

usage of too small a quantity, which acts in a directly opposite manner, and paralyzes the vaso-motor system and thus causes lowering of blood pressure. Dr. Porter relates several interesting cases, but his views have not been adopted generally.

THE LESLIE FUND.

The following letter, sent us by Dr. White, of Hamilton, explains itself:

37 Main St. W., Cor. Park, Hamilton,
20th Oct., 1888.

JAMES WHITE, Esq., M.D.,
8 Cannon St., Hamilton.

DEAR DOCTOR,—Allow me to thank you for \$461, which has been handed to me by you, for the purpose of contributing towards defraying the legal expenses incurred in defending the persecution lately raised against me. While I regard this practical proof of feeling as given in support of a cause, rather than personal, I am at the same time deeply sensible of the heartfelt sympathy manifested to me by a great many of my professional friends, not only in this city, but elsewhere.

I thank you personally for all your kindness, and thus through you, those who, regardless of their own time and trouble, espoused my cause and assisted me in it with their wise counsel, their sympathy and their moral support.

I am, yours sincerely,

JAMES LESLIE.

THE USE OF CALOMEL IN PNEUMONIA.—Dr. McManus, in the *Medical Record*, gives the result of the treatment of sixty-two cases of pneumonia by early large doses of calomel. His statements are rather startling, especially the dose, which would generally be considered heroic. He says:—

My method is to give from thirty to sixty grains of calomel at the first dose; and in every case, unless it be given too late in the disease, it will bring down pulse, temperature and respiration in from six to eighteen hours.

I do not believe it to be of any use to give it after the fourth day of the disease; and I think at or near the crisis it will do harm. I cannot help thinking that if I had been able to give the next to the last case I have described the calomel two days earlier, he would not have run on to fibroid phthisis. And I cannot help believing that I

diminished that man's chances to whom I gave the twenty grains near the crisis. Further, it does not seem to act so well in cases where the patients have been chronic drinkers. It does them good—diminishes pulse, respiration and temperature—but their convalescence seems to be much slower. It may be urged that all of my cases were not true pneumonia; but I think I could hardly make a mistake in all of sixty-two cases. I have given it, with good effect, in two cases of pneumonia occurring in the puerperal state; and I have given given it in one case of pneumonia in a pregnant woman, and had the pleasure of seeing her recover promptly without aborting. I afterwards delivered her of a healthy male infant, three months after her attack of pneumonia.

DEATH WITHOUT DISEASE.—Stories of death having taken place without injury to the organism, and simply by the effect of the imagination have been long familiar, but have been regarded as more or less apocryphal. That of the negro who was condemned to be bled to death by a sham council, and who without being at all injured was led to believe he was bleeding by warm water being poured over his arm, and by the remarks of the by-standers, he being blind-folded, is perhaps typical of all such cases. It is said that the man *actually* died. He was told he was dying, and when the beholders lifted the bandage from his eyes they were horror-stricken to find that he was indeed gone.

In this connection the following from the *Med. and Sur. Rep.* will be of interest:—Boston papers tell of "the singular death, at Danvers, of Miss Emma Felch. She was taken ill some months ago and, from the fact that her mother died of cancer, she became possessed with the idea that her sickness was from the same cause. Her physicians could find no indication of cancer, but she asserted she had one, and located it. She refused food, saying it distressed her. At her desire, after she died, an autopsy was held, and no cancer could be found. It was decided that her disease was purely sympathetic."

This points a moral as to faith cure, the use of infinitesimal doses, etc.

THE CAUSE OF ECLAMPSIA AND ALBUMINURIA:—The etiology of this dread condition of the pregnant woman may be considered as yet, *sub judice*.