

NERVOUS EXHAUSTION (*From Excess*).

General weakness, and tremors in the legs, being the symptoms.

R. Syr. calc. hypophosphitis, 3 ij
Ferri phosphitis, grs. ij. M.

Sig.—One dose, ter die.

Also—

R. Ol. morrhue, 3 j
Ter die.

Eat rare meat, milk, eggs; not very many vegetables, especially if digestion is poor.

Da Costa.

LESSENERED REFLEX EXCITABILITY.

Small doses of quinine, frequently repeated, will increase reflex excitability.

ARSENIC AND IRON TONIC.

R. Liq. pot. arsenit, 3 ss
Vin. ferri, 5 ij
Syr aurant cort.,
Aqua aa 5 et 3 ij. M.

Sig.—One teaspoonful, ter die, after each meal, on a full stomach.

PUERPERAL CONVULSIONS.

R. Pot. bromid., 5 j
Chloral hyd., 5 j
Camphoræ, grs. vj
Tinct. card. co., 5 vj. M.

Sig.—Dessert spoonful, every half hour, until relieved.

GASTRODYNIA.

R. Ol. cajuputi (on sugar), gtts. iv.

A mouthful of hot water will often quell the pain.—*Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Reporter.*

CURATIVE EFFECTS OF MILD CONTINUED COUNTER-IRRITATION OF THE BACK IN CASES OF GENERAL NERVOUS DEBILITY AND SPINAL IRRITATION.

Dr. Arthur Gamgee recommends the compound mustard liniment (Br. Ph.) as the best available counter-irritant in these cases, as it produces a remarkably active irritation of the sensory nerves of the skin, which subsides to a great extent when the preparation is removed, but which can be renewed almost indefinitely without leading to any eczematous, pustular, or ulcerative condition. He finds this plan of treatment more successful than the use of iron, cod-liver oil, phosphorus, or the constant galvanic current. The theory of its action which he gives is that counter-irritation exerts a tonic action on the local vasomotor nerve centres.

In consequence of the expensive character of the essential oil of mustard, and the ethereal extract of mezereum which enter into the composition of this liniment, it is very commonly adulterated and is nearly inactive. When properly prepared, the liniment

should possess a very pungent odor, and should produce an almost painfully acute sensation in the nostrils when it is smelled. If properly prepared a few drops of linimentum sinapis sprinkled over a pad of cotton-wool ten or twelve inches long and four or five inches broad, will suffice to produce, in a few minutes, pretty intense redness of the skin of the back, accompanied by more or less of the painful or burning sensation characteristic of mustard.

The general result of the use of this mode of counter-irritation is thus described: "On the first or second day of the treatment, the patient, if a delicate hysterical girl, may complain that the pain caused by the mustard is almost unbearable, and she may declare that the application cannot be continued. By diminishing the amount of mustard oil used, however, all such urgent objections on the part of the patient are removed. As soon as the application has been so controlled as to bring on merely an active glow and not unpleasant tingling of the skin, the patient declares that the increase in her strength is marvellous; the pain in the back and limbs undergoes a diminution, or, as long as the mustard counter-irritation is kept up, are completely in abeyance, the irritability of temper diminishes, and simultaneously the general health undergoes a marked improvement.

"The increased feeling of vigor produced by the treatment is not illusory; as a rule, I have found that the improvement thus commenced has kept up so that a hysterical girl who has been for some weeks confined during the day to a couch to which she could with difficulty make her way from her bedroom, has in a few days cheerfully taken walks of considerable length."—*The Practitioner.*

PHOSPHATE OF LIME IN THE TREATMENT OF FRACTURES AND WOUNDS.

Clinical observation has already confirmed the value of this drug, but a special phenomenon, which in a certain number of cases gives evidence of the activity of the reparative process going on in the injured bones, has apparently, as yet, escaped observation. Several patients in the wards of M. Dolbeau, in Beaujon, to whom this drug was administered in doses of thirty grains three times a day, complained of a sensation of tingling in the affected limb which ceased when the drug was withheld and reappeared when its use was resumed. The following cases exemplify this fact:

1. Alexandrine S—entered the hospital on July 13, 1867, with a comminuted fracture of the left humerus, complicated with a small external wound. Several methods of treatment were tried, but on the 8th of May, 1868, the fracture was still ununited. A spoonful of the syrup of the lacto-phosphate of lime, representing fifteen grains of the salt, was then given three times a day with the meals; at the end of eight days the dose was doubled. During the first week the patient's appetite became excessive, and it continued so for three weeks, after