

to with advantage when a stimulating aphrodisiac is required.

Another common aphrodisiac is cantharides. Phosphorus increases the desire for sexual intercourse, and at the same time excites erections; cantharides simply excites erections.

The following prescription may be employed :

R. Tr. cantharidis.....	} aa 5 j.
Tr. ergotæ.....	
Tr. nux vomica.....	

M. S. Ten to twenty drops four times a day.

The following combination has been recommended by Dr. Bartholow as one of the best:

R. Tr. sanguinaria.....	5 ss;
Fl. ext. stillingia.....	3 ij.

M. S. Twenty to thirty drops four times a day.

Another prescription, which is very efficacious, is the following:

R. Capsicum.....	grs. x;
Quin. sulph.....	grs. v;
Sherry wine.....	3 jss.

M. To be taken at bedtime.

The preparations containing ergot, nux vomica, or cantharides, if the phosphorus is not employed, are those which I prefer. You will not always find it necessary to use these aphrodisiacs, because the applications of electricity generally produce in a short time sufficient erectile power for all practical purposes.

When the patient has been raised to the proper point he should get married.

Now a few words with reference to a second class of cases which will fall under your observation.

A man in general good health, who has probably indulged slightly in masturbation, who is able to have sexual intercourse, but when he is not having such intercourse regularly has nocturnal emissions three or four times a week. Erections trouble him almost constantly, and when he has emissions they occur during sleep and are accompanied with pleasurable sensations and dreams. Such a man comes for treatment under the impression that his genital apparatus is about to be ruined, and that his frequent emissions will destroy his general health.

In the management of his case tonics and aphrodisiacs will not be required; their administration will do harm. Such patients are relieved by the use of bromide of potassium or sodium. If the bromides are resorted to in the first class of cases you will do harm; so here if you employ the method of treatment recommended for the first group of patients you will be equally successful in effecting a cure. Bromide of potassium administered to a patient simply because he has seminal emissions may do a great deal of harm.

In the second class there is an over-excitement of the genital organs, which is usually controlled by administering twenty grains of

the bromide of potassium at night and four times a week. During the second week the dose may be increased to thirty grains, and that is about as far as it should be carried. Its use, however, should be preceded by a brisk cathartic. Independently of the bromide, camphor may be used in ten-grain doses at bedtime, or it may be combined with the bromide. Cold bathing will be found serviceable in this class of cases. This treatment, however, must necessarily produce only temporary benefit, for there will be relapse soon after the remedies are discontinued. The radical cure, therefore, consists in the man's getting married. Marriage alone is sufficient to bring about a cure. There is nothing which will relieve the abnormal congestion of the genitals so much as moderate sexual intercourse.—*Joseph W. Howe, M.D., in N.Y. Medical Record.*

ON THE TREATMENT OF RHEUMATIC FEVER.

By Dr. Julius Pollock, Senior Physician to Charing-Cross Hospital.

The treatment of rheumatic fever has lately undergone a complete revolution, which has happily placed it on a much more satisfactory footing. But a short time ago, a tolerably severe case was pretty sure to last six or seven weeks, almost uninfluenced by the remedies employed. Some put their faith in quinine, some in alkalies, some in various drugs, and some did nothing, with much the same result; and Sir William Jenner himself, when president of the Clinical Society, spoke of the doubt and uncertainty with which he used to approach the treatment of articular rheumatism under the old *régime*. It has been claimed for the alkaline treatment that it diminished the liability to heart mischief; but about this I think there is some doubt. If, however, it is thought desirable to try it, thirty grains of the bicarbonate of potash may be given every four hours, with or without five grains of nitrate of potash in some peppermint-water or any other suitable vehicle. The potash produces no disagreeable effects, and may be continued for any length of time. It always diminishes the acidity of urine, and sometimes makes it neutral or even alkaline. With this internal treatment, the affected joints may be kept wrapped up in lint soaked in an alkaline lotion (bicarbonate of soda, one ounce; distilled water, one pint), and covered first with oiled silk, and then flannel or cotton-wool. In all cases of rheumatic fever the bowels should be kept gently open, but it is needless and undesirable to purge for mere purging's sake. The diet should be light, consisting chiefly of slops. Stimulants are not necessary as a matter of course; and the patient must remain quietly in bed until such time as his disease takes its departure, which will vary,