

of one the history of all. For this reason I will not burden my readers with a repetition of a number of cases, but will confine myself to a few exceptional cases.

CASE 1.—Age seventeen; diagnosis, variola confluens, followed by a general pyemia. Period of treatment, twenty-four weeks. First count 2,323,000, hemoglobin 42 per cent. Second examination, after eight weeks, red blood cells 3,722,000, hemoglobin 58 per cent. Third examination, sixteen weeks, red blood cells 4,122,000, hemoglobin 67 per cent. Fourth examination, red blood cells 4,899,000, hemoglobin 79 per cent. Result, cured.

CASE 2.—Age twenty-five; diagnosis, variola semi-confluens, followed by puerperal septicemia. Period of treatment, fifteen weeks. First count, 3,123,000 red cells, hemoglobin 62 per cent. Second examination, red cells 5,325,000, hemoglobin 89 per cent. Result, cured.

CASE 3.—Age sixteen; diagnosis, variola semi-hemorrhagic, uncomplicated. First examination, red cells 2,824,000, hemoglobin 42 per cent. Period of treatment, six weeks. Second examination, red cells 4,376,000, hemoglobin 83 per cent. Result, cured.

CASE 4.—Age ten; variola discreta with scarlatina, both infections occurring simultaneously, a most malignant and rare disease. In this double infection the anemia and depression were profound. First examination, red cells 2,036,000, hemoglobin 28 per cent. Period of treatment, eight weeks. Second examination, 5,102,000 red cells, hemoglobin 88 per cent. Result, cured.

At the beginning of my first term as Superintendent of Quarantine the mortality was 21 per cent. In twelve months it has been reduced to 9 per cent., and in the last year of my incumbency there were but sixteen deaths in 1,749 cases, showing the very low mortality of less than 1 per cent. It may not be generally known, but it is a fact, that death occurs in variola during the time that absorption begins to take place, which is about the twelfth day of the eruption.

Now, if by the administration of drugs the percentage of hemoglobin and the number of red blood cells can be brought anywhere near the normal before this period of absorption takes place, we, of necessity, increase the power of resistance tenfold.

I would not like to be understood as saying that the mere use of pepto-mangan caused the remarkable decrease in the mortality at our institution, though I am quite sure that it played a major part in producing the result.