

absorption of the specific poison? Some observers claim that pure cultures act more slowly and feebly than when colon bacilli and other organisms are present.

3. The large amount of chloral, opium and alcohol which may be administered without producing toxic effects. There could be no fixed dose; chloral and opium were pushed till spasm and pain were relieved and at least six hours of sleep obtained out of the 24. If I had to treat such a case again, I would feel inclined to try larger doses of chloral at longer intervals, say two or three larger doses in the 24 hours, instead of six smaller ones. In this case I found that sometimes the good effect of a 20 grain or 30 grain dose would last for a day or more, while that of a 10 grain dose barely lasted four hours. In this case chloral was of far greater service than opium. The quantity of alcohol could only be determined from day to day by the condition of heart and pulse.

There can be no routine treatment of tetanus. The disease runs a definite course; while it may destroy life in a few hours, it generally runs for a week or ten days, and if the patient can be kept alive for a fortnight, there is a good chance of recovery. As there is no drug which is specific, none which can cut short the disease, the natural course seems to be to keep the patient alive till nature can eliminate the poison. To combat nerve exhaustion, control spasm, allay pain, secure sleep, maintain nutrition, keep up heart action, and prevent embarrassment of respiration—these are the chief points in treatment. The symptoms must be watched carefully and intelligently from hour to hour, and the chloral, opium and alcohol administered according to the varying conditions of the case. Much depends upon the nurse, and it is but just to say that the recovery of this case is mainly attributable to the faithfulness, intelligence and good judgment of the nurse in charge. On several occasions when the breathing was becoming shallow, a large dose of chloral promptly administered relaxed the spasm and restored the respiration