

writers, when it is present, it is a very serious matter to the sufferer, and often assumes a pre-eminent position in his own account of himself. After trying various remedies, I have found the greatest benefit from caffeine or theine, in doses of one, two, or three grains, in pill, three times a day. The following cases are examples: S. K., aged 69, complained of severe giddiness, but proved to be a typical case of granular kidney; after taking without benefit chloride of ammonium, iodide, and bromide of potassium, he was entirely relieved by caffeine in grain doses three times a day. J. W., aged 63, complained of giddiness, pain in the head, and loss of memory. The ophthalmoscopic signs were negative. The urine was of specific gravity 1.001: it contained a trace of albumen. She had frequent nocturnal micturition. She was ordered at first chloride of ammonium and digitalis; then theine, in doses gradually rising to three grains, three times a day, when the vertigo was completely cured. I have notes before me of two other cases equally satisfactory.

#### THE ABORTIVE TREATMENT OF BUBOES WITH CARBOLIC ACID.

Dr. Morse K. Taylor, U.S.A., in the April number of the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*, reports twenty cases in which he certainly obtained remarkably successful results, and he states that within the last seven years he has treated nearly one hundred and fifty cases of various forms of lymphadenitis, arising from specific and non-specific causes; and, where he saw the cases before the formation of pus was well established, he had not failed to arrest the process immediately, and allay the pain in a few minutes. His method is to inject from ten to forty minims of a solution, containing eight or ten grains of carbolic acid to the ounce of water, directly into the interior of the inflamed gland.

#### THE PROPER METHOD OF ADMINISTERING THE BICHLORIDE OF MERCURY IN SYPHILIS.

By C. A. BRYCE, M.D.

Richmond, Va., President Old Dominion Medical Association, Editor Southern Clinic, &c.

I almost invariably use the bichloride in treating syphilis, and my dose ranges from the twentieth to the sixtieth of a grain. I usually prescribe it in twenty-fourth grain doses; I always give it in an *alcoholic* solution and uncombined with any other drug. I believe this is a most important matter.

For years I have, in the treatment of a very large class of syphilitic diseases, never given any other form of mercury but the *bichloride*; never combined with potass. iod., nor any of the alteratives. My prescription for adults is generally about as follows:

R. Hyd. chlo. corrosiv..... gr. ii.  
Spts. vini gallic..... 3 ii.  
Aq. distil..... 3 iv.  
M. S.—Teaspoonful before each meal.

At one time or another I may have recourse to other alteratives, tonics, &c., but generally I find this R sufficient to prevent constitutional disturbances, if I see the patient early, and quite sufficient to cure constitutional syphilis when not of long standing, and beneficial in all stages of the disease.  
—*Mississippi Valley Medical Monthly*.

#### SOME POINTS IN THE TREATMENT OF FRACTURES.

By OSCAR J. COSKERY, M.D.

Professor of Surgery, College of Physicians and Surgeons.

1. Set at once.
  2. Never use chloroform if it can be avoided.
  3. All that are required in setting a limb are delicate manipulation, well-padded pieces of stiff material and a roller.
  4. Absence of pain, of deformity, and of hemorrhage in compound fractures are signs of successful adjustment.
  5. The movable-immovable apparatus, as exemplified in the plaster of Paris *splints*, is, perhaps, the best form of apparatus for the great majority of fractures.
  6. Confinement to bed over twenty-four or forty-eight hours (except for the thigh) is rarely, if ever, necessary in uncomplicated fracture.
  7. Passive motion is apt to do more harm than good.
  8. It is better to keep the mechanical appliances, the splints, on too long than for too short a time.
- Maryland Medical Journal*.

#### ACUTE CYSTITIS TREATED WITH ERGOT.

Some time ago I was called to see Mr. B., aged twenty-seven years, and found him suffering with a well-marked cystitis. After trying several commonly-used remedies without success, I resorted to fluid extract of ergot, in dram doses three times daily, which made a rapid and complete cure. Since this time I have treated at least a dozen cases with this remedy, and it has in no instance failed to give a happy result.

I would be glad if other physicians would report their experience with the drug in the treatment of this troublesome disease.

W. C. L., M.D.

[Dr. Bumstead recommends ergot in acute cystitis. His favorite prescription is—

R Vini ergotæ..... 3 iij.  
Tinct. ferri chloridi..... 3 j.  
M. Dose, a teaspoonful every six hours.]

—*Louisville Medical News*.