

constitutional taint, are frequently as robust and well nourished at their birth, as those in more favourable circumstances. Further, many of the little patients brought to the Hospital, are the children of parents earning high wages, well fed and lodged, and who, in many instances, have previously paid as long as they were able, for medical advice. In these cases, as well as in private practice, and I speak not only from my own experience, but also from that of many experienced surgeons with whom I have discussed the subject, methodical application of simple remedies, and the assiduous removal of the morbid secretion, effect a rapid cure. I therefore conclude that the cases in which local blood-letting is requisite, are exceptional.

It is seldom necessary to interfere much by giving internal remedies. At this early age, as a general rule, the fewer drugs that the child is made to swallow, the better. Much more good may be done in most instances, by enforcing regularity and moderation in the times at which the child is put to the breast; a particular in which the lower orders are inconceivably injudicious; and by debarring the mother from the use of spirits or other stimulants by which the quality of the milk is so often vitiated. So long as the cornea is unaffected, and the child is moderately strong, it is quite unnecessary to give medicine unless it should be indicated by disorder of the bowels, or a loaded state of the tongue. In neglected cases, however, when the child is weak and exhausted, and when the cornea is dull, or has already commenced to slough or ulcerate, tonics or stimulants should at once be given to the full extent that can be borne. Extracts of cinchona, and the aromatic spirits of ammonia, are both well suited for this purpose, as they can be given easily, if mixed in a small quantity of milk.

In making these observations, I by no means wish to imply that the practice which is adopted at this Hospital is the only one which you can pursue with safety: there are many other methods, safe and effectual, which are employed both in hospitals and private practice, but these differ chiefly in detail, not in principle. What I particularly wish to impress upon you is, first, the danger of neglecting the first appearance of a purulent or muco-purulent discharge in newly-born infants, under the idea that it is merely a "cold in the eyes"—secondly, that the most acute cases of infantile ophthalmia may be successfully treated by constantly syringing away the morbid secretion, with a mild astringent solution, and that local blood-letting is rarely, if ever, called for;—and thirdly, that powerful stimulating or escharotic applications should be avoided, as being unnecessary, excessively painful, and frequently productive of bad after-consequences.

THERAPEUTICAL RECORD.

Cancer of the Breast.—M. Richmann in the *Gazette des Hopitaux* for December, reports the successful treatment of mammary cancer by the