

cream of tartar, sugar of milk, or some other equally inert substance, its efficacy would be increased, and it would produce the desired effect in smaller doses.—*Medical Press and Circular*, Nov. 5, 1890.

### **Anodyne Effects of Electric Light.**—

Stein, of Moscow, records (*Meditziniskoië Obozrenië*) a series of fourteen cases of various painful affections in which he used electric light as an anodyne, with almost "magical" results. The apparatus (devised by himself) used for the purpose consisted of a small-sized (three or four volts) incandescent electric lamp, furnished with a suitable handle and a funnel-shaped reflector, varying from 3.5 to 6 centimetres in length and from 2 to 3 in the longest diameter, the lamp being fixed within the reflector. In cases where the head or neck was affected, the illumination (the reflector being applied directly to the painful area) lasted from ten to fifteen seconds; in other regions of the body from one to five minutes, or even longer, until the patient began to complain of intense heat. The anodyne effects are said to have been invariably most striking. A woman, suffering from very obstinate intercostal neuralgia, after a single sitting (a series of illuminations, each of a few seconds' duration) was completely and permanently freed from pain. The same result was obtained in another patient suffering from intense rheumatic pains about the shoulder. In a woman, aged 50, suffering from agonizing lumbago, four sittings of five minutes' duration twice a day proved equally successful. In another patient, a nervous woman who had had excruciating pain about the right foot and ankle, causing lameness, two illuminations of five minutes' duration caused complete cessation of the symptoms. In a patient suffering from pulmonary and laryngeal tuberculosis, and most troublesome, almost incessant, cough, in whom even morphine in the daily dose of one grain had afforded but trifling relief, from ten to fifteen seconds' illumination of the larynx and both sides of the neck externally, repeated every other day, reduced the paroxysms of coughing to two or three in the twenty-four hours.—*British Medical Journal*.