

5 P.M.—She had rallied so as to be able to speak; pulse, 130. Beef-tea, milk and a small quantity of brandy were substituted for the brandy and ammonia. The left arm was found to be paralyzed. The catheter was again used. There being some tympanitis and considerable tenderness over the abdomen, I directed hot-bran poultices to be applied, and occasional turpentine frictions.

The third day afterwards, she had a mild attack of dysentery, which yielded readily to treatment. The paralysis of left arm only continued for a few days. At the end of three weeks, she had so far recovered as to be able to assist in her domestic duties, having fully regained the use of the left arm.

*Remarks.*—From a careful study of the case and the patient's history, I am convinced that the *cause* of the attack was *eccentric*, and that it was nothing more than the irritation arising from a large quantity of fecal matter in the bowels. It is worthy of remark in this connection, that so soon as the bowels moved freely, the convulsions ceased. I admit that this may be a mere coincidence.

*Treatment.*—I have already said that I found the chloral hydrate altogether valueless. The inhalation of chloroform was of very great service, chiefly in preventing the occurrence of the successive attacks. If the first spasmodic movements were noticed, and the chloroform freely inhaled, it would prevent the spasm of the glottis from occurring. Its administration was continued for twelve hours. Before it was commenced, five or six convulsions occurred each hour, during its administration, not more than two, and sometimes only one, occurred each hour. As to asafetida and valerian, I think they were of no use.

*Venesection.*—This was perhaps the most important of all the measures resorted to. It rapidly diminished the quantity of blood in the system, and hence it diminished also the liability to effusion of blood into the spongy parts of the body, as the brain and lungs, which is so apt to occur during the arrested respiration consequent upon spasm of the glottis.

*Calomel.*—The large dose that was given acted promptly. I have seen in cases reported in medical journals, the use of croton-oil advocated as acting more speedily on the bowels. I concede that it acts more rapidly, but it is itself a powerful irritant; and if the presence simply of feces in the bowels would cause convulsions, then might we not infer that the croton-oil was contra-indicated? In conclusion, I might state that the total number of convulsions was above thirty.