

from ulceration of the cornea. To prevent this friction many plans have been adopted, such as attaching the upper lid to the eyebrow by means of stiches or adhesive plaster, and applying solutions of lunar caustic, sulphate of zinc, sulphate of copper, acetate of lead, &c., to the granulations, a method attended with pain and annoyance to the patient and sometimes with but little benefit.

While treating cases by the above methods, it occurred to me that friction in this disease might be prevented or at least greatly lessened on the same mechanical principle that it is overcome between other opposing surfaces, namely by oiling. Acting on this suggestion, I made a solution of cod-liver oil and alum sulph, half a grain of the latter to the ounce of the former, and applied the mixture by a camel hair pencil to the granulations, night and morning or oftener. After several weeks' trial the result exceeded my expectations, the opacity of the cornea and the granulations disappeared and the eye recovered its natural clearness. I have used this local treatment in several cases that have come under my care during the last two years, with equally good results. The *modus operandi* consists in the oil lubricating the granular surface and allowing it to slide smoothly over the cornea, while the alum astringes the granulations and makes them smaller, thus also helping to lessen the friction and consequently reducing the amount of mucopurulent discharge. I have no doubt that the cod-liver oil exercises a medicinal influence over the diseased conjunctiva owing to its chemical composition. In all the cases thus treated, tonics combined with alkalis and a generous diet, were prescribed. Total abstinence from alcoholic drinks should be strictly enjoined, as they invariably aggravate the disease; the eye should be kept well sheltered from wind and cold, and bathed several times a day with warm water, or the conjunctiva well washed of discharges by syringing with warm water three or four times a day, especially before applying the oil solution; I have found it beneficial to bandage a wet pad on the eye, as it absorbs discharges and prevents to some extent the movements of the lid. This mode of treatment was persevered in for several months in some cases, while other cases yielded to the remedy in a few weeks.

MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF MONTREAL.

MEETING HELD, APRIL 28TH, 1870.

The President G. W. CAMPBELL, A.M., M.D., in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The President then introduced

Dr. HENRY HOWARD, Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic