

when no cholera prevails, or in many cases is the result of mental anxiety, disturbing the bowels in a time of great general alarm, may be questioned. This doubt is strengthened by the facility with which the *feculent* discharges can be suppressed and no cholera follow, also by the fact that this diarrhoea may last several days and then cease, even without medication, and that the matter discharged is purely feculent, and has not the least resemblance to choleraic discharges. However, there is nothing remarkable in the fact that some of the cases of "cholera" should be followed by the supervention of real cholera, since we find the latter attacking patients extremely ill of various fevers during any of their stages, at their beginning, middle or end; such as variola, typhus, etc.

265. In these cases of diarrhoea it will be well to give the patient an opiate, one grain of opium, or thirty drops of laudanum, in a draught of some cordial, spirit or carminative mixture—but not more than one grain or its equivalent. The patient ought to lie down comfortably warm, and remain as quiet as possible. Quietude is particularly called for in every kind of bowel complaint, for exercise or motion increases the peristaltic movement of the intestines, which, of itself, keeps up an irritation and the frequency of the dejections.