

the general irritability of the system, and more particularly the irritability of the heart, opium, conium and nitre, together with the cautious administration of antimony, are remedies of the greatest value, and, if vascular action be excessive, and secretion sluggish, blood letting may sometimes be beneficially employed." (P. 73.) His favorite alkaline remedy is the potassio-tartrate of soda administered in doses of two or three drachms every four or six hours, combined with *potassæ nitras*, *potassæ citras*, *liquor potassæ*, *vinum colchici*, *vinum antimonii*, *tinctura opii*, &c. &c., as he perceives there are indications. After having tried all the local applications usually employed, he finds the following by far the most powerful in allaying the pain of rheumatic inflammation. "R *Potassæ carb.* $\mathfrak{z}$ i.; *liq. opii sedativi* $\mathfrak{z}$ vi.; *aquæ rosæ*, $\mathfrak{z}$ ix. Thin flannel soaked in this mixture should be applied to the inflamed parts, and the whole should then be wrapped up in gutta percha. Markwick's epithem forms a tolerably efficient substitute for the flannel and gutta percha." (P. 101.)

The treatment of that modification of rheumatism, to which our author has given the name of rheumatic gout, is essentially the same as that of rheumatic fever. As in this form of the disease, however, there is great danger of the joints becoming permanently injured, prompt measures must be had recourse to, should it exhibit a disposition to remain seated in any of the articulations; perfect quietude of the part should be enforced, and local depletion, by cupping or leeches, followed by blisters, should be repeated until all signs of mischief have disappeared.

In sciatica, produced by effusion within the sheath of the nerve, from inflammation of the neurilemma, acupuncture is a treatment which has been very successful. It is performed in the following manner:—"Whilst the patient is lying flat on his stomach, six or eight pairs of needles, specially adapted for the purpose, are carefully inserted into the thigh along the course of the sciatic nerve. The operation, if conducted slowly, causes little pain or inconvenience, is altogether devoid of danger, and deserves a trial in obstinate cases." (P. 304.) Sciatica depending upon this cause is diagnosed from others by the intensity of the initiatory symptoms—by the great febrile disturbance and acute pain; these being followed by more or less inability to move the limb, the patient complaining at the same time of "*a dull, aching and benumbing pain in the limb, causing it to feel swollen.*"

Of all the complications which may arise during the course of an attack of rheumatism, inflammation of the membranes of the heart, is by far the most important. Not so much from any immediate danger to