

Clinical Notes.

Short Notes on Three Cases of Poisoning.*

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Poisoning by Asphalt.—On September 7th, 1892, two children of Mrs. G——, aged 2 and 4 respectively, swallowed some asphalt which they had collected from Yonge Street, then in the process of being paved with asphalt. When first seen, at 9 p.m., they had been purging and vomiting for a considerable time. Some of the vomited matter examined contained lumps of a black substance, having the appearance and smell of coal tar. The pulse was small and rapid, 150 and 160 in the elder and younger respectively. Pupils dilated. Faces pale. No cyanosis. Children showed a decided inclination to sleep. A tablespoonful of castor oil was administered to each of them; heat applied by hot bottles, and small doses of brandy and water given frequently. A good recovery followed, although the children exhibited some muscular weakness for a few days subsequently. Professor Ellis tells me that the crude asphalt is mixed with heavy oils, the refuse of the refinery of coal oil; and that the symptoms of poisoning in this case were probably due to these, rather than to the asphalt itself.

Poisoning by Tinct. of Iodine.—On the night of June 6th, 1893, W. E——, a strong young man about 30 years of age, took by mistake, for tinct. of rhubarb, about one ounce of tinct. of iodine. He became aware, by the burning of the mouth and fauces, that he had made a mistake, and ran bareheaded to my house in great alarm, carrying the bottle in his hand. Apomorphia, gr. $\frac{1}{10}$, was at once injected, and a couple of handfuls of flour stirred into a tumblerful of warm water was given by the mouth. In about one minute the most violent emesis occurred, the vomited matter being of the well-known blue color of the starch and iodine reaction. More starch and water was administered. The vomiting, which continued for nearly an hour, left him in a very exhausted condition, so that he had to be conveyed home in a cab. Heat was applied to his extremities and a sinapism to the epigastric region. Next day, although very weak and confined to bed, he showed no bad symptoms, was able to take light food, and the day after was quite well.

Poisoning by Sugar of Lead.—On the night of December 18th, 1894, Mrs. L——, a woman of about 50 years of age, drank, by

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