

parative value of the cold water treatment of convulsions complicating fever:

CASE IV. July 3rd, 1876.—M. A., æt. 2 years, strong and well-developed, was taken suddenly ill last evening with dysentery and fever, which lasted all night, and at seven this morning there was a convulsion. At 8 o'clock I saw him, temperature 103°, restless. Ordered a large dose of castor oil, and one-third of a drop of the fluid extract of aconite every hour while fever lasted. Another convulsion occurred at ten a.m., and another at half-past ten, when I began the administration of chloroform. At noon the oil had operated well. At 2 p.m. the convulsions recurred, and continued for two hours with no intermission, although the patient was partially under the influence of chloroform during the time. At 4 p.m. they were as violent as possible, temperature 105°, pulse 150, breathing noisy and labored, a light frothy foam was constantly discharging from the mouth and nostrils, and death seemed inevitable. I now put child into bath at 50°, and added ice and ice water. In ten minutes the breathing became easier, in fifteen minutes the temperature was 102°, and in twenty minutes 99° and the pulse 110. All spasm had ceased, and the child was replaced in bed. It slept soundly for half an hour, and awoke with no bad symptoms. There was no return of fever, and no further treatment was required.

CASE V. Feb. 5th, 1871.—L. Lamont, æt. 6 years, was first ill this morning with chill followed by fever (malarious).

At one p.m. convulsions came on, and continued without intermission, when she died.

The treatment consisted of warm baths, castor oil, injection to move bowels, bromide of potassium and hydrate of chloral. The temperature the whole afternoon was 104.9. Chloroform was administered part of the time.

CASE VI. Sept. 26th, 1872.—P. T., a strong boy, 8 years old, was well until noon to-day when chill came on followed by fever and convulsions, which still continued when I arrived, at one o'clock p.m. The attendants had just removed him from a warm bath. It was impossible to get him to swallow anything. Applied cold to the head, gave an enema, and put him under chloroform, which controlled the spasms, but they always returned when it was omitted.

The enema acted well, the chloroform was continued, the temperature remained at 106°, the pulse became gradually weaker and more frequent, and after three hours he died.

CASE VII. Oct. 28th, 1876.—C. Gore, æt. one year, was never ill till last evening, when fever came on and lasted all night. At 7 o'clock this morning convulsions began, and lasted without intermission until half-past eleven a.m., when I saw the child, and found him convulsed and senseless, with a temperature of 104°. Used cold bath, and in ten minutes temperature fell 99°, the spasms ceased, and consciousness returned. The child remained well until the following Thursday (4 days), when it again had fever, and convulsions began as before. The parents, having witnessed the beneficial effects of the former treatment, put the child into a cold bath, and in a few minutes he was well and remained so afterwards.

In carrying out this plan of treatment care is required to protect the bulb of the thermometer from contact with the water, by keeping the arm pressed firmly to the side.

The application of cold should not be continued after the temperature has been reduced to 99½°, as there will be a further fall after it has been stopped.

Progress of Medical Science.

ILLUMINATION OF THE CAVITIES OF THE BODY BY A NEW INSTRUMENT—NITSCHKE.

Translated from the German by A. Osterday, M.D.

Not a little sensation is at present excited in surgical circles by the invention of new illuminating apparatus, by which the surgeon is enabled to illuminate all cavities of the body accessible from the outside, as the bladder, rectum, stomach, etc., and inspect in such a manner that he may obtain a precise view of the internal condition of the illuminated cavities. Repeated experiments made by Prof. Dittel, in the presence of eminent surgeons, on living subjects, have proved the extraordinary merits of the invention. Hitherto this apparatus has been used for illumination of bladder, urethra and rectum, and has proved itself most excellent. One may see in the illuminated bladder the smallest piece of gravel, the smallest injected vessel. The operator has not to depend on his manipulations and his sense of touch; if he seeks for stone in the bladder, or treats any other vesical disorder, he will simply inspect and then be sure what the matter is. Suffice it to say that the stomach-illuminating apparatus will soon