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IODINE IN THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

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Consumption cannot be cured, is the statement which was heard thirty years ago. Consumption can be cured, is the statement which is prevalent to-day. Both statements are equally true and equally false. Some cases can be cured, and some cannot, is the truth. Yet, physicians to-day approach a case of consumption with new confidence, and patients bring to their aid a new hopefulness.

The progress of knowledge has been along two lines, towards the discovery of a specific remedy, and towards a better understanding of the capabilities of the organism for resisting the disease.

If to-day our methods are more satisfactory, it is due to the workers who have insisted upon the *vis medicatrix naturae*, who have recognized the capacity of the body to deal with disease, who have striven to strengthen that resistance by the well-established support of fresh air, sunlight, an improved hygiene, and increased nutriment, or super-alimentation, as the scientific men prefer to call it. To this must be added the employment of drugs as an adjuvant to these remedial measures.

Amongst the remedies which have for a long time obtained some favour in the treatment of tuberculosis is iodine. Indeed, it is probable that the high place deservedly attained by cod-liver oil is due to the action of this and similar substances. I propose in this paper to relate the experience which I have had with this element, employed in rather an unusual way, and I may say at once, that the results have been extremely gratifying.

The method which I have employed is the injection of a solution in which iodine is held in suspension. The preparation is made according to the following formula: precipitated iodoform which con-