

tics, yet it will as surely come eventually, and when it supervenes will, usually, be more durable in character. The third is a mere contingency; and the same might be safely said of other remedies when they "do good."

Iodid of potassium is not productive of any decided benefit in primary syphilis: in the opinion of Dr. Hocken it is inert in almost all the symptoms of this stage of the disorder, and to this rule the only exceptions are "some forms of phagadema, attended with great debility and derangement of health." So that according to the views before promulgated, unlike other agents of this class,—Iodid potassium is not indicated in the introductory period of regular syphilis, but, on the contrary, is only to be employed in a few instances of the irregular type.

In secondary syphilis a similar conclusion is also warrantable,—thus the gentleman last quoted, adds "in constitutional symptoms it is a less valuable remedy in the majority of secondary symptoms than mercury, with the exception of some severe cases of pustular eruptions, phagademic sore throat, *rupia*, and secondary ulcerations of a bad character, all of them marked by a cachectic and debilitated constitution." Much of the benefit obtained from it, in these *irregular* instances of syphilis, is to be ascribed to the tonic qualities it possesses, from the exercise of which it tends to raise the vital powers and enables the natural efforts, aided by its own sensitive tendencies, to shake off the morbid elements. It was also highly lauded, by Dr. Graves, as a remedy for syphilitic diseases of the scalp, lepra, psoriasis and *impetigo*; but here, I believe, the same provision holds good,—in broken-down habits it is indubitably excellent, but in the more regular manifestations it is inferior to mercury.

Its remedial influence appears to be exerted in greatest degree in proportion as syphilis recedes from its earlier forms. Record, indeed, inclines to limit its applicability to tertiary cases. Its value in these is very clearly illustrated in the following register, furnished by Dr. Hassing: of 73 cases of syphilitic pains of the bones, 65 were cured, 3 relieved, and 5 derived no benefit. Of 17 cases of syphilitic caries and necrosis, 6 were cured, 4 relieved, and 7 derived no benefit. Of 51 cases of syphilitic tumors or nodes, 6 only were cured, in 22 the tumor diminished, and in 23 no effect was produced. By "cured" is understood the symptoms were removed. In affections of the periosteum, it is even more efficacious than in any of the preceding.

To define still more broadly the suitable cases for iodid potassium, the contrasting indications for the use of mercury must be preserved in mind. In extension, then, of what has been before stated, the following