

the early employment of a few small doses of calomel have a favorable influence over the course of typhoid. It is not unlikely that after the breaking-down of the lymph structures, its action may help in preventing the development of a secondary infection, but more than this. I think few would claim for it.

THE ANTIPYRETIC TREATMENT.

One of the most noticeable changes in the method of treating typhoid during the past few years is the constantly lessening use made of antipyretic drugs. Ten or fifteen years ago it was the rule, even in hospitals, to use these drugs very freely. Many here may remember the time when it was a common practice to give quinine in very large doses—20 to 10 grains. Following this we have the slavish employment of the synthetic alkaloids, from antipyrine down to the most recent new antipyretic advertised by the manufacturing chemist. Antipyrine, phenacetine and lactophenine are the drugs of this class that are the most frequently employed at present, but they are rarely resorted to in the very full doses that was formerly the practice. To give large doses of any of these to reduce the fever of typhoid is a practice which is fraught with danger, without any compensating advantage whatever. Guaiacol applied externally quickly reduces temperature, but it is open to the same objection as the synthetic alkaloids, inducing, when effective as an antipyretic, marked nervous disturbance, and so, consequently, lessening the resisting powers of the patient.

I will now refer to the treatment of typhoid by systematic cold bathing according to the method of Brand. This method has now been extensively employed for many years in Germany, France, Australia, and on this continent, and with such universally favorable results that it is generally allowed, even by those who do not carry it out in practice, to be the most effective method at present known.

The great superiority of the Brand over other methods of treating typhoid has been so conclusively proven that it seems almost unnecessary to add anything further to the long list of series of cases that have been treated in this way. What is particularly conclusive about the evidence of the value of this treatment is the uniformly favorable results obtained in different parts of the world. "The mortality at the Red Cross Hospital at Lyons amounted to 7.3 per cent., that of Dr. Hare, in the Brisbane Hospital, in Queensland, 7.84 per cent.; that of Osler, in the Johns Hopkins Hospital, to 7.8 per cent.; that at the German Hospital in Philadelphia, under Wilson and his colleagues, to 7.8 per cent. These results are most impressive; they show that in the method of Brand, systematically carried out and applied to successive cases, as they present themselves, we have the means of saving, out of every hundred cases of