

proved and quite free from pain. No spasms to-day, continue mixture and wine.

8th. Signs of further amendment to-day, muscles of the neck beginning to relax; can bring the head a little forward.

9th. Pulse 118, feeble. Not so well to-day, neck seems to have returned to its former rigidity. Complains of pain in the forehead. To have six leeches to the temples. Continue mixture and wine.

10th. Pulse 100. Feels much better, the leeching gave almost immediate relief; neck a good deal relaxed.

12th. Pulse 84, full. Neck quite flexible, can swallow any kind of food freely; appetite very good. Omit mixture and continue wine.

He continued to improve daily, without the slightest appearance of any return of the disease; and was discharged on the 27th, quite well and in good condition.

*Remarks.*—In the above case, many symptoms of much severity were exhibited upon admission, some of which seemed to obtain early relief by the cupping and use of the Indian Hemp. The power of swallowing having been soon restored, the system was well supported throughout by nourishment steadily administered, which circumstance, I have no doubt, played an important part towards the ultimate recovery; as persons suffering from this disease, when any abatement takes place appear unable to rally from protracted exhaustion. The tonic rigidity of the neck is a curious feature in this case, remaining unaltered four days after the cessation of general spasms. I consider that Indian Hemp appeared from the very outset to produce a most beneficial and decided effect. Although the system was brought fully under the influence of mercury, it did not appear to produce any particular alteration.

Montreal, June, 1853.

ART. IX.—*Severe Constrictive Disease of the Mitral Valve and Orifice, without a direct but with an indirect Mitral Murmur, non-persistent, and probably of Dynamic origin, with Remarks.* By B. P. HOWARD, M. D., L.R.C.S.E., Physician to Montreal General Hospital, and Montreal Dispensary; Demonstrator of Anatomy, McGill College.

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#### REMARKS.

I will make a few observations on some points in the above case which strike me as deserving of notice; and to begin with the most important, both on account of its unusualness and practical bearing on diagnosis:—

1. A systolic mitral murmur was heard on two different occasions, the 7th and 14th of Nov. respectively, and yet 13 days later, no murmur existed, although the heart's action was more excited than at the previ-