

bromide largely, and at one time with great benefit. Antifebrin was given in gr. viij, two or three times a day, but seemed to be without any influence. On June 1st, nitro-glycerine was given, *mv* of the one per cent. solution, three times a day. Within a week the attacks were greatly lessened, and in the second week after beginning he had only two attacks. He continued to take it all through the summer, getting up to *mvij* doses, t. i. d. He does not think that anything he has ever taken reduced the fits so much. On November 11th, he stated that he had stopped it for a month; the attacks have recurred less frequently, and he has been able to be at work.

In some of the cases in which the betterment was most striking at first, the remedy seemed to lose its influence, and after a month or two had to be abandoned. I cannot say that in any one of the nine cases the improvement has been more than temporary. In two of the cases of *petit mal* the attacks were greatly reduced, and one patient remained free for two months, but I learn by letter that the attacks have returned. Altogether my experience has not been very encouraging. We may say that in a limited number of cases, when the bromides have failed or are beginning to lose efficacy, nitro-glycerine may be used with advantage. I have also used the nitrite of sodium in a few cases with indifferent success.

Further Testimony to the value of Creasote in Phthisis.

Von Brunn, in the *Berliner klinische Wochenschrift* of February 20, 1888, reports that in the past eight years he has treated 1,700 cases of pulmonary phthisis with creasote, with good results. His cases were not only the ambulatory patients in whom there was no marked rise of temperature, but also cases in which tuberculosis was making active progress. The best results were obtained in acute cases in which the temperature became nearly stationary after a period of fever, and in which the lesion was generally catarrhal and unilateral. Regarding dosage, von Brunn considers it an error to give less than six or seven minims of creasote daily; he has not exceeded seven minims daily, and considers it essential to continue this treatment for at least several months. He believes with Sommerbrodt that the more creasote which can be borne the better. The creasote wine originally prescribed

by Bouchard was found to be the best form for administration:—

Creasote 13 parts.
Tr. gentian 30 parts.
Spts. vini rect 250 parts.
Vin. Tokaya, or Malaga. ad. 1000 parts.—M

Sig.—Teaspoonful well diluted with water three times daily.

The Treatment of Lead Colic by Rectal Injections of Ether.

Torre, in the *Bulletin Général de Thérapeutique* of February 15, 1888, reports that he has given ether per rectum for the spasms of lead colic with good results. He employed a flask containing about a drachm and a half of ether, to which was attached a rubber tube of convenient length and terminated by the canula of an irrigator. The injection of fifteen to twenty minims of ether was often sufficient to mitigate a severe spasm when enemata of castor oil and soapsuds were given to relieve constipation.

Volumetric System in Materia Medica.

By W. B. NESBITT, before Canadian Institute.

In bringing the following paper, before you I am conscious of its many imperfections, and am aware that the system proposed is not perfect, yet I hope you will bear with me, and that in the discussion, which it is to be hoped it will be its merits to engender, such hints and criticisms may be received as will enable me to place the system on a still more practical basis.

The first thing that meets the student of Materia Medica is the almost illimitable number of drugs and preparations, whose number is only comparable with the likewise illimitable and varied doses. It is this heterogeneous system of dosage that I would try to place on a more satisfactory basis. We will just glance at a few of the preparations and their doses. Commencing with the inorganic salts, this is what we find:—

Potassic Carbonate	10—30	grs.
" Bicarbonate	10—40	"
Liquor Potassæ	15—60	"
Potassic Permanganate	1—2	"
" Iodide	2—10	"
" Tartras acid	20—60	"
Potassic Bromide	5—30	"
" Citras	20—60	"
" Acetas	10—60	"
" Chloras	10—30	"
" Sulphurate	3—8	"
" Nitras	10—30	"
" Sulphas	15—60	"