

This treatment, which is paramount, may be aided by strichnine, $\frac{1}{30}$ gr. 4 times daily for an adult in the beginning, in addition to a hypodermic dose of $\frac{1}{30}$ gr. morning and evening until the limit of toleration is reached. Capsicum in doses of from 10 drops to a teaspoonful of the tincture every 3 or 4 hours is one of the most effective diffusible stimulants when there is low muttering delirium, a comatose tendency, picking at the bedclothes, dry tongue, and in alcoholic pneumonia. Sleep may be procured by $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. morphine hypodermically with a ten-grain suppository or asafetida, oxygen by inhalation, and more or less constantly where there is dyspnea and cyanosis. If this fails then venesection. The salicylate of cinchonidia and the salicylate of soda are of special value in pleuro-pneumonia and grip-pneumonia, or when pneumonia is accompanied with pain in the joints or when there is a rheumatic history. Nourishment should be plentiful, concentrated and easy of digestion, freshly expressed beef juice properly seasoned, 2 ounces every two hours, alternately with a glass of milk, containing a tablespoonful of whisky or brandy.

He records from 400 cases a death rate of $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. without cold it is 20 to 30 per cent., hence, he considers this treatment the most effective of any now applied.

THE COATED TONGUE.

W. H. H. Weaver, M.D., Chicago, gives the following short paper on the subject in the *New York Medical Journal*, May 13, 1899:

The fur on the dorsum of the tongue consists of epithelial cells, detached papillæ, considerable granular matter, organic and inorganic, all of which is kept in a state of fermentation by schizomycetous fungi.* Millions of these micro-organisms may be found in a small particle of the coating. These fungi consist of micro-cocci, sarcinæ, bacteria, spirilla, innocent or infectious, if an infectious disease exists in proximity. If one member of a family has tuberculous consumption, tubercle bacilli may be found in the coating of the tongues of the other members. The micro-organisms thus found growing on the tongue are constantly washed into the stomach at every meal; thence are carried into the blood, probably through the lacteals. In this manner the blood may be supplied with so many germs that infection sooner or later takes place.

From a clinical standpoint this coating plays still another rôle, and should be looked upon as a comparative

*Butlin. *St. Bartholomew Hospital Reports*, 1879, p. 37.