

Of this paper the following is a copy, slightly abridged:—"In August last I was seized with epidemic dysentery. The usual remedies were properly administered—opium, the quantity of which speedily rose to twenty-one and even twenty-four grains daily, together with mercury, acetate of lead, and ipecacuanha, but no amendment took place. I vomited incessantly, and, though tormented with thirst, could retain no fluid. In my case the effect of large doses of opium was prostrating and overpowering. I did not sleep, but could scarcely be said to be awake, except to the consciousness of severe pain, agonizing tenesmus, and frequent vomiting. I had been ten days ill, nature was sinking, collapse was to be feared, when Dr. Kerr visited me. He immediately gave three and a half grains, or half a grain of each of the seven ingredients." (The recipe is here given by Dr. B.)

"I was very restless from a sensation of sinking and severe pain. In half an hour, after dosing a few minutes, I became aware of a great change. I could lie quiet; the distressing tenesmus was less, pain in the body and limbs less severe, the sensation of sinking relieved, a glow of warmth was supplanting the cold of threatened collapse, and an inclination to sleep, not before experienced during my illness, was stealing over me. The first thought was amazement at the change, then a faint recollection of a new medicine crossed my mind, and I resigned myself to its influence. I was immediately asleep, and for an hour and a half had a comfortable and refreshing sleep, unaccompanied, comparatively speaking, with sensorial disturbance. When I awoke all the symptoms were relieved. Seven grains were given every six hours, but the quantity of digitalis being too great, this drug was reduced from a full to a half proportion, making each dose six and a-half grains, which were given every four hours.¹ I spent twenty-four hours almost wholly in sleep; calls to rise were still frequent, but the tenesmus was less severe, and, though I retched a few times, vomiting ceased. In a few days appetite began to return."

"During twelve years' practice, I never in the treatment of dysentery met with a narcotic to be compared with Dr. Kerr's combination, in relieving general irritability, pain, and, above all, nausea and vomiting. It produces a wonderful degree of comfort, unat-

¹ Prior to this all the ingredients were equal.