

min. doses, to be repeated every 4 hours during the day, telling the patient to extend the interval between doses to 6 or 8 hours directly any dryness and tightness of the tongue, roof of mouth and throat was felt.

The medicine was well borne and there was no necessity to prolong the interval between doses until the 3rd day. In the meantime a rapid amelioration of all the symptoms was manifested, which amelioration continued uninterruptedly until a cure was effected.

After the 3rd day the patient continued to take 45 min. in the 24 hours until about the 10th of December. He was then cured and has not had a recurrence. I have since employed belladonna in 5 cases, 4 of which I had occasion to observe the effects. And I may say that the results are highly satisfactory and gratifying. Of the 4 that were under observation two were cases of infantile eczema of the face or as it is sometimes called, porrigo larvialis. The children, one year and eighteen months old respectively, had received several weeks local treatment without much benefit, but responded very rapidly to the exhibition of belladonna. After 4 weeks treatment in the younger and 5 weeks in the other the medicine was discontinued. A simple oxide of zinc ointment was all that was used in addition to the belladonna after it had been prescribed. Of the other two cases mentioned above one was a moist eczema of both legs in a boy 10-years old. The other was a case of urticaria in a little girl aged seven. Both of these cases seemed to be benefitted by belladonna and are now after a few weeks completely cured. When we discover that belladonna is useful in complaints so common and I may add often so difficult to treat satisfactorily as eczema, etc., the question often arises: How is it that a drug so long in use was not known to possess the qualities lately ascribed to it by Dr. Dunbar? It is one of the

strange things—granting it to be as I believe highly beneficial—that it has not its place among the prominent drugs recommended by good authority. There are instances, however, of newly discovered properties in old and long used remedies. As for instance, calomel as a diuretic in heart disease. "Belladonna was used" by the ancients to discuss scirrhus and heal cancerous and other ill conditioned ulcers. And much evidence of its usefulness in these affections is on record and even Dr. Cullen spoke in its favor. Dr. Ringer mentions a case of local sweating of the loins over a surface a little larger than the hand, perspiration exciting a copious eruption of eczema. Belladonna checked the perspiration and likewise cured the eczema.

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#### A SYNOPSIS OF THE CLINICAL SURGERY OF THE WINTER OF 1894-95.

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At the Victoria General Hospital and Halifax Infirmary, during the service of Dr. Farrell.

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The cases demanding operation which came under my care during the past winter at the Hospital and Infirmary present some points of interest and may serve to indicate to your readers the Progress of Surgery in our own Province. I will endeavour to give a short account of each case relating only the prominent and interesting points.

I may say in general that in all clean operations the most strict asepsis was carried out and I will not weary your readers with all the details of the antiseptic plan which is now so well known and forms part of the procedure of all intelligent practitioners.

Happily the day has passed by when