

an ounce in the course of a fortnight. By the end of October the condition of the patient was much improved, but the disease was not cured. On the 13th of December he again came under treatment. From the 6th to the 29th of January mercurial inunctions were employed, and in this time he used 20 drachms of ointment, containing 6 drachms 40 grains of quicksilver. From the 2nd to the 13th of February the patient took daily a scruple of iodide of potassium; as his strength was much diminished, he was also ordered quinine. On the 10th of March the first symptoms of pericarditis manifested themselves, and he died on the 5th of April. In regard to the post-mortem appearances, I shall merely mention that minute hæmorrhagic extravasations were found almost everywhere; the lymphatic glands were generally indurated, in some places evidently degenerated (waxy?). The liver was enlarged, hard, and dry; the spleen also was indurated, and a section was found uniformly dry and dull-looking; there was no recognizable anatomical alteration in the bones. The lower half of each femur, half of the liver, the whole spleen, the half of each kidney, the cerebellum, and half of the two cerebral hemispheres were submitted to chemical examination. In the kidneys alone a very minute but undoubted trace of mercury was found; in the liver, the reaction was doubtful; the bones, the brain, and the spleen, contained no mercury.

I think this case forms a sufficient contradiction to the doctrine that mercury is retained in the organism, and can give rise to the manifestations of secondary syphilis. Two months after the last external mercurial treatment, which was energetic enough, six months after the internal use of corrosive sublimate, mercury could no longer be found in the brain and the bones, the organs particularly indicated as those in which the metal accumulates. The organs, on the other hand, which serve in an especial manner for the elimination of the metal, the liver and kidneys, presented, the former equivocal, the latter undoubted, traces of it, being as it were the last witnesses to the nearly-accomplished work.

In the case of two individuals under treatment by mercury, who could be depended upon in coöperating in the collection of all their discharges, I endeavoured to determine the amount of mercury which was eliminated by the saliva, the urine, and the fæces, during the time they were taking the drug. The patients had a light, chiefly a milk diet, but in the course of the treatment were allowed some roast veal. In neither case was any mercury found in the saliva. The first individual took, in the course of ten days, 5 grains of corrosive sublimate made into pills, with althæa powder and water, and at the end of this time a dose of castor-oil. From the urine 4 milligrammes (about $\frac{1}{16}$ of a grain), from the fæces 0.231 gramme (about $3\frac{1}{2}$ grains), or, on the whole, 0.235 gramme of sulphuret of mercury was obtained. This corresponds to 0.2745 gramme of the sublimate, which corresponds to 3.764 Austrian grains. At the end of the treatment, accordingly, 1.23 grain of sublimate was unaccounted for.

The second individual took, in twelve days, 25 grains of calomel, made up with sugar into fifty powders. Before and after the treatment castor-oil was administered. From the urine 29 milligrammes (nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ grain), from the fæces 1.239 gramme (rather more than 17 grains), or, on the whole, 1.268 gramme ($17\frac{1}{2}$ grains) of sulphuret of silver was obtained; this corresponds to 17.65 grains of calomel, thus leaving 7.35 grains to be accounted for.

In estimating these results, it should be borne in mind that they do not express absolutely, but only approximatively, the amount of mercury eliminated; for as I have already stated, the method of analysis not being quite accurate, the amount really discharged is somewhat larger. I do not think that with the results of these two observations, I have solved the question regarding the amount of the metal discharged during the mercurial treatment, but they are of some interest when taken in connexion with my other researches. Both observations show that not more than 25 per cent. of the mercury taken remains in the system; it has likewise been proved that after the treatment, mercury is got rid of by urine for some weeks. The fact which I discovered, that some months after the use of mercury has been discontinued, and even when iodide of