

ances, and even dangers, as dulness of the mental faculties, loss of memory, great muscular feebleness of the lower extremities, etc. I have heard many epileptics declare that they would rather suffer from their fits than from the condition brought on by the doses of bromide of potassium necessary to suspend their attacks, or lessen the number of them. It is, therefore, a matter of some moment to those who treat nervous disorders to find a remedy of that efficacy so largely claimed for the bromide of potassium in some affections.

There is reason to believe that in the *bromide of sodium* a happy substitute has been found that will fully meet every indication for which the bromide of potassium has been given, while it is much better tolerated by the system, and free from the objections which are justly urged against the latter. For some time past, I have habitually used the bromide of sodium in all disorders of the nervous system where before I prescribed the bromide of potassium, and, so far as my own experience goes, speak positively to this point. I have given it in a number of cases of epilepsy continuously for months without any of the unpleasant symptoms which so constantly follow the prolonged administration of the potassium salt, except the eruption, and with the best results in mitigating or suspending the paroxysms. Dr. Decaisne has given the bromide of sodium for a year without its producing the systematic saturation so frequent during the long and continuous exhibition of the bromide of potassium. According to Nimias, of Yonico, this latter salt accumulates in the various organs, the brain, spinal cord, lungs, liver, etc., and is neither readily eliminated or assimilated. Soda is the alkali found throughout the body, and in all the secretions, and would naturally be more readily absorbed and appropriated than the potassic salt. Another point in favour of the use of the sodic rather than the potassic salt, and which, so far as I know, has not yet been mentioned, is the fact of the depressing influence of potash on the heart when they are largely or long given. No such effects are alleged to follow the continuous use of the salts of soda.

The taste of the bromide of sodium is much less unpleasant than that of the bromide of potassium, being very like common salt, and it may be used to replace the latter, mixed with the food, as with bread and butter, eggs, in milk, etc. Hence it is