

the hospital yard, I suspected the nature of the poison at once. I sent the father home with a ten-grain dose of sulphate of zinc, with directions to administer it immediately on his arrival. I followed in about ten minutes, and found that the child had vomited slightly, the vomited matters consisting entirely of hyoscyamus seeds and capsules. The plant from which they had been taken was shewn me, and proved to be a large one not quite ripe, and having the whole of the capsules stripped from the upper part and probably swallowed by the child, so that nearly an ounce of capsules and seeds must have been taken.

The symptoms were so peculiar and so well marked that poisoning by some one of the colanaceæ* might have been diagnosed without any other evidence. There was the flushed and excited countenance, the restless and violent tossing, amounting almost to convulsions, the momentary listening to imaginary sounds, and the eager clutching at visionary phantasms; while the brilliant eye, widely dilated pupil, hurried pulse, and laboured respiration, filled up the pitiful but interesting picture.

One other symptom I must not omit, for it was among the most marked of all, and certainly not the least interesting. It was a bright scarlet redness of the whole surface, exactly resembling that of scarlatina. It was not a mere flushing of the surface, produced by the unusual exertion, but a well-defined papillary eruption, disappearing on firm pressure, but returning immediately when the pressure was removed. The mucous membrane partook to some extent of the same appearance as in scarlatina, though the strawberry tongue was of course not so well marked.

Another dose of sulphate of zinc having been administered without satisfactorily emptying the stomach, a teaspoonful of mustard was given, followed by copious draughts of warm water, which soon had the desired effect, very large quantities of the poisonous substances being evacuated. After recommending strong green tea as a drink, and applying cold to the head, I left her, promising to call again in two hours.

On my return I found the delirium and other symptoms still active, though not so violent as before, with occasional intervals of drowsiness. The eruption and the ocular delusions were as vivid as before.

I continued to visit her at intervals of a few hours during the night and following day, for the purpose of watching the decadence of the eruption, and I found that it, together with the ocular spectra, continued for about twelve hours from the time of taking the poison. Both then

* That is to say, one of the "mydriastic" members of this family, for they only are referred to in the present article.