

TREATMENT RECONSIDERED.

When the theory of a disease is correct, it supports, and is supported by the practice. The most conclusive evidence of the correctness of the premises here set forth, is in the efficacy of the practice they indicate—which is *to rouse the energy of the sympathetic nerves—to restore the secretions and to remove congestions*. These are the primary and cardinal indications in the cure of Cholera.

In the animal and machinery of man we perceive a system of causes and effects so mutually connected and mutually dependent that we cannot understand the operation of a single isolated part without reference to the whole. So in this disease, and in fulfilling the indications of cure, all must be viewed *relatively*, as cause and effect—for no one indication can be fulfilled and a cure performed without affecting all—and the different indications should be fulfilled simultaneously.

The object of *bleeding* is to prevent or remove congestion or in other words to increase the power of the heart over the circulating blood. The principle is plain. By diminishing the body to be moved the *relative* power of the mover is increased. It is apparent then, that bleeding is necessary, not only for the plethoric and robust, but also for the aged and infirm. The feeble and ineffectual efforts of the heart must be assisted by abstracting a portion of that fluid which clogs and impedes its motion. It is true the aged and infirm—the debilitated emigrant will not bear—neither do they require so large bleeding as patients of an opposite description. But the principle—the object to be attained is the same, which should be born in mind and abstract such a quantity as will enable us to excite a more vigorous action of the heart, by the use of pure stimulants, at thus the congested vessels will be unloaded.

We have said that the distress at the pit of the stomach, uniformly present before or at the time the patient is taken down, strongly indicates the necessity of bleeding. This sensation is generally in the situation of the semilunar ganglion and may be considered strictly a nervous affection. But if the nerves are thus injured, a corresponding diminution in the action of the heart, and consequent congestions may be expected as well as an entire failure in the function of the secretory glands—but should the glands partially maintain their wonted secretions, before they could sufficiently purify the blood, the action of the heart would be so impaired that congestions would ensue. The precept to draw blood until it flows “a free stream,” is intended for that advanced stage of the disease in which blood is procured with difficulty. It not-unfrequently