

◇ MEDICAL CRITICISM. ◇

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SCARLET FEVER

Persons who cannot afford the luxury of employing a doctor may be glad to learn how a case of scarlet fever has been treated recently in this city, with marked success: the sufferer was a little boy, whose parents are among the few who have paid considerable attention to the subject of health; they have friends who are so ignorant of the subject, as to have invited them and their child to dine with them, although the friends have children of their own, who have but recently recovered from an attack of scarlet fever; the consequence was that the invited child manifested the indication of the approaching fever afforded by the rash, some seven days after the visit; the principal means employed by the parents consisted in keeping the child's head and chest cool, his bowels open (by the aid of enemas), the application of a wet pack daily, causing the child to wear a magnetic appliance as a vest, and applying an electric battery to his neck (which was drawn backward during the time the fever was at its worst), and throughout the spine. An experienced physician was consulted, who fortunately was intelligent enough to express his approval of the use of the wet pack, and of the application of the electric battery: his medicine (which was intended to act on the child's neck), was taken three times, and he paid the child three visits, in the course of which he pronounced the case to be the worst he had seen during the present year, and expressed his surprise at the speedy subsidence of the rash: the child, after an illness of ten days, is now happily quite well. The father of the recovered child has observed that in applying the battery to his own lungs and liver respectively, it indicated, by the sensations it produced, the precise position of the affected part in each case, and this is a fact which may be worth remembering.

CATARRH.

Salt and water, by being sniffed up the nostrils, have, in many instances, cured catarrh. The tin boxes in which fish, patent flour, &c., are sold, by having a hole pierced in the bottom of them, and a piece of india-rubber tubing (such as is used for babies) inserted in the hole, is the only apparatus required. About a third of a teaspoonful of salt, to half a pint of water, is sufficient; this, when sniffed up one nostril, will come out of the other, and out of the mouth. If persevered in, it will cure the sufferer.