

cles and venereal warts [which last Dr. W. apparently considers syphilitic.—Ed.] may provoke irritation. Pruritus senilis is often associated with general cutaneous hyperæsthesia. Klob says there are little elevations of the skin, like goose flesh, consisting of growths analogous to tubercular formations, and giving rise to violent itching. These cases are grave. Some are amenable to the bromides used locally as well as internally. Arsenic and cod-liver oil are also indicated.

All forms of pruritus vulvæ are subject to periodical exacerbations. Some patients suffer only at night, after becoming warm in bed, experiencing comparative freedom during the day. All who menstruate are conscious of aggravation at that time. Stimulants, as a rule, exert an injurious effect. Sedentary occupations, piles, and hepatic disorders aggravate pruritus.

In the treatment of *Pruritus Vulvæ*, Dr. Wiltshire says that the first thing is to find, if possible, the cause. Extreme cleanliness must be enjoined. Demulcent washes are better than soap; unless carbolic or coal-tar soap be used; and usually even these are inadmissible. Almond meal, strong bran-water, decoction of rice, marsh-mallow, slippery elm, or fine oatmeal are suitable, especially the first, which, if pure, yields during use a marked odor of hydrocyanic acid and appears to soothe materially. When the pruritus is due to animal parasites, ointment of white precipitate, sulphur, or stavesacre speedily cures by destroying the insects and their ova. If nits persist about the pubic hairs, a lotion containing bichloride of mercury and acetic acid will dissolve them. Ascarides are destroyed by a carbolic lotion (1 to 60): general treatment, however, should be used, as iron, quinine, cod-liver oil, together with enemata of hamamelis, lime water, iron, etc.

The vegetable parasites are treated by washes of borax, boracic acid, sulphurous acid, etc. Parasiticide lotions are certainly the most useful in the majority of cases, which points towards vegetable organisms as the commonest cause of the pruritus. The borax lotion should be of the strength of a drachm to five ounces of warm water, or stronger; hydrocyanic acid, say 3 j of the dilute acid; to water 3 x, or morphia (2 gr.), atropia ($\frac{1}{2}$ gr.), aconitia ($\frac{1}{2}$ gr.) or veratria ($\frac{1}{2}$ gr.) to the same amount. Infusion of tobacco (half an ounce to the pint) alone relieves some cases, and forms a good vehicle for borax or boracic acid. It is not well to use glycerin with the borax, as a rule, as it is apt, owing to its affinity for water, to aggravate the irritation. Strong solution of poppy is a good vehicle for borax. Chloral frequently does not suit. Ice suits some, very hot water others. In some cases ether spray might be tried. Ointments, if used, should be of non-rancid fats or cosmoline. Two drachms of iodine [tincture?] in two ounces of elder-flower water sometimes answers. Electricity may afford relief in neurosial cases. Probably faradism would be the preferable form.

In simple vulvitis, borax or carbolic acid lotions relieve. An ointment of calomel, or bismuth is also good. Malignant affections of the parts call for ablation, but where this is not practicable sedative applications (conium, opium, belladonna) alone are often all that we can employ.

Of course urethral carbuncles, urethritis, vaginitis, etc., should receive thorough treatment. When there is congestion with loading of the portal circulation a mercurial and saline purge is helpful. When eczema with fissure is present, a poultice made of the clot formed by adding two drachms of lead-water to ten ounces of new milk is most useful. Diabetes must of course be combated, and frequent ablutions with borax washes form a good local treatment. In wakefulness from diabetic pruritus, codia in one-grain doses in pill is often useful. The bromides are also useful.

Pregnant women often suffer terribly. When *oidium albicans* is present, sulphurous acid gives relief. A tablespoonful should be freshly mixed with half a pint of warm water, barley-water, or almond emulsion for each application. Chloroform locally, in liniment, ointment, lotion, or vapor, answers well occasionally; bichloride of mercury, gr. iv, ad 3 viij mist. amygdalæ, gives relief in some cases. It should not be used when there is abrasion. Section of the pudic nerve has been suggested in desperate cases, but has never been practised.—*Philadelphia Medical Times*.

NEURO-DYNAMIC MEDICINE.

Dr. B. O. Kinnear contributes an interesting and valuable article to the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, on Dr. Chapman's system of neuro-dynamic medicine. This system consists in the theory that ice in disease, used properly, in rubber bags of the right length and width, over the spinal and sympathetic centres, dilates the arterioles controlled by such centres, and arrests at the same time hypersecretion from the glandular system, checks spasmodic and irregular muscular movements of voluntary and involuntary muscles, and arrests hypernutrition by its sedative action upon trophic centres. Heat used likewise acts in an exactly opposite manner. He has been able to relieve the pain of neuralgia, in some cases by ice and others by heat; as quickly and in many instances more rapidly than by hypodermic injections of morphia. Besides the swift relief afforded, this method of treatment has the additional advantages of not producing nausea, vomiting, headache or any other bad symptoms. In a case of agonizing pain from passage of gall stones, ice was applied over dorso lumbar region, and in three minutes all pain and tenderness had disappeared, whereas in previous attacks morphia had been wholly inadequate to relieve the suffering. In wind colic, applied over the same region, it will give immediate relief. It will relieve bilious attacks and sick headache