

hours) and that for twenty-four hours she had violent headache and sick stomach.

At other times I used various other sprays and both before and after this experience the cautery was applied without cocaine, and no disagreeable symptoms ensued. It will be well to state, also, that neither this case nor the one following knew what preparation was being employed.

The third case is that of a lady who had been under my care a considerable time for naso-pharyngitis and relaxed throat. I frequently made applications to her larynx, pharynx, posterior and anterior nares, without her showing or expressing any extraordinary discomfort. While under treatment an acute coryza developed, which produced some puffiness of the nasal mucous membrane. For this I determined to make a local application of cocaine, as it frequently has a very comforting effect. So a flexible rubber probe having on the end a pledget of cotton saturated with a four per cent. cocaine solution was passed through the nose. Shortly after this was passed through both nostrils, her face and lips became very pale; she said she was going to faint. Her pulse became rapid and small, and as she was falling from the chair I caught her and laid her down. The syncope was extreme, pulse gone, respiration not perceptible, and her face had the pallor of death. The clothes were opened, ice water was thrown in the face, the hands and body rubbed, smelling salts held under the nose, but notwithstanding this she remained an inert body for at least ten minutes, when to my great relief she gave a gasp for breath. It seemed to me that her condition was alarming, and I believe that the friend who was with her thought I had pushed some instrument into the brain and killed her. The patient vomited repeatedly for an hour afterwards, and for two days was confined to the house with a headache and sick stomach.

These three cases represented my bad experience with cocaine, and in them so little of the drug could have been absorbed, that had such effects been observed but once, or without corroborative experiences, I might have doubted the relation between the use of the drug and the symptoms presented. But I find others have met with such cases.