

not care to use it through the entire course of a fever case.

Thymol is a very useful remedy, and in those cases where the stools are offensive and frequent, will both check their frequency and remove the bad odour and generally put the patient in a better condition to withstand the disease, but here its efficacy ends. I usually give it in doses of grs. ii.—grs. v. every three hours.

Sulphocarbolate of zinc, too, is very useful in cases with an offensive diarrhœa, but the greatest care must be observed in its use, as failure of the heart is very apt to cut short your experiments with this drug, and I fear that the deaths it has caused are more than the lives it has saved.

Of naphthaline I cannot speak, as I have not used it enough to give an opinion as to its efficiency, although, in doses of grs. xv. —grs. lx. daily, it has many powerful advocates.

Nitrate of silver, too, has been vaunted, and with it a host of other remedies, such as salol, creasote, iodoform, etc., etc. I have not used them. They may be good or bad. I do not believe they are specifics nor continued intestinal antiseptics. Mineral acids are useful and I employ them, but rather as tonics than as antiseptics.

Turpentine, too, still holds a favoured place with many, whether it be as an antiseptic or a carminative, but I think that thymol is better for the latter purpose. But why prolong the list. You have all tried these remedies and most of you have for a time thought, for this disease at least, at last the Elixir of Life has been discovered, when alas, for your dream, the grim monster, Death, has claimed its victim and you try some other remedy.

Now we come to the third and last system. A year ago I stated that this was the method I was most in favour of, and since then I have not changed my views. Specifics for typhoid fever have not been found. A large percentage of fever cases will get well under proper dietetic treatment and without medicine; a small percentage will die under any and all forms of treatment; and with these considerations before us I believe that a proper treatment of the various symptoms and conditions as they arise will best conduce to the comfort of the patient, and as good if not better results will be attained than any so-called specific treatment for the disease. The first symptom which we meet is

in connection with the bowels, and in order to start fair and with a clear stool, I usually give a calomel purge and place the patient on a mixture of quinine with an acid vehicle, usually sulphuric or sulphurous, and this I continue for a few days, reducing the amount of quinine from time to time until it is more as a placebo than anything else. If the meteorism is severe, thymol in grs. ii.—grs. v. is what I now use. If the diarrhœa is severe and stools offensive, sulphocarbolate of zinc is useful, but I would advise it to be given with the greatest of caution on account of its tendency to produce heart failure. Opiates, bismuth, lactopepsine or a combination of these, I often use for the same purpose. In hæmorrhage I use ergot hypodermically, with plumbi acetatis and opium. Ice, too, I think, helps, but my experience in this complication is limited to a few cases. The question of using partially digested foods, of over-feeding and under-feeding, of bathing and feeding at regular intervals even through the night, and of wakening the patient for food when weak, have all to be considered, and I hope in the discussion to get an expression of opinion on them. How, when, and in what quantities should we use alcoholic or other stimulants will, I hope, be settled once for all by this meeting. What is best to be done for a case of heart failure or of perforation of the intestines will require your careful attention, and I hope will be freely discussed for me as each is here to learn from the other; and as our profession is one in which there are no secrets allowed, we hope to hear of some cure for these alarming complications.

In conclusion, I would ask the meeting what is the best method of treating the constipation which in quite a number of cases is very obstinate. I believe that in not a few cases an elevation of temperature is caused by the above condition. Most of us have personal knowledge of the miserable feeling which constipation causes; and if discomfort and malaise is set up in the healthy by this condition, much worse symptoms are likely to result in the sick by the absorption of the ptomaine of the fæces. I do not like to leave the bowels more than three days without having them moved either by injection, suppository or mild purgative. How the rest of you treat these cases will, I hope, come out in the discussion.

In the discussion which followed, Dr. Graham