

August 26. Considerably better, pulse 110, abdomen less tender, tongue moister, pains very rare. I now omitted the calomel, but continued the opium. From this time she gradually recovered without any untoward occurrence.

Lachute, Canada East.

---

ART. LXIV.—*On the use of the Persesqui-nitrate of Iron in Leprosy.*

By W. KERR, M. D., Galt.

It is with considerable reluctance I lay before the readers of this Journal this communication in its present shape, but not possessing any other means of obtaining my object, I trust you and your readers will bear with me while I explain my views.

In the first number of your Journal are given two interesting cases of Leprosy in New Brunswick, and you invite suggestions respecting this fearful and loathsome complaint. Mr. Wilson on Leprosy, as known to the Hindoos, in the first volume of the Transactions of the Calcutta Medical and Physical Society says: "the known connexion between the stomach and skin will dispose us to concur generally in the possibility that the affections of the former may induce the leprous disease of the latter, and the most intelligent of our own writers have given admission to this doctrine." Settled indigestion is stated, by this author, as a symptom of a fatal termination. In the two cases in your Journal, which are related as characteristic specimens out of twenty-two, it is evident that a long period of ill health and pain in the region of the stomach precedes the appearance of the cutaneous disease, which slowly proceeds to ulceration, and this to mutilation. At last, too slowly, the unfortunate patient is relieved by death, after many years of suffering.

Looking at the fact, that a long period of weakness, listlessness, and affection of the stomach precedes the cutaneous disease, three or four years in your first case, and that before ulceration commenced several additional years elapsed, during which the malady might be described as an affection of the skin connected with pain in the stomach. (Impaired appetite and digestion may, I presume, be inferred.) I beg to suggest the persesqui-nitrate of iron, from what is known of its properties, as well fitted to combat this stage of leprosy. Both in Scotland and this country I have had numerous cases of cutaneous diseases connected with impaired digestion, which have yielded to the steady and prolonged use of the persesqui-nitrate. One lady afflicted from the age