

NOTES ON SPECIALTIES.

THE ACTION OF SANMETTO IN GONORRHOEA.

The philosophy of the action of Sanmetto in gonorrhœa may be explained in this way: Sanmetto has no direct germicidal action in the treatment of membranous conditions due to the invasion of the gonococcus. It should be borne in mind that Sanmetto does not directly destroy gonococci. Whatever may be its direct action upon these germs, it is certain that it does not have any such directly germicidal influence. What it probably does is to set up in the mucous membrane a reaction to the inflammation or a nutritive toning up of the parts, which brings to the parts a sufficient reinforcement of leucocytes to overwhelm the germs—the gonococci. This view of the action of Sanmetto explains the apparent aggravation which sometimes is set up in the treatment of chronic inflammation of the bladder and urethra, and a consequent sloughing off of shreds and purulent matter, causing the patient to think the Sanmetto has made

his case worse, but which is really but the smoke of the battle in which Sanmetto is to be the victor and gonococci the vanquished.

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ANTIPYRETIC, ANALGESIC AND ANTISEPTIC POWER.

In speaking of the treatment of articular rheumatism, Hobart A. Hare, M. D., professor of Therapeutics in the Jefferson Medical College and editor of *The Therapeutic Gazette*, says: "Any substance possessing strong antipyretic power must be of value under such circumstances." He further notes that the analgesic power of the coal-tar products "must exert a powerful influence for good." The lowering of the fever, no doubt, quiets the system and removes the delirium which accompanies the hyperpyrexia, while freedom from pain saves an immense amount of wear, and places the patient in a better condition for recovery. The researches of Guttmann show conclusively that these products

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