

progress. Vomiting became troublesome now even when nothing had been taken, and the swallowing of a small teaspoonful or less, of any fluid however bland, at once gave rise to it.

Under this now gloomy state of matters, I determined, as in the cases given by Flint and others, to confine my patient strictly to bed, and to support the system for a time by rectal alimentation exclusively.

She took to bed on the 15th of January, and had three injections given daily, occasionally four; but three were found to be as many as could be retained at all satisfactorily. These consisted of an egg well beaten up and mixed with a little fresh sweet milk, in all about three ounces. More than this could not be retained, and some of this, small as the quantity was, drained away; occasionally beef tea and mutton broth were tried instead of the milk and egg, but the latter was better retained than any other. Within two or three days the pulse became very small although not frequent, and the temperature of the body seemed to sink somewhat, particularly at the extremities. The mind also gradually became dulled, and the patient wandered a good deal, complaining sometimes but little, but sometimes a great deal, of thirst. To relieve the latter, a morsel of ice was occasionally put upon the tongue. The epigastric tenderness became excessive, and I had again recourse to the painting with the fluid extract of belladonna, and afterwards to a blister, with much advantage to the symptom.

The secretion of urine had continued natural, although decreasing in quantity as time wore on, and on February 7th, 23 days after she had been constantly in bed, I found on inquiry that there was very little passed, and on the 8th still less, and from this date there was complete suppression of this secretion up to 9th of March—or for *thirty days*.

During the greater part of these thirty days the skin had an urinous smell—the characteristic elements of the secretion being evidently eliminated vicariously by this channel, and so thoroughly was this the case, that beyond a pain in the head at times, and more or less mental dulness, the latter not noticeably greater than before the suppression, no signs whatever of uræmic poisoning were present at any time. This suppression of urine for so long a period is one of the special features of

this case, for the sake of which, shall I call it unique symptom, I have detailed it to the Association. Some might imagine that deception might have been practiced in this matter; but this was from first to last guarded against most scrupulously.— Besides, there were no hysterical manifestations of any kind in this case, and the patient and her friends were all extremely solicitous to have the secretion reappear, and at once on the 9th of March, when about 1½ ozs. of a whitish strong smelling fluid passed from the bladder, informed me with great delight of the circumstance. I communicated with Dr. Austin Flint, of New York, on the subject; his prompt and full reply stated that he had never met with an instance of such prolonged suppression without signs of uræmic poisoning being present.

As to the condition of the stomach after the patient was kept in bed, I found the absolute rest from the taking of food, and the entire rest of the body, very beneficial. The tenderness became less and less. Then she began to crave the juice of a large Malaga grape occasionally, and also a little, and very little, fresh lemon juice—a few drops being sucked from the fresh cut surface of the lemon. These were much relished, and appeared to be not only grateful but very beneficial, and for many days the patient swallowed nothing else. As the vomited matter on her taking to bed was more or less copiously tinged with blood, I gave her in powder on the tongue a very little tannic acid with a little salican and acacia every three hours with marked benefit. The tinging of the mucus at once lessened, and soon passed away under its use. Digestive power shewed signs of returning after she had been about three weeks in bed, and beginning with a teaspoonful or less, by the 16th of February she had become able to take by the mouth 6 ozs. of good milk daily, rendering unnecessary the continuance of the injections.

Nothing passed the bowels, beyond the draining away of part of the injections, from the 15th of January until the 19th of April, when they once more began to act naturally. This is another noteworthy feature of this, to me, most interesting case. After the 9th of March, when the urine first reappeared there was for some weeks only occasionally a small quantity passed. For instance, from the 8th of April to the 19th there was none, but on the 19th it began to flow for the first time