

not prove a success in my hands, but this only tends to demonstrate the existence of a peculiar diabetic toxine, which has to be combated by other means. This toxine, in my opinion, is particularly apt to attack the nervous matter, which in turn gives rise to the well-known disturbance of metabolism in diabetes—namely, preventing the deposition of glycogen in the liver and muscles and causing its discharge by the kidneys in the form of grape sugar. The irritation of the vaso-motor centers, to which may be attributed all the symptoms of diabetes, seems to be caused by this toxine. It is plainly the physician's duty to eliminate the toxic influences, for he thereby relieves the irritation of the nervous centers. However, he must be most careful in the selection of the proper remedy and in the administration of its indicated dose. The failures in diabetic therapy have to be ascribed either to a wrong medicine or its improper administration, or to both. The ideal antidiabetic drug should not only exert distinct germicidal and antiseptic powers, but should be a powerful alterative. At the same time, the system should not become weakened and emaciated by its prolonged administration. On the contrary, the ideal diabetic remedy should afford great tonic properties.

Bichloride of mercury and *auri et sodii chloridum*, which latter is so much lauded of late by a Chicago physician, possess some of these desiderata, but neither proved of any success in my hands in the treatment of diabetes mellitus. This non-success is due to three factors :

(a) The specific toxine of diabetes is affected only by a specific antiseptic.

(b) Bichloride of mercury or *auri et sodii chloridum*, when pushed to their physiological tolerance, do not effect the decline of the glycosuria.

(c) Bichloride of mercury, as well as chloride of gold and sodium, when administered for any length of time and in larger doses, reduce the oxidizing power of the red blood cells, thereby weakening the system and producing rapid emaciation.

The remedy answering all the demands for an ideal antidiabetic I find in a combination of bromide of gold with bromide of arsenic, called by its makers "*arsenauro*." This preparation undoubtedly exerts a specific influence upon the bacteria and the toxine of diabetes mellitus, which is elucidated by the following four cases :

CASE I.—Mr. C. L., aged fifty, American, clerk, consulted me on June 8, 1898. Family history was negative.