

"assurance doubly sure," and to prevent any recurrence—a plan which I have always considered good, and recommend.

I have under observation patients who were treated with phytolacca successfully eleven years ago, and, so far, the cures are permanent.

In one case only has there been any return of the trouble, and that was due to the patient considering herself cured and stopping treatment too early.

It is very important, I think, to always use a tonic, when giving an alterative, and I never omit it.

I have, in a few instances where there was difficulty in getting the patient to take the separate prescriptions regularly for a long time, combined the phytolacca with the prescription containing the dialyzed iron, apparently with as good results, but prefer to give them singly, and generally do.

### THE TREATMENT OF BRONCHITIS.

This little boy, ten years of age, comes to us with a history of repeated colds. The present attack has lasted for two weeks, and is accompanied with cough and expectoration. It is important, where there is a history of repeated attacks of cough to examine with especial care the apices of the lungs, and observe whether or not there is percussion resonance above the clavicles. One of the most important signs of consumptive disease, whether of the tubercular or of the chronic pneumonic variety, is lack of resonance above one or other clavicle. In the present case the resonance above the clavicles is normal. On auscultation, I find mucous and sonorous râles. We have here a case of bronchitis tending to become chronic. This, in its origin, was acute; as a result of neglect, it has not been cured, but fresh attacks have supervened.

In the treatment of acute bronchitis, one of the first principles is to keep the patient in a warm room with a moist atmosphere. If the room be heated by a stove, a pan of water should be kept constantly boiling upon it. If the room be heated by a furnace, a wet towel should be hung in front of the register, with the lower portion dipping into a pan of water. The child should be kept in this room night and day. There is no principle in the treatment of bronchitis which is so important as this. If this be attended to, expectorants may be discarded. If this precaution be not observed, ipecac and its congeners are comparatively useless, and, in fact, their utility in any event is doubtful.

The indications in the treatment of acute bronchitis are to allay the fever, if present, and to soothe the irritated mucous membrane. The object is not to stop the cough, but only that portion which is useless. To soothe the mucous membrane and to allay nervous irritability, the remedy is opium. If there be fever, a small quantity of aconite may be given, or even a minute dose of antimony, which is better than ipecac. As a rule, it is not necessary to give much medicine during

the acute stage, provided the hygienic treatment is carried out. We shall give this child three grains of Dover's powder to be taken at bedtime. During the day he will receive a small quantity of potassium citrate with a little syrup of lemon. When the disease shows a tendency to become chronic, we must give something that will invigorate the mucous membrane and enable it to throw off the disease. The best remedy for this purpose is cod-liver oil. In this case, I should order a teaspoonful of emulsion of cod-liver oil with lime, to be taken half an hour after each meal. It would be of service to have the chest rubbed with a stimulating liniment. The ammonia and sweet-oil liniment will answer as well as anything. This may be applied three times a day, and if the child is hoarse at bedtime, a piece of flannel, on which some of the liniment is spread, may be applied to the front of the chest. The most important element, and the one to be insisted on most strongly, is that the child shall be kept in a warm room.—*Philadelphia Polyclinic.*

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## COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

In answer to very many enquiries we beg to say, that the provisions of the proposed new Medical Act are not intended to come into effect till after January 1st, 1888,—that portion which refers to the alteration in the election of Governors will not, of course, take effect till a new Board requires election, that is, not till the summer of 1889.

### CREDIT WHERE DUE.

In the *Record* for November three articles appear, copied from the *Journal of Reconstruction* of New York, and without credit being given to