

Part 2 -- Selections.

MANGANESE IN ANÆMIC AND OTHER AFFECTIONS.

BY M. HANNON.

Manganese and iron are almost constantly found united in the same minerals, and can be separated with difficulty. Again, iron is not always efficacious in chlorosis, and fails in curing anæmia arising from cancers, from tubercles, from prolonged and abundant suppuration, &c. In these cases, it cannot be the iron that is deficient in the blood, but some other ingredient; and it is probable that iron is united to manganese in the blood; and that cases of anæmia, unsuccessfully treated by iron, might be cured by manganese. M. Hannon first tried the effects of this agent on himself. He took at first a grain of the carbonate of manganese daily, increasing the dose to four grains by the end of the first week, and to eight grains by the end of the second. At the end of a fortnight, he experienced symptoms of plethora; the appetite increased, the pulse became stronger, and the color of the interior of the eyelids was heightened. He then administered manganese to some anæmic patients; some of them experienced nausea for two or three days, after which the medicine was tolerated. In a short time its beneficial effects became manifest in the increase of color, in the fuller and more frequent pulse, in the energetic movements, and general improvement of the functions.

The presence of manganese in the blood was discovered by M. Millon, who presented a memoir on the subject to the Académie des Sciences of Paris. His observations have been confirmed by M. Hannon.

[Several illustrative cases are given. The first mentioned is one of extreme chlorosis, in which the patient was sent into country air, and took iron for some time, without benefit. We are told that]

The patient was then directed to take one of the following pills daily before breakfast, and another before dinner: Extract of cinchona, carbonate of manganese, of each a drachm. Mix and divide into four-grain pills. After she had used these pills for a fortnight, the cheeks and conjunctivæ regained their color, and the swelling of the feet disappeared.—The following pills were then ordered. Sulphate of manganese, carbonate of soda, of each a drachm; fresh charcoal, honey, of each a sufficient quan-