THE THERAPEUTIC MERIT OF COMBINED REMEDIES.

BY STEPHEN J. CLARK, M.D., OF NEW YORK, N.Y.

In nearly every case where quinia is indicated, it can be advantageously combined with antikamnia, which thus becomes a valuable adjunct to quinia. Quinia, for example, is a most decided febrifuge, and its action is usually promptly reliable; but when combined with this member of the aromatic series, its action is markedly increased. Some individuals, however, cannot take any of the coal-tar derivatives; consequently the use of antikamnia will be inhibited in such cases; on the other hand, some patients cannot take quinine.
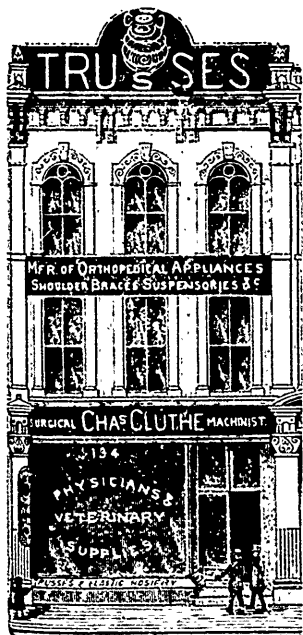
An important benefit to be derived from the addition of antikamnia to quinine is that it removes the sense of fulness in the head, constriction about the forehead and tinnitus aurium—so common when the latter drug is administered alone; the disturbing action of quinia on the auditory nerve is suspended to a great extent, and the usual quinine deafness is absent. The combination of these agents in tablet form is a happy one.

The combination of antikamnia with quinia is valuable in the racking headache, with high fever, attendant upon malarial disorders. It is likewise valuable in cases of periodical attacks of headache of non-defined origin; of the so-called "bilious attacks;" of dengue; in neuralgia of the trigemini; in that of "ovarian catarrh;" and, in short, in nearly every case where quinine would ordinarily be prescribed.

Binz claims specific antiseptic powers for quinia; other writers are in accord with him on this point, and report good results from large doses in septicæmia, pyæmia, puerperal fever, and erysipelas. It is a germ destroyer of the bacilli of influenza (la grippe). A full dose of quinine and antikamnia will promptly relieve many cases of this disease. In the gastric catarrh of drunkards, this combination is valuable. Quinia is a poison to the minute organism—sarcina ; and antikamnia exerts a soothing, quieting effect on the nerve filaments. A full

[OVER.