

pital, by my friend Dr. Campbell, but from my being under the impression that the addition of the hydriodate of potass caused more pain, I have not employed this form. The disagreeable mercurial mask, the *inefficacious* covering of gold leaf, cotton, or collodion, are now in a great measure laid aside. I stated formerly, on the occasion of my first suggestion of this application, in the Medical Gazette published in this city in 1844, that I was led to try it in small pox from the very marked benefit I had derived from its use in erysipelas, and various other cutaneous diseases, for several years previously. I was then satisfied of its *antiphlogistic* powers and *soothing* effects, and trusted that a more general employment of it in variola would establish its claims to general confidence.

During the late epidemic of variola, I have had several opportunities of trying its powers, and my cases have been observed by many members of the profession, to whom the issue has afforded every satisfaction. I have reason also to know, that several medical practitioners have followed my example with success, while others have made only a very *imperfect* and *insufficient* occasional application, which neither could afford a satisfactory result, nor determine the advantages derivable from it.

I have been favored with the opinion of several physicians of this city, of the highest standing in the profession, on the advantage of using this remedy, which I subjoin.

The application I have used is a saturated solution of iodine, in spirit of wine, *which is to be brushed freely over the face once or twice daily, from the earliest day of the eruption that is practicable, and continuing the repetition of the application daily, or oftener, during the period of the maturation of the pustules. The earlier the application is commenced, the more efficacious it proves. The inflammatory and ulcerative processes are controlled, and the intolerable itching relieved, by which means scratching, and its evil consequences, are obviated.* For some time I was disposed to confine the application to the face, as being the part most disposed to ulceration and pitting, as well as that, most desirable to be preserved from marks. I have, however, on many occasions applied it to various other parts, for the sake of experiment, or contrast, and also to relieve the intolerable pruritus, and have even extended it over nearly the whole body, at the patient's desire, without any evil consequence or inconvenience from the most extended application. The relief it affords to the itching, (if it conferred no other boon), would of itself be a sufficient recommendation of the application. Its antiphlogistic and febrifuge properties, however, are very manifest, and I have no doubt *modify* and *moderate* the fever, and thereby operate in a most salutary manner. The medical treatment I have combined with it is so simple and mild, that a great deal cannot be attributed to it; being merely small doses of calomel and