

health and spirits. In fact he was remarkable for his genial, lively disposition; a patient to whom a physician would become attached for his social qualities, and for that reason we gave him more than ordinary attention, but all to no avail, as the sequel will show.

Mercury was given as constitutional treatment, while locally we used Monsel's salts, as a cauter, ordering a poultice of elm bark at night, and a dose of opium to produce rest.

After a few weeks the chancre healed and disappeared entirely, without leaving any unpleasant symptoms, save a slightly debilitated condition of the patient; a debility hard to define, yet of such a peculiar character that his usual lively and jovial disposition gave way to a kind of low melancholy.

By the middle of July his health had again become quite good, (not, however, reaching the usual standard which it attained previous to his affection,) and having urgent business thirty or forty miles away, concluded to make the trip on horseback, returning in about a fortnight with the worst case of iritis that I ever saw. My first anxious enquiry was—"Can I save the eye?"

I began the use of mercury internally, at once; bathed the eye in a solution of extract of belladonna, applied cups freely to the temples, and drew blisters behind the ears; gave opium at night to allay pain, which was now excessive. In a few days the attack began yielding to the treatment, and after a reasonable time the eye cleared up and I congratulated myself it was saved.

The following mixture was now ordered to be taken three times daily, in drachm doses; the quantity to be gradually increased until two drachms were taken at one dose:

R. Hydrg. bi-chloride,grs. ij.
Iodide of potassium, ʒij.
Syrup, sarsap. comp., ʒvj.

The above was given for ten days or two weeks, when, finding him grow so weak and debilitated, I changed the treatment to tonics and stimulants with the hope of building up his shattered health, which had now become bad in the extreme. Digestion poor. Bowels constipated. Much emaciated. Melancholic to an extreme degree, and complaining of severe pain "shooting" through the head. Had a wild, vacant stare, and when alone was almost constantly muttering to himself—when spoken to would hesitate about answering, but after apparently deliberating or debating in his own mind whether to answer or not, all the time giving you a painfully vacant stare, he would answer intelligently, and keep him talking, especially concerning his business, one would become impressed with the idea that nothing serious was the matter. But cease talking to him and he would lapse into a deep melancholic state, from which it was with difficulty that he could be aroused.

He never called for anything to eat. In that respect he had to be looked after as much as a child; the same in regard to the calls of nature.

Partial paralysis now supervened, so that he was fast losing the use of one side, including the upper and lower extremity, and he daily grew more loud in his mutterings and grumbings.

As I could see no hope for his recovery there, I informed his friends that they had better take

charge of his business, settle it up and take him to San Francisco, California, as possibly the change to that genial climate, with better facilities for treatment in that delightful city, might be beneficial to him. They carried out my suggestion, and accordingly left Idaho City about the 1st of October, arriving at San Francisco in safety, where the patient lingered some weeks and died with total paralysis of both lower extremities, and himself perfectly insane. I am not aware that any post mortem was had and do not know the condition of the brain at the time of death. There is no doubt in my mind that the brain was greatly affected, as the symptoms indicated. Why the violent pain in the head, at times almost unbearable, the vacant look, low delirium, all followed by paralysis, if the great nervous centre was not the seat of extensive lesion? And from what other cause came all this, but from syphilis first attacking the penis in form of a chancre.—*Medical and Surgical Reporter.*

The Effects of Hashish.

A writer in *Appleton's Journal* of September 4, 1869, thus describes the effects experienced from the use of this drug:—

I have often taken the drug, rather for curiosity to discover what its attractions might be, than for ought of pleasurable excitement I ever experienced. The taste of the potion is exactly what a mixture of milk, sugar, pounded black pepper, and a few spices would produce. The first result is a contraction of the nerves of the throat, which is anything but agreeable. Presently the brain becomes affected; you feel an extraordinary lightness of head, as it were; your sight settles upon one object, obstinately refusing to abandon it; your other senses become unusually acute—uncomfortably sensible—and you feel a tingling which shoots like an electric shock down your limbs till it voids itself through the extremities. You may stand in the burning sunshine without being conscious of heat, and every sharp pain is instantly dulled. Your cautiousness and your reflective organs are painfully stimulated; you fear everything and everybody, even the man who shared the cup with you, and the servant who prepared it; you suspect treachery everywhere, and in the simplest action detect objects the most complexly villainous. Your thoughts become wild and incoherent, your fancy runs frantic. If you happen to exceed a little, the confusion of your ideas the disorder of your imagination will become intense. I recollect on one occasion being persuaded that my leg was revolving upon its knee as an axis, and could distinctly feel as well as hear it strike against and pass through the shoulder each revolution. Any one may make you suffer agony by simply remarking that a particular limb must be in great pain, and you catch at every hint thrown out to you, nurse it and cherish it with a fixed and morbid eagerness that savors strongly of insanity. This state is a very dangerous one, especially to a novice; madness and catalepsy being by no means uncommon terminations to it. If an assembly are under the influence of the drug, and a single individual happen to cough or laugh, the rest, no matter how many, are sure to follow his example.