

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PODOPHYLLIN.

As podophyllin in some combinations produces considerable pain without corresponding benefit, any plan for increasing the certainty of its remedial action is likely to be interesting. I venture to call attention to a powder which I have used for some time, and which has proved extremely useful. The following is my formula. *R.* Podophyllin gr. i. vss; extracti claterii gr. i. vss; pulveris jalapæ comp. 3 vj. *M.*—Half a drachm of the above powder in half a pint of warm water acts most effectually, and the cholagogue effects of the podophyllin seem to be assisted by the hydragogues, the latter washing out the bile in a most satisfactory manner.

The immediate effects of this powder are somewhat as follows. In half an hour, there is free diaphoresis, followed by vomiting, and afterwards copious liquid and bilious stools. This has not, in my experience, been followed by the constipation which frequently occurs after free purging—perhaps on account of the increased flow of bile not ceasing with the primary cathartic effect. In case of ascites, with defective secretion from the liver, its power of reducing the amount of the effused fluid is most remarkable. The bulk of the powder, in dividing such active drugs as claterium and podophyllin, is a decided advantage.

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TREATMENT OF CERTAIN FORMS OF BRONCHOCELE BY INJECTIONS OF IODINE.

Dr. Morell Mackenzie stated that in a former paper he had described in detail the various methods applicable to the several kinds of enlargement of the thyroid gland. In discussing the treatment of fibrous bronchocele in the article referred to, he did not do justice to the method recently introduced by Prof. Lecke, of Berne. A larger experience, made under more favourable conditions, had convinced him that the treatment of certain forms of bronchocele by the subcutaneous injection of iodine into the substance of the enlarged gland, was of the greatest value. The following was the plan of treatment, which, in accordance with Dr. Lecke's recommendation, the author had employed: Thirty drops of the official tincture of iodine were injected into the substance of the gland once a week for the first two or three weeks, and afterwards once a fortnight, as long as was necessary. It was well to give iodide of potassium internally, at the same time; but no medicine was given to any of the patients whose cases were now related. The advantages of the treatment were, that it did not cause any constitutional disturbance or local irritation (suppuration.) In this respect, it was preferable to treatment by setons and caustic darts. The only disadvantage of the method was its slowness; this, however, could scarcely be considered a drawback, except when the enlarged gland caused urgent dyspnoea. The cases which were briefly related had been taken indiscriminately as they presented themselves, or were found

in the case-book of the Throat Hospital on July 21st. Of the sixteen cases, fourteen were fibrous, and two adenoid, or soft. Fourteen patients were females and two males. Eleven were completely cured, in four a considerable reduction resulted, and one case completely resisted treatment. In one case the neck was reduced by $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches in less than six months; in two cases a reduction of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches took place. The duration of treatment varied from one to eight months, the average being four months. The author concluded by remarking that the treatment of cystic cases by injections of iron, as previously recommended by him, was, of course, much more rapid, and therefore more striking; but the fibrous cases were undoubtedly the most difficult to treat of those varieties met with in practice. Dr. Mackenzie added that suppuration had not occurred in any case where the injection had been made into the gland itself. The failures of the treatment were 5 per cent. Mr. Meade's treatment by division of the fascia in the central line, where symptoms of dyspnoea indicated mechanical pressure had been found successful in alleviating this.—*Proc. Brit. Med. Ass., in Brit. Med. Journ., Aug. 30, 1873.*

VOMITING OF PREGNANCY.

Dr. Atthill, in the *Medical Press and Circular*, says that the hypodermic injection of morphia occasionally controls the vomiting met with in pregnancy, or that which sometimes follows severe cases of *post-partum* hemorrhage. The formula which he now adopts for the solution to be injected subcutaneously is the following:

<i>R.</i> Acetatis morphiae	gr. viij.
Liquoris atropiæ	<i>M.</i> xlviij.
Glycerini	3. v.
Aquam ad	3. iv.

Fifteen drops of this solution contains half a grain of the acetate of morphia, and about the fortieth of a grain of atropia.

HOW TO ADMINISTER LARGE INJECTIONS.

Very large injections, half a gallon to a gallon, can be administered, says Dr. Wilbrand, by placing a patient upon his elbows and knees, so that the anus becomes the highest point of the intestinal canal. They are extremely useful in fecal accumulation, intussusception, lesions of the ilio-cæcal valve, &c.

THE USE OF RAW MEAT IN PHTHISIS.

The following formula is found useful:—Take beef reduced to pulp, mix this with rum, brandy, or whiskey enough to make into a soft mass, to which may be added, according to the patient's taste, either salt or sugar; several spoonfuls to be taken during the day.