

Therapeutic Notes.

HOME-MADE MINERAL WATERS.

A writer in the *Medical Press and Circular* says: At my instigation, some of my medical friends have used the following mixture where the bitter saline purgative waters of Friedrichshall and Hunyadi Janos were indicated, with equal if not more satisfactory results in abdominal diseases, hepatic congestion, even attended with hæmorrhoids, plethora, etc.:

Sulphate of soda.....	3 drachms.
“ “ potassa.....	3 drachms.
“ “ magnesia.....	4 drachms.
Bicarbonate of soda.....	1 drachm.
“ “ potassa.....	1 scruple.
Water.....	20 ounces.
Muriatic acid.....	1 drachm.

Mix. The bottle is to be kept well corked, and in a cool place. A wineglassful the first thing every morning, in a tumbler of cold water. The addition of the muriatic acid answers a two-fold purpose: it saturates the mixture with carbonic acid gas, making it more palatable and the small quantities of chlorides it generates add to its efficacy in a surprising way. Sulphate of potassa is the best cholagogue in the saline shape, and invariably enters largely into all the natural waters of use in hepatic congestion. But all the natural waters contain more or less sulphate of lime (in common *par-lance*, plaster of Paris), which adds nothing to its efficacy, and is objectionable.

Again: in gouty and rheumatic diatheses, where an iodized alkaline aperient is indicated, the following may be prescribed, and will be found far more efficacious than any of the natural waters:

Dry sulphate of soda....	3 ounces.
“ “ potassa.....	6 drachms.
Bicarbonate of potassa....	2½ drachms.
Carbonate of lithia.....	½ drachm.
Iodide of potassium.....	½ drachm.

Mix. Dose, a teaspoonful the first thing in the morning in half a pint of tepid water.

If the patient prefer cold to tepid water, plain cold or aerated may be used.

In renal affections, where a course of the warm alkaline waters of Vichy or Carlsbad, or the cold ones of Vals, Jachingen, and

Marienbad is desired, we may use (as Dr. Wade suggests) dilute solutions of potassa and soda bicarbonate with citrate of lithia. Sir H. Page has found soft or distilled water of great service in the palliative treatment of renal affections, and either the one or the other should always be used in the preparation of the solutions. They may be taken warm, or charged with carbonic acid.

By adopting such measures as these, we can confer, in some measure, the boon of mineral waters on poor patients, which is now only enjoyed by the wealthy.

SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT OF STRYCHNIA POISONING BY THE HYPODERMIC INJECTION OF APO MORPHIA.—In the April number of the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*, Dr. R. Glisau, of Portland, Oregon, reports a case of strychnia poisoning, treated by apomorphia hypodermically. The symptoms were well marked and severe. It was impossible to give an emetic or use the stomach pump on account of the trismus. A third of a grain of muriate of apomorphia was injected, and vomiting commenced five minutes after. After the vomiting there was no recurrence of the general tetanic spasm, but an occasional contraction of a few muscles, when the patient was touched, moved, or disturbed.

Dr. Glisau has a prejudice against the use of apomorphia in narcotic poisoning, generally, and in ordinary forms of disease requiring emetic, because of the occasionally dangerous results where vomiting is not produced, but he believes it pre-eminently adapted to poisoning by strychnia on account of the two-fold action of *antagonizing the rigidity of the muscular system, and of promptly relieving the stomach of the unabsorbed portion of the poison.* He estimated that the patient took six grains of strychnia. Half an hour elapsed before he arrived. From his experience of strychnia poisoning, he is firmly convinced that death was chiefly prevented by the prompt action of the muriate of apomorphia.

LIQUOR ARSENICALES IN PRICKLY HEAT.—This remedy is highly recommended by a writer in the *Indian Medical Gazette*. He gives it in the usual doses.