

and it was thought necessary to have the solution only sufficiently strong to prevent the development of new cryptogams.

No new crust formed, and the scalp and face healed rapidly, and entire recovery took place in about two weeks. No other treatment was required.

Crusta Lactea, another disease incident to childhood, particularly during the period of dentition, rapidly disappears on the application for a few days of sodæ sulphit., \mathfrak{Dij} ; aquæ destil., glycerinæ, \mathfrak{aa} \mathfrak{ss} . The parts diseased should be moistened three or four times daily.

I have found the same prescription an invaluable remedy also in serofulous otitis. The ear should be well washed out with warm water and castile soap, and dried with cotton wool, after which eight or ten drops of the solution may be dropped into the ear and the air excluded with a pledget of cotton. This should be repeated thrice daily as long as the ear discharges.—*Amer. Eclectic Med. Review*.

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FRIDAY, NOV. 12TH.

MR. ERICHSEN IN THE CHAIR.

Dr. Henry Thompson communicated a case of Ascites successfully treated by Copaiba. G. W—, aged sixty, was admitted into hospital under Dr. Thompson's care, on November 30th, 1868, with ascites, puffy ankles, pulmonary oedema, and scanty urine with albumen. During the following three months various remedies were employed, quinine and iron amongst others; but his condition became worse and worse, the increase of liquid in the peritoneum being so rapid that paracentesis was three times required. In March, the administration of copaiba was commenced, the dose being gradually increased until fifteen minims were taken every six hours. The improvement was immediate. The quantity of urine increased from fourteen ounces daily to several pints, and the belly measurement diminished from day to day. He left the hospital convalescent on May 10th, and is now in good health. In his comment on this case, Dr. Thompson pointed out that, although the quinine and iron may have contributed to the result, yet improvement commenced before they were given, and he considered that the copaiba acted beneficially as a diuretic.

The Treasurer communicated two cases of Ascites, with Albuminuria, similarly treated by Dr. Living. In one of these cases the ascites was associated with anasarca of the lower half of the body; in the other there was no anasarca. Both patients had been ill for several months. Here, as in Dr. Thompson's case, the beneficial action of the remedy (which was given alone) manifested itself in increased discharge of urine, and diminution of the ascites and dropsy. Both patients left the hospital with albuminous urine, but otherwise well.

Dr. Clapton commenced the discussion by remarking that in one case that came under his observation

a large number of copaiba capsules were taken with good effect. His experience of the drug in cases of this kind, however, went to prove that it only acted occasionally as a diuretic, and that the results were not usually satisfactory.

Mr. Erichsen was disposed to doubt the value of copaiba as a diuretic, but had no experience of its effects except in cases of gonorrhœa.

After some general remarks from Dr. F. Simms, and Dr. R. D. Powell,

Dr. Greenhow said that in Dr. Thompson's case, which had some time previously been under his care, quinine and iron had been given without any good effect; that, according to his belief, the copaiba treatment is least useful in cases of ascites dependent upon heart disease, and most useful in hepatic maladies. He supported this opinion by reading a successful case, and stated his conviction copaiba acted decidedly as a diuretic.

Mr. J. J. H. Bartlett described a case of hereditary syphilis appearing after vaccination, complicated with paralysis of both arms. The case appeared to be one of those in which the vaccinal fever raised the disease into activity, which, though present in the system, was dormant. The paralysis was not simply infantile, but was most likely caused by some deposit high up on the spinal cord and on its membranes; and the lesion pressed almost equally on both halves, as both arms were affected. The cases in which paralysis occurs in hereditary syphilis are very rare; for none such are mentioned in their works by Diday or Lancereaux.

Mr. Barwell related a case in which a suspicious eruption occurred, attributed to vaccination. In this instance, however, there was no suspicion of hereditary syphilis; and it was proved that six other children had received vaccine from the same source without ill effects.

Dr. Cholmeley remarked that age had much to do with the propagation of unhealthy material of vaccination; but that one instance only is on record in which a syphilitic eruption was produced by vaccine matter.

Mr. Callender brought before the Society the history of a case in which Colotomy was performed for the relief of Cancer of the Rectum, which illustrated the advantages gained by opening the colon in cases of this nature, and tended to confirm the statements made by Mr. Curling in the various communications in which he has advocated the operation. The patient, after suffering from symptoms of cancer of the lower bowel, was suddenly unable to pass feces, and the descending colon was at once opened, with great relief of the urgent symptoms, and with entire removal of the great local pain from which the patient had continuously suffered. Two months after the operation he was quite convalescent. The discomfort from the artificial anus is practically none.

Mr. Erichsen said that this operation had been performed in Paris with great success, and with very good results. It was also particularly recommendable in cases where intense pain existed, on account of the passage of feces over the ulcerated surface of a cancer of the rectum, but that the operation was more difficult, because the bowel was not distended. In cases of imperforate anus in children the operation was useful; and a very suc-