

case. Fifteen grains every three hours is a medium dose for an acute case. It is very possible that less might suffice; for I have not tried to find the minimum dose. It is very certain that a much larger dose may be given without producing discomfort."

Further experience has led me to the conclusion that it is well to give the larger dose; and that the best way to get the full and speedy benefit of the remedy is to saturate the system with it as quickly as possible. The more speedily this is done, the more speedily are the fever and pains subdued. I now, therefore, give the salicin to adults in a dose of twenty to thirty grains every two hours; in very acute cases I give that quantity every hour till pain is relieved. With relief of pain, sleep returns, and the hourly dose cannot be adhered to. But it is well to give twenty grains, at least, every two hours during the day, till the temperature is down to the normal. For a week afterwards the same dose should be given four times a day.

Salicin is an excellent bitter tonic—in my experience as good as quinine, and not apt to disagree as the latter is. I have always found cases of acute rheumatism treated by it convalesce very rapidly; treated in the old way, convalescence from that disease is a slow and tedious process.

I am specially anxious to call attention to the necessity for giving salicin in large and frequently repeated doses, because, in some of the cases which have been reported in the journals since my original paper was published, the dose given was too small to produce benefit. To give "from thirty to sixty grains per day" is to do justice neither to the patient nor the remedy; and to report a case in which such a dose was given as one indicating "the inability of salicin to arrest the disease," is to draw an inference which is unwarranted by the facts, and which tends to throw unmerited discredit on a remedy whose ability to arrest the progress of acute rheumatism has already been demonstrated in numerous cases. A case of acute rheumatism which gets from thirty to sixty grains in twenty four hours—i.e., an average of less than two grains in the hour—receives practically no treatment, and is of no value as evidence either for or against salicin.—*Dr. McLagan, Lancet Oct. 28th.*