

Ordered fusel oil, five drops in a drachm of wine, three times daily, immediately after each meal.

Sept. 2. Cough has diminished since taking oil; is much more comfortable; experiences no inconvenience from cough.

Oct. 8. Weighed yesterday 109 pounds, having gained seven pounds since entrance.

Dr. C. E. Ware reported a gain of ten pounds of flesh in a patient, in eight weeks, under the use of *palliatives* merely; the case being one of phthisis, and aggravated also. In three cases in which Dr. W. had used the fusel oil, it was borne well as far as the dose of eight drops; there was no perceptible effect from its use; death took place in each of the cases. Few patients can bear large doses, in Dr. W.'s experience; he now has one who takes fifty drops, *ter die*; and another who takes thirty drops as often; he has never observed pain in the bowels from the use of this medicine.

Dr. Gray asked if Dr. Storer's patients at the hospital were *not better fed and cared for*, while there, than previously; and if this should not enter somewhat into the case as an element in the causation of increase of flesh, &c.?

Dr. Minot, who had charge of one of the above patients, previously to his entrance at the hospital, said that his *cleanliness* was vastly improved by the change; also, that at his home, the *ventilation* was excessively bad; his food had, probably, always been sufficient.

Dr. Gray said he had tried the fusel oil in one instance, but it proved so disgusting to the patient that it was discontinued.

Dr. Hayward, Sen., thought that Dr. Storer's cases must be received with a degree of caution; the change in comfort and nutrition the patients experienced at the hospital is certainly an element of importance in the treatment. To test any medicine fairly, the patients must be kept in the same hygienic condition, continuously, during its trial.

Dr. Storer said he did not wish to avow his faith in the fusel oil; nothing else was taken, however, and it certainly had a marked sedative action.

Dr. Jackson remarked that phthisical patients do not, usually, improve at the Hospital, but the reverse; he considers the results in Dr. Storer's cases as very striking, under the circumstances.—*Boston Society for Medical Improvement.*

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*On Chronic Rheumatic Arthritis.*—Mr. Canton stated that he had brought this subject under the notice of the Fellows of the Society, in consequence of the frequency of the occurrence of the disease, its intractable nature, and its being also one which was alike interesting to the surgeon and physician. This obstinate malady invades both the small and large articulations, and equally may affect those of the fingers and toes, or of the knee or hip, inducing in them the most unsightly deformity, and permanently impairing their functions; so that the power of prehension is lessened or lost, and locomotion is perverted or prevented. The joints of the lower jaw may experience the attack, when discordance of speech ensues, and mastication of food becomes difficult. The spinal articulations may suffer, and the body become irremediably contorted, whilst internal organs are thereby secondarily and often seriously affected. Exostoses very commonly spring forth from the joint-ends of bone; cartilaginous may lie, in large numbers, free in the articulation; whilst the neighboring tendons, enveloping ligaments, and other adjoining fibrous textures, are more or less encroached upon by ossific deposits, all of which must, in their progress of formation, press injuriously upon the nervous filaments in their locality, and