

THE BACTERICIDAL ACTION OF BILE.*

Talma, after consideration of previous experiments performed to determine this point by Vallée, Sieber, Nencki, Fraser, Gilbert, Mosse and others, gives the results of a careful series of experiments performed by himself in which the colon bacillus and diphtheria bacillus, and the typhoid bacillus were tested in this connection. His conclusions are: First, the bile contains a substance which inhibits the growth of colon bacilli, typhoid bacilli, and diphtheria bacilli in most cases. Second, the sensitiveness of the different varieties of bacilli is very variable; virulence especially is not synonymous with tendency to infect the gall-bladder and gall-ducts. Third, the bactericidal property of the bile varies at different times and in different animals. The number of bacteria which succeed in reaching the biliary system is of great influence upon their subsequent fate. The epithelium of the gall-ducts and the liver-cells offer a strong resistance to the invading microbes, especially the diphtheria bacilli.

Habitual Constipation.

Inject 8 ounces of tepid water on retiring, and allow it to be retained until absorbed. Increase the quantity progressively each night while lowering the temperature of the water. If necessary, give an ordinary injection in the morning. Four to six weeks suffice to establish unaided defecation.—Klemperer (*Medical Record*).

Sciatica.—

The following formula for the relief of sciatica, acute or sub-acute, is the most effective I ever prescribed:

Opium powd.....	12 grains
Ipecac powd.....	12 grains
Sodium salicylate	90 grains
Cascara, extract fluid, q. s.....	

Make twelve pills and give one or two at a dose.

These induce activity of the skin, relieve pain, and keep the pulse free.—BENJAMIN WARD RICHARDSON (*The Asclepiad*).

Wintergreen oil, true.....	4 drachms
Turpentine oil, rectified	4 drachms
Acacia syrup.....	2 ounces
Cinnamon water.....	1 ounce

Make emulsion. Give a teaspoonful three or four times daily.

—DANA.

Diarrhoea, Obstinate.—

Silver nitrate.....	1 to 2 grains
Powd. gum Arabic.....	160 grains
White sugar.....	1 ounce
Water, distilled.....	8 ounces

A teaspoonful every two or three hours. —CONSTANT.

* Talma. *Zeitschrift für klin. Medicin*, 1901 Vol. XLII, Parts 5 and 6.