

If the patient suffer from grave gastro-intestinal atonism he should be recommended absolute rest, which is nearly always a sovereign remedy.

*Weir Mitchell's Treatment.*—Weir Mitchell in his "Methodical Treatment of Neurasthenia" gives great importance to isolation and rest, to which he adds massage, electricity and super-alimentation.

We have recommended isolation in a sanatorium, away from the family and the habitual occupations of the patient. As regards rest, it will be forced in conditions where a promenade constitutes the only distraction. We admit that rest is in itself a powerful curative means, and that in certain cases it suffices; but we do not favor rest in bed during several weeks, which can only serve to weaken, without utility, the patient. Massage is certainly beneficial. As regards electricity, we prefer, as we have already said, the electric static bath to the induced currents of Mitchell.

The method of the celebrated physician of Philadelphia seems, on the whole, to be insufficient. In that method there is absence of the physical agents of hydrotherapy, light, air, heat and gymnastics.

Physicians and patients have become so cognizant of those deficiencies, as, for the most part, to have given up the method.

A process much in vogue in Germany to combat vertigo and headache is the cold lower affusion. This affusion is well borne, and relieves the brain while toning the system.

*Topoalgia.*—Topoalgia has been described by Dr. Paul Blocq as a sort of local neurasthenia. It is a fixed pain, localized in a variable but limited region. Against topoalgies so common with neurasthenics we have successfully employed static sparks, Scotch douches, and especially the static induced current or Morton current. Painting with tincture of iodine (*loco dolenti*) gives good results, but it must be applied in several coats so that it may have to be renewed only every five days.

We have seen in consultation with a brother physician a typical case of topoalgia. The patient, Mr. T., experienced marked pain at the lower part of the abdomen. This pain was constant; it had lasted for two years and had resisted all treatments employed. Our examination revealed nothing. We treated it with Scotch douches, static sparks and static induced current (*loco dolenti*), which treatment gave good results.