

like any other single agent, is not a panacea for all the ills that flesh is heir to, but its indications are many. Much more would be accomplished by electricity were it not for the lack of interest, if not real prejudice, in the minds of many practitioners. At the present time the every-day life of a great mass of the inhabitants of all civilized countries is touched on every side by electric devices intended to do our work and help us in our pleasures. Within the memory of most of those here present, the telegraph, the telephone, the phonograph, the electric motor, the X-ray, and the electric light produced from the dynamo have come to be as common as the use of steam. It would be the height of absurdity for the medical profession to stand aloof, and refuse to accept the benefits to be derived from the scientific use of electricity in the treatment of disease, on the score of ignorance of its nature and powers. We have been glad to hail the many inventions and discoveries that have been of assistance to us in the business of life. Now, let us be equally glad for the accomplishment and promises of this wonderful fluid in the treatment of disease. The success of treatment by electricity depends, in most cases, upon equalizing and stimulating the circulation, and so improving the nutrition of the part or parts, or in its sedative effects upon the nervous system.

Now, without taking time to enumerate the many indications for electro-therapy, I will simply introduce a few of my cases treated during the last three or four years.

CASE 1.—E. K., a boy aged about three and a half years, with right hemiplegia. His family history was not good, the father being a heavy drinker; one brother also suffered from paralysis of the flexor muscles of one foot. I began treatment, using the Morton wave current, August 4, 1904. During the first ten days progress was very slow, but by the end of two weeks he was able to use some of the muscles of his arm and leg, and by the 21st of September had practically gained control of all that side, though he couldn't talk as plain as before the seizure.

CASE 2.—G. G., a little girl of sixteen months, with paralysis and atrophy of the muscles of both arms and legs. This followed six months after an attack of acute meningitis. In this case, also, I used the wave current, and occasionally the spark, treatment lasting from August 18, 1903, to November 21. Partly on account of her not being able to take the treatments regularly, recovery, as you'll notice, was not so rapid in this case. Two or three times since that date this patient has threatened relapse, but nothing serious has developed.