

Children suffer more from air impurity than adults, because the change in their blood is much more rapid and relatively greater in the one than in the other. Infants breathe from five to seven thousand times oftener in twenty-four hours than adults, and this is because they need relatively more oxygen, and the more frequent rinsing out of the lungs of the poisonous matters which the cells of their lungs exhale. They also suffer more than adults from the out-door air, impurities of towns and cities; and every experienced physician is aware that in cholera infantum a change of air often acts like magic in reviving the drooping energies. So impressed am I with the importance of pure air for children, that when they have it constantly in doors, and out, an attack or the results of cholera infantum need not be feared. It very seldom occurs under such circumstances, and when it does, the attack is seen to be mild and tractable. Improper diet, especially that which is crude, or unduly refined or concentrated, will often excite an attack. But if the constitution is not faulty, and the blood deprived by feeding the lungs with unwholesome air, the removal of the exciting cause will be followed by a speedy resumption of healthy action. I have not seen the very unfavorable result which some attribute to feeding an infant on cows milk, provided the kine are healthy, and not too much sweetening be added to the milk with crude brown sugar.

*Treatment.* To arrest vomiting no remedy equals calomel in from one-fourth to one-eighth of grain doses, mixed with a little prepared chalk, and given every two or three hours, administered, if possible, just after emesis. The drink to allay intense thirst ought to be given often, ice cold, and in small quantities. Sometimes it is better to put a sprig or two of mint in it, or when there is great intestinal irritation, the bark of slippery elm. Later, when the prostration is great, I have seen very happy effects from the use of equal quantities of ale and water as a drink. The little patient will cling to the vessel containing it, and reject the one containing pure water when they have the chance of preference. I can not speak too emphatically of the soothing, toning influence of this mixture in cases of extreme debility.

The discharges from the bowels are usually, at the onset of the disease, watery, floccy or frothy, sometimes exhibiting bright green tints. The calomel in small doses will change the evacuations for the better in a day or two in nearly every case, and after vomiting is somewhat arrested, and the intestinal discharges remain copious and frequent, to combining it with two or three grains of sub. nit. bismuth answers an excellent purpose. This checks as well as thickens the evacuations.