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# A TONIC FORMULA.

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IN the NEW YORK MEDICAL JOURNAL for July 31, 1886, Professor Allard Memminger, of Charleston, S. C., published a short article on "Bright's Disease of the Kidneys successfully treated with Chloride of Sodium." The salt is given in doses of ten grains three times daily, the doses being increased by ten grains each day until they amount to fifty grains each. It is then diminished to sixty grains in the day and continued. I employed this treatment in a few cases, but did not meet with the full measure of success noted in four cases reported by Professor Memminger, although in some instances there was considerable improvement. The suggestion by Professor Memminger, however, and his theory of the mode of action of the sodium chloride, pointed to a possible deficiency, in certain cases of disease, in the saline constituents of the blood. Under this idea, I prepared a formula in which most of the important inorganic salts of the blood are represented, with an excess of sodium chloride and a small quantity of reduced iron, the various salts, except the sodium chloride, being in about the relative proportion in which they exist in the normal circulating fluid. I first used this preparation in the form of powder, giving ten grains three times daily, after eating. It was afterwards put in gelatine capsules, each containing five grains, but these absorbed moisture so that they would not keep well in warm or damp weather. The preparation is now, in the form of sugar-coated tablets, all under the name of saline and chalybeate tonic. I usually prescribe two tablets three times daily, after eating. In a few cases six tablets daily have produced some "fullness" of the head, when I have reduced the dose to one tablet three times daily.

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