

far favorable. We having been using it for the past three months and find the action tolerably constant. A dose of eight grains (in warm water or in spirits and water) will usually reduce the temperature from three to six degrees. There is sweating, often profuse, but not more than after thallin and antipyrin. In the twenty-five cases in which it has been given in my wards, it has failed three times, two cases of pneumonia and one of peritonitis. It does not disturb the stomach, has not once caused vomiting, and even where the temperature has fallen seven degrees in three hours there have not been symptoms of collapse. Cyanosis, noted by some, has not occurred. It is a cheap drug; Merck's, which we have used, is only 60c. an ounce, while thallin is 75c. and antipyrin \$1.50.

Strophanthus, the new heart toxic, introduced by Professor Fraser of Edinburgh, is at last in the market, and can be obtained in the form of tincture. A supply of the seeds has arrived from the African Lakes Company. Two London houses cornered the market and ran up the price of the seeds from 80s. to 160s. per lb. Burroughs & Wellcome's tincture can be obtained here at 75c. an ounce, and Parke, Davis & Co. will soon have an ample stock. Reports indicate that this is the most active heart tonic yet discovered, more powerful than digitalis, and more rapid in its action. Let us be contented if it turns out to be as good as the priceless foxglove. I have not yet been astonished by the promptness of its action, but we are using it tentatively, and may not have reached, with the tincture, the effective dose.

In the medical wards of the Philadelphia Hospital an odd sight may now be daily witnessed. The resident physician, with large rubber bag full of gas, approaches the bed of a phthisical patient, who at once assumes the lateral decubitus, exposes the anus, when from two to three quarts of the gas are slowly injected into the bowel. This is the new treatment of phthisis, introduced by Bergeon of Lyons, and already loudly vaunted. The principle is an old one, announced many years ago by Claude Bernard, who found that gases injected *per rectum* were absorbed and exhaled by the lungs. Bergeon has applied this to the treatment of pulmonary diseases, and finds that with the sulphuretted hydrogen—the best gas to use—many cases of phthisis are greatly relieved; the pulse is lowered, the temperature falls, the expectoration is lessened, and the night sweats are checked. Bergeon advises the use of carbonic acid passed through the natural sulphur waters or through a tube containing the sulphuret