

doses at first; the second dose should follow an hour after the first, and the third dose three or four hours afterwards, and following that three times a day. A thirty-second of a grain is quite enough to produce a marked effect. Here I should like to relate briefly the actual facts of a case illustrating this type of the disease. The patient was a man about forty-three years of age, in perfect health, who had never had an attack of gout in his life, who had never had rheumatism or any serious disease except the ordinary diseases of childhood, such as measles, and who had never had eczema. One day he went out for a drive in his carriage, apparently in perfect health. When he returned from that drive he told his wife that he felt ill, and thought that he had caught cold. Next day he had an acute general eczema over the whole of his body. I saw him in consultation on the following afternoon, exactly twenty-four hours from the time he went for the drive, and he was discharging practically from every part of his skin. Now, such an acute attack as that could hardly be explained, I think, by the action of microbes on the skin. I think that the only possible explanation is that it was a sudden nerve-storm, a neurosis which took this particular form. Instead of getting a sudden attack of bronchitis or of catarrh, he suddenly got a catarrh of his skin. That night he was given four grains of calomel and a saline on the following morning. At 4 p.m., or 5 p.m., a dose of a thirty-second of a grain of tartarated antimony was given, and that was repeated again in three hours. The only local treatment he had was that he was put to bed and was powdered all over with oxide of zinc and boric acid. I saw him again on the following afternoon, when there was no discharge whatever; the parts were absolutely dry, and he was covered all over with crusts and scabs as a result of the drying up of the discharge. He had had a very free action of the bowels as a result of the calomel and the saline in the morning, and in every way he expressed himself as being very much better. He went on with the antimony for four days afterwards. When I saw him again at the end of that time all signs had gone except that though there was practically nothing to be seen, he was left with the most severe irritation of the whole of the skin. That is, perhaps, one of the most troublesome things which practitioners are called upon to treat—namely, the irritation left behind from a very severe acute attack. The intense dread of another attack coming on produces a state of great nervous excitement. Though there is nothing to be seen these patients will scratch and suffer terribly from the irritation, so much so that in some cases it produces a disturbance of the nervous system almost