

The third case occurred about five years since. L. S——, a female infant, apparently healthy at birth, had an attack of jaundice. (It may be here remarked that several other infants of this family suffered from the same disease.) The father, a man of intemperate habits, and broken down constitution, the mother, an American, of leucophlegmatic temperament. The scrofulous taint is strongly marked in all the children. At four months old enlargement of the head was noticed, and the case came under my care. The usual symptoms of the disease were present, the fontanelles open widely, frontal suture unclosed, great weight of the head, and very marked want of development of the lower extremities; convulsions occurred, and the child's eyes were persistently directed downwards, and constantly rolling from side to side; appetite not much impaired, but bowels much constipated. In this case calomel was largely used as a purgative, but in spite of its employment the disease advanced until the Iodide of Potassium was freely given. The favourable change that took place after its administration was very gradual; but none the less marked; the child in about nine months recovered perfectly from the disease, and is now healthy and strong. Even at this date the head is large for the age of the child, but intelligence is perfect and the lower extremities are well developed, not differing from other children in this respect.

The fourth case occurred last year: On the 10th July an infant was brought to me with every appearance of the disease. It lay moaning in its mother's lap, incessantly moving its head from side to side, and unwilling to be touched. The body was robust in this case, and apparently well nourished, but the enlargement of the head well marked; the parents had the scrofulous diathesis; the same loss of power over the lower extremities was noticed; age ten months. The eyes had a vacant idiotic look, and squinting existed to some extent. The same treatment was enforced, and the child brought to the surgery at intervals of six weeks. The last time the mother was here, in March, the infant had regained the power over his lower extremities, was running about and playing; and the face had assumed the appearance of returning intelligence; ossification had taken place, and the fontanelles were closed. The case, though very much improved, is still under treatment, and I have no doubt will terminate as those already given have done, in complete recovery.

I am aware that the treatment I have been endeavouring to lay down has been occasionally practised, but I do not think it has been patiently carried on for many months, as in the cases given; and I think I may with perfect justice claim the merit of being the first to carry it out to great extent in Canada. Of its advantages the cases given have spoken; by its use the effusion has disappeared, and strength has been imparted to the enfeebled body; as already stated, I have not met with an unsuccessful case; compared with those destructive means of mercury, the application of leeches, and the hazardous *dernier resort*, tapping,—I think it will stand out in relief as a rational mode of cure.