

constitutional affection is not manifested; and as a general occurrence, healthy pytalism and fever, and acute inflammation, cannot exist together, the most hopeless cases of disease instantly giving way when it appears. It is still the remedy most trusted in cholera; while in those minor derangements of the bowels, if properly exhibited, it stops the pain and discharges almost instantly, and by bringing about a complete change in the nature of the secretions, leads to a speedy return of health.

The effect of Bark on paroxysmal fevers and pernicious diseases is still more apparent; and as these paroxysms and periodical attacks must depend on some cause, we will afterwards endeavour to show in what this consists, and the mode in which Quinine may be supposed to act in curing them.

ART. XXI.—*Cyanopuon, or Cyanuret of Iron, in the purulent discharge, in a case of Chronic Disease of the Left Breast, with a summary of cases published.* By GEORGE D. GIBB, M.D., *Licentiate Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Physician to the Montreal Dispensary, Secretary to the Medico-Chirurgical and Pathological Societies of Montreal, &c.*

Through the kindness of Dr. Munroe, Physician to the Hotel Dieu in this City, I am indebted for the details of the following case.

Sophrasine M——, ætat 23, a native of Canada, of weak constitution and delicate health, was admitted into the wards of the Hotel Dieu on the 13th Feb., 1850, for a disease of the left breast. She has been a married woman for three years, and is the mother of two children. For the last three years, in fact ever since her marriage, she has been suffering from pain and swelling in the left breast. Sometimes the pain was severe and acute, and at others of a dull aching character. Catamenia has always been perfectly regular, ex-

cepting the periods of her pregnancy. About six weeks before admission into the Hospital an abscess formed in the upper and left part of the left breast, which burst, and gave exit to a large quantity of pus, in which the patient recognised milk. The physician who attended her at that time, at first doubted its presence, but on minute examination he was convinced of the mixture of the two fluids. Her health was very bad, and as her breast was becoming daily worse, she sought entrance into the Hospital.

On admission, the patient looked very pale and exsanguine, was much emaciated, and appeared to suffer from debility induced by disease. On examining the left breast, an irregular fistulous opening presented itself upon its upper margin, from which was discharging healthy-looking pus. This opening communicated with several sinuses leading in different directions, one towards the axilla, another towards the clavicle, and many exceedingly deep. The general substance of the mammary gland did not seem much involved. Some days after, the two former of these sinuses were slit up with the knife, and, as the discharge was a little fetid, a lotion of the sol. of chloride of lime was ordered.

On the fourth day from this period the dressings were, for the first time, noticed to be stained of a bluish green colour. At this time also the patient was taking the carb. of iron internally; and, under the supposition that the colour of the discharge might be owing to it, Dr. Munroe stopped its use and the chloride of lime lotion, and ordered simple water dressings only.

Up to the period of the 27th March, and the fifth day of the blue pus, when Dr. Munroe showed me the case, the discoloration was the same, and the wound was looking healthy. I took home with me some pieces of the stained linen and subjected them to experiment as follows:—

The colour was a light bluish-green. Caustic potass removed the colour, which it will also do with Prussian blue. The