

## Selected Article.

### THE BRADSHAW LECTURE ON THE TREATMENT OF ENTERIC FEVER.\*—(*Continued.*)

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According to Dr. Dreschfeld, the good effects of the cold bath are readily seen. The pulse becomes slower and the tension of the artery is increased; the number of the respirations diminishes, the tongue becomes moist, and the appetite improves. The nervous system is especially relieved, the delirium disappears for a time, the patient becoming much calmer and the sleep more natural; while the diarrhea, when present, if not diminished after the first two or three baths have been given, is certainly not increased. The cold bath is contraindicated when the cardiac action is weak and irregular, the pulse intermittent, or cyanosis marked; as also with intestinal hemorrhage or perforation and in the case of old persons and young children. The chief drawbacks which appear to militate against the general adoption of the cold-bath treatment are the cumbersomeness which admittedly characterizes the procedure and the increased tendency to relapse which is observed to follow its employment. The former objection, having regard to the amount of labor involved in repeatedly placing the patient in the bath and subsequently removing him, usually proves to be well nigh insurmountable in private practice. In a hospital ward the objection has less weight, but the disinclination usually evinced by the patient and the prejudices of his relatives are factors which have to be reckoned with. So true is this that Osler, while continuing the use of the bath, says that he "prays for a method which, while equally life-saving, may prove to be, to put it mildly, less disagreeable." Although a rectal temperature of 102.2 degrees was taken by Brand as the determining point for the bath, to be repeated if necessary every three hours, with an immersion of from 15 to 25 minutes or more at a tempera-

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