

conditions and so supplying the pabulum for the continuance of the affection.

Patients are themselves sensible of the fact that heat and excessive exercise, such as running, and even "speeding-up" in business (as was noted by himself in the case of the business man above referred to) often results in an exacerbation of the affection. The condition may be expected to become worse when the blood pressure is raised. Over-eating, the incautious use of alcoholic stimulants, even moderate excess in condiments, ginger ale, etc., pastry, pickles, spices; yes, even sausages, pork, and other ingesta, which call for prolonged periods of digestive action, all contribute their quota towards retarding cure. Excitement and anger should be guarded against.

As regards the internal treatment, that depends upon the constitutional condition present. In the cases here reported, and in others, the routine administration of phosphate of soda with nuxvomica three times a day before meals has seemed to be indicated; whilst tablets of a tenth of a grain calcii sulphidum between meals have also been administered, with a semi-weekly dose of mag. sulph. Ringer was the first to suggest sulphide of calcium in pustular conditions. Many writers on pustular affections state they have tried this drug but with no success. Apart from their rather authoritative opinions, it has never been omitted as a distinct part of the treatment adopted.

Externally an ointment of equal parts of the unguentum sulphuris iodidi and vaseline have been ordered to be rubbed in thoroughly every night. This leaves no stain, something appreciable and desirable from the patient's viewpoint.

The pursuit of this treatment in two weeks' time will invariably show pronounced improvement, satisfying to patient and physician alike. A month to three months has been sufficient to cure the most chronic and apparently obstinate case which has come under observation. Sometimes, for a time after the disappearance of all the pustules, the erythema remains, and there has been observed in some cases a slight desquamation of the skin, or the corneum. This may successfully be removed with nightly applications of subnitrate of bismuth and castor oil; or ichthyol in petrolatum, every third or fourth night, as sometimes continued applications of ichthyol have produced pustules.

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