

failed, and on two or three occasions it was followed by considerable depression. Antipyrin was largely used, but I have seen severe cardiac weakness produced by it, and therefore seldom prescribe it. Da Costa advises small doses of quinine with antipyrin, to prevent the depression. Antifebrin and exalgine have also been used; gelsemium has been found to give relief, where all others had failed. All these analgesics should be used with caution, as dangerous depression is liable to follow all of them. For the nasal catarrh I have found a spray of a 2 per cent. solution of cocaine give most relief usually. In some, the inhalation vapor from hot water, containing tincture Benzoin C., gave most satisfaction. It not only relieved the nasal symptoms, but also the laryngeal and bronchial at the same time. For the paroxysmal cough, sedatives were chiefly called for—given frequently in small doses to keep up their effect—such as bromides, morphia, Dovers powder, hydrocyanic acid, chloroform, etc.

The great tendency to prostration is to be borne in mind, and every effort made to maintain the nutrition. Quinine 2 grs., three or four times a day, proved useful. The bowels should be kept open but care taken not to purge, lest a diarrhoea be established. For the diarrhoeal cases I have always found bismuth, with a little opium, sufficient to control the bowels, the patient being kept in bed and warmth maintained. If prostration becomes marked, stimulants should be given in moderate quantities. If the circulation be weak, small doses of nuxvomica and belladonna are of great service; later, iron should be given.

Selections.

HYDERABAD CHLOROFORM COMMISSION.

In January, 1888, a commission appointed by the Nizam of Hyderabad to inquire into the dangers of chloroform anæsthesia reported, after many experiments upon dogs, "that chloroform may be given to dogs by inhalation with perfect safety, and without any fear of accidental death, if only the respiration, and nothing but the respiration, is carefully attended to throughout."

This report, agreeing with the teaching of

the celebrated Scotch surgeon, Syme, was severely commented upon by the London *Lancet*. The Nizam thereupon offered that journal £1000 that it might send a representative to Hyderabad to repeat the experiments of the Commission, and to make any others thought necessary. The task was entrusted to Dr. Lauder Brunton, England's best known pharmacologist. On his arrival in India, a new Commission was formed, consisting of Surgeon-Major E. Laurie, M.B., Edinburgh; Dr. T. Lauder Brunton, F.R.S.; Surgeon-Major Gerald Bomford, M.D., London; Dr. Rustumje, H.H., the Nizam's Medical Adviser. Associated with them were the members of the first commission.

The commission made 430 experiments upon dogs, monkeys, horses, goats, cats and rabbits; 300 animals were killed outright, and 125 subjected to artificial respiration at varying intervals after natural respiration had been arrested by chloroform.

The animals killed had chloroform given them in every possible way, and under every conceivable condition; some fasting, others at varying intervals after heavy meals; others after administration of Liebig's extract of meat, coffee, rectified spirits or ammonia. Most of them were healthy, but some had heart disease; in many the heart and other organs had been rendered fatty by the administration of phosphorus. Chloroform was given with and without inhalers; in the vertical and recumbent positions; in large and in small doses; in fact in every way that could be thought of.

The effects of chloroform did not appear to be interfered with or much influenced by any of these various conditions.

In every case where the chloroform was pushed the respiration stopped before the heart.

Chloroform, given continuously, and freely diluted with air, causes a gradual fall in the mean blood pressure, provided the animal's respiration is not impeded, and it continues to breathe quietly without struggling or involuntary holding of the breath. As this fall continues, the animal first becomes insensible, then respiration gradually ceases, and lastly the heart stops. The chloroform, however concentrated, never causes sudden death from stop-