

and other irritating remedies cannot be borne; they cause, sometimes in a few minutes, intolerable pain—vesication is easily induced, frictions with decoction of cantharides will often remove the whole cuticle—spontaneous vesication of the face has occurred in this city.

The livid and bluish tinge of the extremities now pervades the whole body, passing frequently into a sooty hue. The same colour is seen around the eyes, and in the internal surface of the mouth and lips. The eyes are sunken deep in their sockets with a ghastly expression, or are rolled upwards in their orbits—at this period the adnata are often injected. The mind is enfeebled, questions harass and worry the patient; the efforts at conversation are exhausting—he becomes listless, indifferent, careless to his fate, and even invites death as a relief to his misery.

The pulse is either scarcely perceptible, a mere thread at the wrist, or it has vanished, not being felt even at the axilla, and barely to be detected in the carotids. The capillary circulation is now nearly terminated—no impression can be made on it by pressure on the labial surface where it can be brought into view, or the hands.

The spasms of the muscles, in this as the other periods, are not a constant phenomenon—in many instances they are not present, while in others they continue to torture the patient to the last moment of existence; and after death, it is not uncommon, to see the fingers, toes, and at times the limbs move, for a considerable period, from the contraction of the muscles.

Shortly before dissolution, the body which has impressed the touch with a sense of coldness, generally becomes warmer, and a general glow appears to be returning to the surface. This phenomenon often leads the observer into a belief that reaction is about to be established—it is a delusion—it is the precursor to death, and after dissolution the temperature of the corpse continues to augment for some time, and is found several hours subsequent warmer than during life.

The pathology or the condition of the organs of the cold stage, does not differ from that of the preceding stages except in degree. It is analogous to the cold stage of all febrile diseases and diseases of irritation. It bears a strong resemblance to the Pernicious Algid Intermittent, the Cold Plague, as it is termed in the southern states. The difference between the cold stage of this and other diseases, arises from the extensive surface, the seat of the primitive affection, and the excessive evacuation, both which disable the economy and prostrate its forces of life to such a degree, as to prevent effectually reaction from occurring—and death necessarily ensues, as it does in the cold stage of pernicious intermittent, or any disease when reaction or diffusion—irradiation into the whole economy cannot be accomplished.

*Treatment.* The indications of treatment in this, are the same as in the preceding stages, but with much less prospect of a successful issue. They are to allay the irritation of the alimentary apparatus, create and diffuse excitement, and to arrest the profuse