

I entertain no doubt of the great value of iodine in this practice. It appears to check the deepening and developing of the pustules, to prevent their confluence, and to lessen materially the cutaneous inflammation in the inter-pustular spaces. Though last not least, by stopping the deepening of the pustules it prevents subsequent disfigurement by pock-marks.

Extract from a note from P. W. MACLAGAN, M.D., Surgeon, XXth Regt.

I have employed the tincture of iodine in four cases of small pox, one of them semi-confluent, the others confluent and hemorrhagic. One which you saw terminated fatally, but the poor man felt great relief from the application, and earnestly begged its repetition more than once.

The others are decidedly less deeply marked than might have been expected. Indeed, the superficial traces which remain will, I doubt not, disappear entirely. One of my patients complained a good deal of the smarting, for an hour or two after the iodine was applied; but the remainder made mention only of the smell of it—rather I suspect the irritation of the mucous membrane produced by the vapor.

*From GEORGE W. CAMPBELL, A.M., M.D., Professor of Surgery,
McGill College.*

Within the last two months I have tried iodine as an ectrotic in small pox, in the Montreal General Hospital, in four cases; two of them severe cases of confluent small pox, in which the face and eyelids, on the second day of the eruption, were greatly swollen, and entirely covered with incipient pustules. The tincture used was composed of a drachm of iodine to the ounce of alcohol, a few grains iodid. potasse being added to dissolve the iodine. The application was repeated once a day for four or five successive days. No suppuration occurred on the face, and when the mask formed by the iodine scaled off, there was no pitting, and the face presented a marked contrast to the skin on the limbs and body being perfectly smooth and healed over, long before the scabs had separated in other parts. In neither of the above cases did the constitutional symptoms correspond with the severity of the eruption. There was no secondary fever and I have no doubt the disease was greatly modified by the ectrotic treatment. In conclusion, I would remark, that I think the strong tincture of iodine employed more effectual and less painful than the ordinary tincture.

From A. HALL, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica, McGill College.

I have employed tincture of iodine freely both in private and Hospital practice, and from the general good results which I have witnessed following its timely application, I deem it an essential part of the treatment in that complaint. Of the various ectrotics which have been suggested, I consider it incomparably the best.

Shortly after you first suggested its use, I admitted into my wards at the Montreal General Hospital, a young woman, laboring under a severe attack of variola discreta. Doubting the efficacy of the tincture, but desirous of testing its value, I ordered its application to the left side of the face, neck and arms. On recovery, these parts presented scarcely the appearance of a cicatrix, while the collateral portions were severely