

On analyzing the cases of constipation, both recent and of long standing, it was found that the greater number were associated with dyspepsia, and especially with that form presenting more or less the characters of gastric irritation, in which the tongue was thinly furred, with prominent red papillæ at the tip, and in which there was tenderness at the epigastrium, pain, especially after food, and often more or less headache. Patients with these symptoms presented themselves with a history of inactive bowels for several months or years, often stating that they were obliged to take aperient pills, senna, castor-oil, &c., once or twice a week to produce an evacuation. The ages of those patients varied from twenty to sixty years of age, the majority lying between twenty-six and fifty. To these belladonna was given for from one to three weeks. It nearly always caused an evacuation, usually of solid stools, after breakfast on the morning on which it had been taken. Generally the bowels continued regular after the belladonna was discontinued, and sometimes headache was greatly mitigated. In one case, the patient, a woman, aged forty-seven, had had constipated bowels for twenty-six years, for which she had taken pills or castor-oil once a week. Belladonna restored the natural daily action in fourteen days. In a few cases no permanent cure was effected, but relief could be obtained by taking belladonna every second or third day, the dose had not to be augmented, and no increased constipation followed its use.

In more recent cases the natural action of the bowels was restored in a few days: thus a man had taken pills every other day for five weeks, but the bowels acted naturally after taking belladonna for six days.

Treatment was specially directed to the dyspepsia in all cases, but no aperient except belladonna was given, and frequently not this, until the effect of regulated diet and habits, and of general treatment, had been observed.

The remaining cases of constipation occurred in very various diseases. Most often belladonna acted as an ordinary aperient when given in the manner before stated, and its use had not to be continued more than from one to three weeks to cure the constipation. Rarely, it produced no effect, even in doses of gr. $\frac{1}{2}$ to gr. $\frac{j}{2}$, except causing dryness of the throat: such a failure occurred in the third stage of phthisis.

Belladonna in the usual dose of gr. $\frac{1}{2}$ to gr. $\frac{j}{2}$ produced no dryness of the throat, or dilatation of the pupil, but presented the following advantages over ordinary purgatives:—It did not gripe but gave usually a healthy solid stool, increased consti-

pation did not follow its use, and it very often restored the natural action of the bowels, so as to render a recurrence to this or other aperient unnecessary. Another and important advantage is the small bulk in which the remedy can be given.—*Practitioner.*

Haschisch for the Expulsion of Tænia.

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About the 1st of September, Mr. —, a young man of intelligence, called at my office, stating that for several years he had been afflicted—to use his own language—"with intolerably irritating and nervous feelings," to allay which, he had resorted to all sorts of excitants and stimulants: large quantities of whiskey, strong tea, coffee, tobacco and opium, in various forms had been used, vainly hoping thereby to find relief. As might have been anticipated, such folly only added to his misery. He had been tormented with a capricious appetite, starving occasionally, but oftener eating inordinately.

This state of things had continued thus far without any medical aid being sought. For several days before visiting me, he had become alarmed, by noticing in his stools numerous "short flat worms," a few specimens of which he brought me. These I found to be "joints of the tænia solium, and ordered a brisk cathartic of ol. ricini and ol. terebinth. The next day he informed me that large numbers of the "joints" were evacuated. At this time I learned that just before discovering these "ugly creatures," he had taken, as an experiment, several doses of haschisch. The idea occurred to me that this drug had disturbed the tænia. I accordingly advised a few days' rest from my medicine; after which, a large dose of haschisch, to be followed within a few hours by a cathartic similar to the one previously prescribed. The fourth day afterwards, my patient called to inform me that he had taken eight grains of haschisch with the cathartic as directed, which brought away, as he described it, "a quart of worms, most of which hung together like a long ruffle," as with a stick he "took up a good many yards of it." He felt no unpleasant effect from the haschisch.

About ten days from this date, he informed me that a few days previously, he recklessly took about fourteen grains of haschisch, thinking to make "a final sweep of it." About an hour after taking, he became alarmed, as a feeling of stupidity and drowsiness came powerfully over him. To relieve this, he drank a *drachm* of citric acid dissolved in water,