

Chambers gives statistics of two hundred and thirty cases in St. Mary's hospital.

"The first lot of one hundred and nine were treated with neutral salines, chalk and mercury during the early part of the disease, and later with bark, ammonia, ether and wine; leeching and cupping being sometimes employed and food given four times daily."

"The second lot of one hundred and twenty-one were treated with twenty minims dilute nitro-muriatic acid every two hours and were given beef-tea and milk freely."

The first series gave a mortality of $19\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. while the second gave only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

It is a question how far we are justified in neglecting this treatment and adopting new ones to its entire exclusion, not only from the fact that the above showing has not been surpassed but on physiological grounds it should at least be considered in combination with other forms of medication. Hydrochloric acid aids digestion in the stomach, increases the salivary, pancreatic, and intestinal secretions, is a good hepatic stimulant and consequently aids intestinal digestion and disinfection. By stimulating the liver it also aids in the elimination of poisons with the bile. In itself it is a disinfectant hindering germ growth in a 1 in 2,500 solution. Its administration supplies a deficiency of acid which, according to Brunton, is found in febrile conditions. It differs from other disinfectants in typhoid inasmuch as it aids digestion.

James Jackson and T. K. Chambers thought emetics both curative and abortive, while Wunderlich and Niemeyer thought the same of calomel in full and repeated doses during the first week of fever. In my early student days I saw alcohol given very freely in typhoid. The indications were height of fever, weakness of heart and nervous prostration. It was soon found that these large doses of alcohol were not to be given simply as a matter of routine, were seldom needed in the early part of the disease, and were to be given with great care or not at all when the kidney was affected. Its use, however, has been wisely continued in small and repeated doses in the latter part of the disease where the condition of the heart and nervous system indicate it.

Opium was advocated by Dr. Austin Flint, and although cases did well under its use it was not generally used and is now only used to fill special indications.

Large numbers of cases have been tided through the disease without medicine of any kind.

This is the only true method of learning the natural course of a disease, and in the case of typhoid it not only proved useful in this