

Ringer as possessed of real curative powers, when given in drop doses, repeated every five or ten minutes for eight or ten doses, and then continued at longer intervals, for sick headache, accompanied with acute gastric catarrh, whether due to error in diet, constipation, or no apparent cause.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry*.

HOT WATER INJECTIONS FOR POST-PARTUM HEMORRHAGE.

This use of hot water, as recommended by Emmet, appears to be more and more appreciated across the Atlantic. Dr. Atthill, Dublin *Journal of Medical Science*, says that this treatment has proved eminently satisfactory. It has, indeed, much to recommend it, for not only is it a powerful hemostatic and excitant of uterine contraction, but it is also a general stimulant. If used with ordinary care, it is not only harmless, but beneficial, by thoroughly cleansing the uterus from clots, portions of membrane, etc., which may have been left in its cavity. It will not, in Dr. Atthill's opinion, be found altogether to displace the use either of cold water or of the perchloride of iron, but rather to be applicable to a distinct class of cases, in which the former of those remedies would be unsuitable, and the latter unnecessary. The method of carrying out the practice is exceedingly simple. An ordinary syphon syringe is the only instrument required, though we now use one with a long vulcanite nozzle, specially constructed for vaginal and intra-uterine injection. This is carried up to the fundus, and, with the usual precautions against injecting air, and securing a free return, we inject water as hot as can be conveniently borne by the hand, i. e., about 112° F., in a full stream into the cavity, continuing this until a good contraction is secured, and the water returns quite clear and colorless. Dr. Atthill gives the following as some of the results of his experience in the use of hot water:

I. In cases of sudden and violent hemorrhage in a strong and plethoric woman, it is better first to use cold.

II. Where, from the prolonged and injudicious use of cold, the patient is found shivering and depressed, the beneficial effect of injecting hot water is rapid and remarkable.

III. In nervous, depressed and anæmic women, hot water may at once be injected without previously injecting cold.

IV. In cases of abortion, where, from uterine inertia, the ovum, although separated from the uterine wall, is wholly or in part retained, the injection of hot water is generally followed by the most satisfactory results.

V. Where the injection of the perchloride of iron is considered necessary, previous injection of hot water clears the uterus of clots, etc., permitting the fluid to come directly in contact with the bleeding surface, and lessening the danger of septic absorption.—*Chicago Medical Review*.

THE TREATMENT OF CONSUMPTION.

In a paper on the treatment of pulmonary consumption, Prof. Péter, of Paris, insists strongly on the value of hydrotherapy. He begins with frictions with dry flannel, then passes to rubbing with cloths dipped in aromatic alcohol, cologne water, or vinegar, followed by dry friction for five or six minutes, and finally advances to the use of the cold sponge. The process is repeated twice daily, immediately after rising and before retiring. He believes sponging to be better than the douche, because it is more easily carried out. The chief points to be observed are, to accustom the patient gradually to the use of cold water, and not to prolong the bath too much at first. Prof. Péter divides the sweats of phthisis into three classes, according to their cause, viz.: ordinary night sweats, which depend not so much on the pulmonary trouble as on the general condition and the tubercular fever, the sweating which follows high evenings exacerbations of the fever, and colliquative sweats. To control the first, he recommends especially sponging with vinegar, combined with the usual internal remedies, such as acetate of lead, tannin, etc. Atropine, he considers unreliable. Quinine is useful for the second form, because it controls the fever. For the colliquative sweats there is no remedy. For the cough, he gives opium and belladonna in small doses; he orders pills containing one-sixth of a grain of opium, and one-twelfth of a grain of ext. belladonna, and gives at first, one at a dose, increasing afterward if necessary. When the cough causes vomiting, he gives one or two drops of tincture of opium before meals, with good effects. When the vomiting seems to be due more to dyspepsia than to the cough, he gives a few drops of hydrochloric acid after the meals. In such cases, alcohol in some form is also useful, but it must be given freely. For the diarrhoea, when it is due to simple intestinal catarrh, as is usually the case at the outset of the disease, he employs subnitrate of bismuth, in connection with a carefully regulated diet. When it is due to the use of cod-liver oil, or to the milk or grape cure, the exciting cause must be discontinued, and the stomach, if overloaded, be emptied by an emetic. When it is due to inflammation of the stomach and intestines, he prescribes opium, nitrate of silver, perchloride of iron, etc., and employs also derivatives to the skin. For colliquative diarrhoea there is no remedy. For controlling the expectorations, he has found the balsams, glycerine, and kermes, to be the best remedies. For hæmoptysis, he recommends, in the first place, the use of emetics, and explains their action on the theory that they excite a reflex action through the sympathetic, which causes anæmia of the lungs, and controls the hemorrhage. When patients have been greatly reduced by the hæmoptysis, he has found quinine and ergotine useful.—*Allg. med. Cent. Zeit.*, February 25, 1880.—*Med. Record*.