

obtained from irrigation was always apparent at the end of two weeks, and no distinct advantage was ever gained by prolonging the daily irrigation beyond that point.

Treatment was begun in all the cases in the first week of the disease. Purulent discharge from the urethra, ardor urinæ, and chordee were present in all. Microscopical examination of the discharge was made in every case.

It will be understood in the statistics given below that those cases in which gonococci were found are classified as infectious; where, upon repeated examination, no gonococci were found, the case is classified as non-infectious urethritis.

1. *Bichloride of Mercury*.—Strength of solution, 1 to 15,000, increasing the second week to 1 to 8000. Number of cases treated, 20; infectious, 19; non-infectious, 1; improved by treatment,—i.e., discharge becoming less in quantity and thinner,—8; number unimproved, 11; cured, 1; number in which ardor urinæ and chordee were lessened by treatment, 18; number in which ardor urinæ and chordee were not benefited, 2; number of cases in which posterior urethritis developed, 2; number of cases in which epididymitis developed, 0; number of cases in which gonococci were found in discharge at end of fourteen days' treatment, 19.

2. *Nitrate of Silver*.—Strength of solution, 1 to 6000, increasing in second week to 1 to 3000. Cases treated, 20; infectious, 18; non-infectious, 2; improved by treatment, 13; unimproved by treatment, 6; cured, 1; number in which ardor urinæ, etc., lessened, 20; number in which ardor urinæ, etc., unaffected, 0; number developing posterior urethritis, 2; number developing epididymitis, 0; number in which gonococci were found at end of fourteen days, 16.

3. *Permanganate of Potassium*.—Strength of solution, 1 to 4000, increasing in second week to 1 to 2000. Cases treated, 20; infectious, 16; non-infectious, 4; improved under treatment, 10; unimproved, 3; cured, 7; number in which ardor urinæ, etc., lessened, 19; number in which ardor urinæ, etc., unaffected, 1; number developing posterior urethritis, 2; number developing epididymitis, 1; number in which gonococci were found at the end of fourteen days, 5.

4. *Trikresol* (Schering).—Strength of solution, one-half of one per cent. Cases treated, 10; infectious, 10; non-infectious, 0; improved, 1; unimproved, 9; cured, 0; number in which ardor urinæ, etc., lessened, 1; number in which ardor urinæ, etc., unaffected, 9; number developing posterior urethritis, 0;

number developing epididymitis, 0; number in which gonococci were found at end of fourteen days, 10.

From a glance at these statistics it will be seen that, as regards therapeutic value, these four remedies stand in the following order: first, permanganate of potassium; second, nitrate of silver; third, bichloride of mercury; and, fourth, trikresol. By far the most valuable remedy in urethral irrigation is permanganate of potassium. It is simply using in a new way what has long been known to every man about town to be a most potent drug in the treatment of gonorrhœa. It will be noted that gonococci were found in the discharge at the end of two weeks' treatment in only five cases.

Irrigation of the deep urethra with a 1 to 4000 permanganate of potassium solution is the very best method of treating acute posterior urethritis, and will result in a cure in most cases in from about three to five days.

Nitrate of silver follows permanganate of potassium very closely, but does not appear to dry up the discharge as quickly or as well.

In regard to bichloride of mercury, it was evident that those solutions which were strong enough to have any positive antiseptic effect irritated the urethra and increased the ardor urinæ. On the other hand, the weaker solutions appeared to act very little better than so much water on the discharge.

Trikresol is a coal-tar product manufactured by Schering, similar in every way to carbolic acid. Solutions of the strength of one-half of one per cent. were found to be very irritating to the urethra, increasing in a marked degree the ardor urinæ. Solutions of a quarter of one per cent. had little or no effect upon the discharge.

Seventy cases in all were treated by irrigation. Of these, seven were cases of simple urethritis. Thirty-two were improved by treatment,—that is to say, the condition at the end of two weeks was simply a thin muco-purulent discharge at meatus in the morning; no ardor urinæ or chordee or frequent and imperative urination; further irrigation did not improve this condition. These cases were all cured in about two weeks more by use of some astringent injection two or three times daily.

In twenty-nine cases the discharge was not at all affected by irrigation. These patients showed marked improvement in their condition upon beginning the use of a urethral injection containing bismuth and hydrastis, and the use internally of a capsule containing sandal-wood oil and copaiba.

Nine of the cases were cured within the two weeks. Of these, seven were cases of non-