

into the mouth. Mercurial stomatis may occur from the use or abuse of mercury in medicine. Infection of various kinds plays an important part. There is usually redness, swelling and increased secretion. Here and there little vesicles appear which burst and leave superficial ulcers. It may be acute or chronic.

The treatment is absolute cleanliness of mouth, etc. Listerine, one in four, one or two teaspoonfuls of a 1 per cent. solution of permanganate of potash to a glass of water, a 2 per cent. solution of chlorate of potash, or a 1 or 2 per cent. solution of carbolic acid are useful mouth-washes.

If there are superficial ulcers they are touched with strong carbolic or lunar caustic. In this way healing will be aided.

*Ulcerative Stomatitis*, as the name signifies, is a disease of the oral mucous membrane, with superficial necrosis and the consequent formation of ulcers. The disease is frequently epidemic in jails and other public institutions.

The disease usually attacks the gums of the lower jaw first, gradually spreading thence to neighboring portions of the lips and cheeks. The tongue and palate are generally not much affected, though often the seat of a simple catarrhal inflammation. The gums are swollen, spongy and red, and bleed easily. The breath is very offensive. It is very difficult to take nourishment. There may be marked constitutional symptoms. There may be moderate elevations of temperature, particularly in children. If not treated, disease sometimes becomes chronic.

The treatment is similar to simple stomatitis, and consists of antiseptic mouth-washes, etc. It is important to administer laxatives if necessary, and to keep the stomach in good healthy condition. Brilliant results can be often obtained by judicious treatment.

*Aphthæ, or Aphthous Stomatitis*, is a name given by physicians to several distinct things. Many doctors and dentists call every disease aphthæ in which there are white spots on the buccal mucous membrane, greyish white and of small size, unless made larger by the confluence of several into one another. They usually have a narrow red areola and are most numerous on the edges and dorsum of the tongue and on the frænum, but they also occur on the lips and cheeks. In addition to the genuine aphthæ there are almost always the signs of a common stomatitis.

The disease occurs chiefly in children, and at the time of the first dentition. The disease is not rare in adults. Many individuals seem especially liable to it, and very frequently have little white and often very painful spots here and there on the tongue, or elsewhere in the mouth.