

ing the position of the patient, by turpentine stupes, and by cupping the chest when the lungs are the organs involved. A cotton jacket neatly made and applied, is very useful under these circumstances. Hemorrhages from the bowels are treated with opium and acetate of lead. In order to stimulate the circulation, whiskey is given early in the history of those cases in which high temperature marks the reception of a full supply of the typhoid poison, and the advent of the initial symptoms of the typhoid state are carefully looked for even in those patients in whom the mild character of the symptoms does not seem to call for stimulation. Those patients who have been habitual free consumers of alcohol require the largest amounts of this drug during typhoid fever. It is important, whenever practicable, to suspend the medicine, as well as the food, for one five-hour interval in the twenty-four in order to avoid overtaxing the stomach.

#### EPISCOPAL HOSPITAL.

Dr. Frederick P. Henry, in treating the cases in his wards, seeks to control diarrhea and allay its attendant peristalsis; to subdue nervous excitement, and to keep the temperature within moderate bounds. To accomplish these ends, the nutrition, stimulation, and medication of the patient receive the most careful attention. While the fever lasts, the diet is altogether liquid, and consists of milk with lime water, and animal broths. In giving these substances he endeavors to proportion their amount to the patient's digestive powers, for, to quote the language of Collie, without fully accepting it, "pints of milk and eggs in the stomach or bowels undigested are about as useful there as a cannon ball." When convalescence begins and farinaceous foods are first administered, a slight rise of temperature is the rule. This does not contra-indicate their continued employment, but may be regarded as physiological.

Stimulants are not given as a matter of routine, but only *pro re nata*. It is seldom that more than six ounces of whiskey are given *per diem*, and a certain number of mild cases receive no alcohol whatever. When diarrhea is obstinate, port wine is substituted for whiskey. Heroic measures have never been in vogue at this hospital, and, therefore, an attitude of "masterly inactivity" was preserved during the period of the cold bath craze. A more gradual, and, therefore, a more physiological effect, certainly one more soothing to the nervous system, is obtained by repeated sponging with tepid water. The latter method may be compared to a hint; the former to a denial, and in dealing with men's bodies as with their minds, suggestion, so to speak, is better than contradiction.

Some ten years ago, quinine was given in large amount—gr. xv to xx in the course of an hour—for its antipyretic effect, but this method was soon abandoned, and for several years the doses of this

drug have not exceeded gr. xij *per diem*. To this extent it has been, until quite recently, administered as a matter of routine. Antipyrin and antifebrin have been thoroughly tested, and the opinion with reference to them is that they should be used with caution and reserved for emergencies of hyperpyrexia. The rapid descent of temperature produced by these remarkable agents has been, in rare instances, attended with a somewhat alarming condition of collapse. Fifteen grains of antipyrin given in three doses in the course of a half hour are, as a rule, sufficient to produce a decided effect, and Dr. Henry possesses a temperature chart, which shows that, on several occasions, five grains of antifebrin have caused a defervescence of from 4.5° to 5° F. In another chart a fall of nearly 6° (from 103.6° to 98°) was affected by the same dose. A decided impression upon the temperature has often been made by doses of 2.5 grains.

The benefits to be derived from turpentine are problematical, which is not to be wondered at, when it is recalled that the gastric mucosa is always in a hyperemic or catarrhal condition, and has been more than once observed to be the seat of the specific typhoid deposit and ulceration. Accordingly this drug is but little used. Opium suppositories are mainly relied on to check excessive diarrhea and allay peristalsis, and, when they prove insufficient, astringents, such as acetate of lead and gallic acid, are given *per os*; a moderate diarrhea is never interfered with. By moderate, as here employed, is understood from three to six gruel or mush-like evacuations in the twenty-four hours. The same drugs that are used to control diarrhea are, with the addition of ergot administered in case of intestinal hemorrhage. When tympany is great, powdered charcoal and enemata of tepid water have been found of decided benefit.

The treatment outlined above may be described as symptomatic and expectant. It is, in no sense of the word, specific. The latter adjective may be applied, with propriety, to measures which have as their object, the shortening of the course of the disease, or the mitigation of its severity, and which are addressed to the specific intestinal lesions. Such measures have not been neglected in the Episcopal Hospital. Nitrate of silver, carbolic acid and iodine, and Labarraque's solution have been systematically tested, but Dr. Henry believes them to be, one and all, inferior to thymol. He has given his experience with this drug in a recent contribution to the *Medical News* (Sept. 3, 1887), to which the reader is referred, and, since that time, he has received confirmation of his statements from several sources. "The favorable effect of the drug was evinced by a steady descent of the temperature, by a gradual diminution in the daily number of stools, by the absence of mental excitement, and, most conspicuously, by