

ERYSIPELAS, WITH TREATMENT BY MARMORECK'S SERUM.

Dr. A. DE MARTIGNY (Montreal).—In opening this paper, Dr. de Martigny said that he had occasion to try, during the last fourteen or fifteen months, this treatment in cases of erysipelas of the face, and the result was very good as a rule; but the result also is generally very good by the ordinary treatment. One case in particular was noted, in which for four or five days tonic treatment with iron and quinine had been tried, and a thirty per cent. solution of ichthyol applied to the face without any good result. The temperature was 105° , and the pulse 148, the patient very weak and the face very much swollen. There was also very much suffering from headache, trembling and fainting fits, all the time; 20 c.c. of the antitoxin (Marmoreck's serum) were injected. She was then put to bed and a solution of bichloride, 1:4000 applied to the face. On the next morning the temperature was normal, and the pulse 96, and the pulse was normal on the following days. In five days she could go back to work, though the face was still darkened in some places. Another interesting case was cited in an old lady of sixty-five years of age. She has generally had one or two attacks in the spring or in the fall. Last spring she was given two injections of antitoxin, 20 c.c. each at two weeks' interval. That case was cured, and during the fall she had no attack, and this spring no attack either. She was seen two weeks ago, and she has never been like that for fifteen years back. He believes this treatment is more powerful in its curative power than the local applications. If we use the treatment as soon as we do for diphtheria, *i.e.*, on the first day, we would get as good results as from antitoxin in diphtheria. This is not a very severe affection, but we sometimes see deaths occurring in erysipelas of the face. Some friends in Montreal stated that we had two cases of death. In the first case, not reduced by the ordinary treatment, it would not have been cured by that treatment as quickly as if the old treatment had been continued. He was satisfied with the results, and asked the members of the association to try this treatment when they had a case of erysipelas of the face and report at the next meeting of the association, twelve months hence.

Dr. R. W. POWELL (Ottawa) asked the writer of the paper about the dose of this particular serum, whether 20 c.c. was the standard dose, or whether the dose is altered by the severity of the case, or by the age of the patient, or what rules there are about this treatment.

Mr. CAMERON confirmed Dr. de Martigny's findings. He had employed the treatment lately in four or five cases of erysipelas of the face with very prompt results. One patient, in particular, had seven attacks or relapses in fourteen months, and since using this serum injection, no relapses have occurred.