

No. 4 case had lost five pounds in five months, nutrition faulty, weak digestion, poor appetite.

The treatment of these cases was by Angier's Petroleum Emulsion, a teaspoonful increased to two teaspoonfuls after food, dietetic directions and first relief by a gentle laxative; the results are here appended:

*A Gain of Twenty-five Pounds in Weight.*—No. 1 case showed improvement from the beginning, and after a period of two months and a half had regained his original weight, eleven stone, seven pounds (one hundred and sixty-one pounds). Towards the end of August his weight had increased to eleven stone ten pounds, three pounds in excess of his original weight, or a total gain of twenty-five pounds in five months. Bronchial catarrh had almost disappeared. During his treatment the patient mentioned to me that he saw films of petroleum on his urine, and there was no difficulty, on evaporating some of his water, in getting quite an appreciable quantity of petroleum from it.

No. 2 case also made good progress and gained five pounds in weight in two months. Lung clearer and health better.

No. 3 case has slowly gained two pounds in three months, flatulence being considerably better, and constipation also better (a chronic case).

No. 4 case has gained three and a half pounds in two months, and with relief from all symptoms.

These results corroborate those reported by Dr. William Duffield Robinson (*Medical News*, July 14th, 1900), who treated a large series of cases by petroleum emulsion. This authority states:

"It can be assuredly asserted that the effect of these petroleum products is decided, and is far more than a simple intestinal lubricant. In over fifty selected cases where nutrition, digestion and body weight were impaired, and the purest oil administered in one or two dram doses four times a day for periods of from three to six months, there was in every instance increase in weight and improvement in health, strength, and feeling of well-being.

The gain in weight was five and a quarter to twenty-three and a half pounds. There was no other change in living conditions or medication which might have caused these improvements. It gave no discomfort in any instance."

From the experiments herewith recorded, the following conclusions concerning the physiologic and therapeutic action of petroleum emulsion may be adduced:

1. Inhibitory to the growth of putrefactive and pathogenic bacteria, such as met with in the alimentary canal, while it does not inhibit or interfere with peptic and pancreatic digestion.