

drainage, if there is a large pocket, or simply to pack with moist gauze where this is small.

Divided tendons and nerves are sutured with fine catgut, and many excellent results follow. Ether is given in these cases, as a rule, for before operating it is often impossible to know how extensive a wound must be made. A heavy dressing is applied, and a splint to keep the parts at rest in extension or flexion, as the case requires.

Cellulitis has developed while the patient was under treatment very rarely, in only two cases in three months; but a small number apply for treatment with cellulitis already well marked. The history in these cases almost always is, "I didn't think it would amount to anything, and went to the druggist, who put this bit of plaster on." Too much cannot be said against applying strips of plaster to fresh wounds. If a bandage is not needed, we put a small compress of gauze over the wound, and hold this in place by means of plaster. If a cellulitis is just starting, and there is very little tension, or no particular point of pain, the original wound is opened, thoroughly washed with 1:1000 bichloride solution, and the parts then wrapped in a large compress wrung out in 1:40 carbolic acid, a piece of rubber tissue placed over this, and a bandage applied, leaving one end open so that the patient can, from time to time, pour on a small amount of the carbolic solution. The carbolic solution is preferred to bichloride, as the latter, applied as a wet compress over a large surface, is very apt to cause an eczema. From the carbolic acid solution I have seen three cases in three months in which large blebs formed, and the epidermis was loosened from a large part of the hand, but this accident is very rare. For women and children 1:60 carbolic solution is used. If the cellulitis has gone further, and there is evidence of pus, or there is much tension, incisions are freely made. Where possible, counter-openings are made, and a small rubber drain inserted. The treatment of cellulitis is considered of the greatest importance, and free and early incisions are demanded in the interest of the patients. We never wait for distinct fluctuation, or "pointing."

In the treatment of this trouble cocaine is of the greatest value, and, when properly used, always gives admirable results—that is, injected *into* the skin (*not* beneath it) at the point of incision, or beneath the skin on the proximal side of the point to be incised. For example, to open an abscess on the palmar surface of the distal phalanx, inject about ten or fifteen minims *deeply* into the middle of the palmar surface of the proximal phalanx; then wait two or three minutes before making the incision. These points in the use of cocaine were demonstrated to me by Dr. R. J. Hall.

In one case, five minutes after the injection of fifteen minims of cocaine about the elbow, the patient vomited freely, and three or four others have complained of nausea or faintness after the use of from fifteen to twenty minims. As many patients faint when they first come to the dispensary, either

from looking at their own wounds or those of others, it is not easy to know how much effect cocaine had in producing the faintness in these cases.

When wounds are granulating, balsam of Peru on strips of gauze is found to be very valuable in stimulating granulations. Nitrate of silver is sometimes, with advantage, alternated with this. If there is an offensive odor from a sloughing wound balsam will speedily destroy it.

Particular attention is required to prevent granulations from becoming excessive, and when they tend to grow above the cicatricial edge they are removed with a pair of curved scissors, which can be done without causing pain. This is much better than attempting to keep them down with caustics. The bleeding is stopped by pressure, and the ulcer then strapped, if the skin about it is healthy, or small pieces of rubber tissue are placed across the wound, and held in position by a dry compress and bandage. For this purpose rubber tissue is nearly as good as green protective, and much cheaper.

Burns are treated first with iodoform-ointment (twelve and a half per cent. of iodoform), if not too extensive (as on hand and wrist), later with an ointment of starch 25 parts, oxide of zinc 25 parts, salicylic acid 3 parts, and cosmoline 50 parts. Some cases do better under powdered subnitrate of bismuth.

Sprains are treated at first with iodoform-ointment, spread on gauze, which is covered with common cotton, firmly and smoothly applied. If at the wrist, a dorsal splint is used. Iodoform certainly relieves pain in these cases very much. The part is kept at rest about four days, and then, if pain persists, or there is much effusion, Paquelin's cautery is lightly applied, and the part bandaged after rubbing on a little vaseline. The cautery is used at a dull red heat, and applied so as produce a uniform redness over the joint, and should leave almost no scar. Iodine ointment (U. S. P.) is used sometimes, as a counter-irritant, and to hasten absorption. The tincture is rarely used, as it soon produces a hard, thick layer, so that the next application produces no effects on the parts beneath. We find the actual cautery, as used above, produces excellent results in strains of the back, old contusions, and, especially, in teno-synovitis crepitans of the extensors of the hand when combined with rest.

Of ulcers of the leg many are syphilitic, and in these constitutional treatment is the chief measure in producing a cure. In chronic, indolent, and varicose ulcers every effort is made to promptly place the ulcer in a healthy condition. If the granulations are pale, flabby, and above the surface, they are cut down with scissors and the ulcer strapped for a few days with yellow adhesive plaster. If the base of the ulcer is below the level of the surface of the skin, presenting the "mucous appearance," it is scraped with a sharp spoon and dressed with balsam of Peru. If the skin about the