exceedingly equivocal in its effects. It is decidedly mischievous in the intemperate, the feeble, the nervous. Abstracting blood from the general circulation, the exhaustion of which is one of the strong features of this stage, its direct operation is to debilitate and enfeeble the actions of every organ, the healthy as well as the diseased—diffusion or reaction is then rendered still more difficult, if not impracticable.

Local depletion by leeches to the epigastrium and lower belly, to the anus, and, by cups to the abdomen and precordium, may be used in the incipient period with good effect.

From the coldness of the general surface, application of warmth would appear to be decidedly indicated—yet experience in this city has not shown it to be materially beneficial—it should be regulated to the feelings of the patient. Extreme warmth is generally prejudicial; it occasions great distress to the patient and forces him often to violent exertions to escape from its application—it favours also the excessive drainage from the skin. Heated bran or oats in bags, is the most preferable mode of applying warmth.

The excitement of the skin is a measure of importance. Various modes of effecting this are employed. Dry frictions are preferred by some—others employ stimulant embrocations, liniments or ointments. Sinapisms are commonly resorted to. Frictions with tincture or terebinthinate decoction of cantharides are recommended, but they denude the surface, by removing the cuticle, and are objectionable. This effect has been produced by frictions with spirits of camphor.—Spirits of camphor, heated and applied to the abdomen and to the limbs, which subsequently are covered with flannels imbued in the same liquid, has been employed. In the incipient collapse, when there are violent pains in the belly, warm poultices and epithems of hops, &c., and stomach warmers have proved highly serviceable.

The internal remedies are exceedingly various. They generally consist in excitants more or less diffusible. Some prefer the very diffusible as spirits of camphor—sulphuric æther—Hoffman's anodyne—tincture of opium—essence of menth.—warm toddy—others rely on calomel alone, or with opium, or blue pill and opium: ammonia and carbon of ammonia, camphor, and cayenne pepper are resorted to. Water as hot as it can be swallowed, has been extolled. It is useful when there are violent spasms of the stomach. Amongst other remedies of this character are warm brine, and the saline solution of Dr. Stevens—consisting of super carbonate soda  $\frac{1}{2}$  dr. muriate of soda, 1 scr. chlorate potass gr. vii. dissolved in half a tumbler of water and given every hour. Frictions, dry heat, sinapisms, and injections of hot brine are employed at the same time.

While excitants of various kinds are administered by some, others