

been referred to the brain, and treated on active principles. And it is very probable, had this mode of treatment been adopted, it would have proved most injurious to the patient. But attention being directed to the spine, the seat of the disease, and appropriate remedies employed, she speedily recovered.

CASE 10.—Mrs. R., aged 28, married, and has had one child. About two years since she fell into a delicate state of health; she became weak, and easily fatigued; was affected with headaches and giddiness; pains in the side, and palpitation of the heart on exertion. Her appetite was bad, and she suffered much from indigestion and vomiting of food. She had severe pain extending along the margin of the ribs, on the right side of the chest, increased by walking, stooping, and every kind of exercise, which often became so acute as to prevent the pressure of her clothes on it. The complexion also assumed a dingy yellowish hue, like that of a person whose biliary secretions were deranged, which led to the belief that her liver was affected.

She states, that of late she is sensible of increasing weakness in her arms, which have become affected with a sort of prickling sensation in her fingers, that extends to the elbows, and gradually to the shoulders, and that then the pain becomes particularly severe. She is also seized with sharp shooting pains in the *mammæ*, in the chest and in the sides, and extending across the lower part of the abdomen, and has considerable difficulty in micturition.—She does not complain of much pain or uneasiness in the spine, but of weakness of her limbs, and severe aching pains in them after exercise. Pulse 78; tongue white and furred in the centre; bowels constipated; catamenia regular. In the treatment of this complaint no attention had been directed to the spine.

On examining the spine, she complains of tenderness on pressure in several parts of it, but more particularly at the upper portion of the dorsal vertebræ. To this counter-irritation was applied, and she was at the same time ordered to take croton oil pills as a purgative, and small doses of preparations of iron. Shortly after the application of the counter-irritation to the spine she felt worse; the pains of the arms, the chest, and the side, increased; and she had more frequent attacks of vomiting of food. But in a few days these symptoms abated, and then the counter-irritation was applied to the other parts of the spine, where the pain was most acute on pressure, and the other remedies continued; and in the course of two months she considered herself well, and restored to excellent health. In this case signal benefit seemed to be derived from the exhibition of the croton oil pills.

The consideration of the cases now adduced demands the following observations:—

1st—From these cases we perceive the variety of symptoms which affections of this class assume, and how liable they are to be