

turbances for some lengthened period. Children bear the loss of blood badly, but recover rapidly, while the old stand the loss better, but the effect on their constitution is more permanent.

Sometimes, however, unless the dentist is intimately acquainted with any constitutional idiosyncrasy of his patient, it is extremely difficult to distinguish those subject to hæmorrhagic diathesis from those not so afflicted. In a case of this kind, when there is the slightest suspicion, it is always advisable to inquire whether the patient is subject to excessive bleeding from slight injuries, and thus be able to guard against any trouble. A case in point :

A young man from a neighboring town, a strong, healthy fellow of about twenty-two, was visiting friends here. He called and had a badly decayed superior cuspid and a bicuspid extracted. He bled about the usual amount, and when he left we did not anticipate any trouble. He returned in about two hours so weak that he experienced great difficulty in walking. The face and mucous membrane were pale, head aching, eye languid, and the skin clammy. The wounds had started to bleed shortly after he had left, and had been growing worse all the time. A compress of absorbent cotton saturated with tincture of kramerial and loaded with as much alumen pulv. as would adhere to it, was inserted into each wound. This effectually stopped the hæmorrhage, but the patient was so weakened that it was some hours before he was able to leave the office.

There are a variety of styptics and hæmostatics recommended for the alleviation of hæmorrhage, but our personal experience has been that there is none better than alumen pulv. in combination with some astringent tincture. We consider it superior to the ferri persulph. or the ferri perchlor., for the reason that in nearly every case it accomplishes the desired end, and there is no danger of a slough. In short, it possesses all the good qualities of the iron, without any of its bad ones. Of course we do not mean to say that the tinctures of iron should never be used, for there are cases in which they may be employed very advantageously, but we would use them in the capacity of styptics as a last resort.

Cold is also a powerful styptic. A stream of cold water directed to the bleeding part, or a piece of ice inserted into the wound, is, at times, of great assistance.

Before applying any of these styptics, however, the bleeding part should be wiped out as dry as possible and all coagula removed.

When syncope occurs from loss of blood, do not be too hasty to overcome it, since it is, without doubt, one of the most valuable means Nature employs to check bleeding and assist natural hæmostatics. But the dentist must exercise great caution during the syncope and see that the patient is in no danger.

Beneficial results are obtained from the internal administration