

ent forms of the infection of influenza, which are so variable that the diagnosis is often extremely difficult. Influenza may simulate tuberculosis during the cavitary period, or dilatation of the bronchi; it may simulate typhoid fever and miliary tuberculosis. It is extremely polymorphous in its manifestations, a disease of surprises, and it is necessary to become acquainted anew with its pathology and its therapeutics in each instance.

The authors think that digitalis is useful from two points of view: First, as an element of diagnosis in acute granular tuberculosis or in typhoid fever, for in these two affections they have employed digitalin without ever obtaining deferrescence; second, as a curative agent.

The authors give an account of their mode of treatment and the advantages derived therefrom. In pneumonia no deaths occurred in 10 cases, and in 2 cases of double pneumonia the favorable results were striking. On the day after the administration of the digitalin the patient experienced a sensation of well-being which was quite peculiar; if delirium existed it ceased, and the albuminuria diminished and finally disappeared. The antithermic action was remarkable; ventricular systole occurred with more energy, and the heart's action became slower; the arterial tension increased, and the pulse became stronger.

According to M. Huchard, diuresis is established promptly, and, during four or five days, it contributes to the elimination of all the toxins produced by the infectious disease. This fact was ascertained by the authors in some cases, for they were able to verify it in parallel charts of the urine and the temperature; when one fell, the other rose. This, however, was not always constant.

Congestion seems to disappear more rapidly and the exudation is more rapidly absorbed. On the whole, digitalin accelerates the normal evolution of pneumonia, and is the best adjuvant to spontaneous recovery, for it must be borne in mind that this medication is not antipneumonic, but is a compensatory one, which makes use of the healthy organs in order to act on the diseased organs. It is not the pneumonia that is dangerous; it is the exhaustion of the organism, and it is this which is combated or prevented by the digitalin treatment. According to Huchard, although the disease is in the lungs, the danger is to the heart and nervous system, and with this treatment the disease follows its normal evolution, but the organism is strengthened. Concerning influenza, all that has been said of pneumonia is applicable in every respect regarding the broncho pulmonary tendency of this affection. These forms, however, are not dwelt upon by the authors; they call attention simply to the success obtained.