

times great irritability was manifested; the digestive functions appeared to be feebly performed, and the lower extremities remarkably undeveloped; great emaciation of the body and pallor of the face were conspicuous. The disease was advancing rapidly on my first seeing it, and the weight of the head made the child unwilling to raise it.

The treatment was commenced at once by giving a mercurial purgative, and after the bowels had been well acted on, two scruples of the Iodide of Potassium to six ounces of water sweetened with syrup, of this mixture one teaspoonful was given every four hours during the day. The hair was cut very close, and Tincture of Iodine painted over the whole surface of the scalp once every day. It required great resolution to enforce this part of the treatment, as the child appeared to suffer from it. This treatment was strictly and resolutely adhered to for about a month, when the first positive signs of amendment began to appear. There was less of the lethargy and heaviness noticed, the legs became more developed, and the infant made successful attempts to move them. The change, however, was very gradual; after a time the appetite improved, the pallor gradually wore off, and the emaciation became less marked. The appearance of the head was remarkable, the size did not appear to diminish very much, but ossification began to take place in the fontanella and membrane between the sutures. The further progress of the disease was completely arrested, the face filled out, intelligence returned to the features, and in twelve months from the commencement of treatment the child was perfectly well. Some little deformity yet remains from the disease, having been allowed to proceed so far without treatment, the head is larger than in other children of her age, and the forehead more projecting. The child is now as well, active, and lively, as other girls of her age, and her intelligence just as acute. It would be difficult to show a more clearly marked case of cure.

The second case occurred in 1856. The child, a boy, was two years old when first seen. In this case the enlargement was not so well marked at the forehead and occiput as in the other; ossification had taken place, but the head was much larger than in other children of his age. Convulsions had set in, and marks of pressure such as squinting, rolling of the eyes, even very evident loss of power in the legs, the child being unable to walk or even stand alone, and appeared uneasy unless it could find a rest for its head; face very much flushed, and eyes injected. The mother stated that the child suffered very much while teething, and had disturbed her rest so constantly that she gave large and continued doses of Godfrey's Cordial, to procure sleep. This pernicious practice had unquestionably a great share in inducing the disease. The mother appeared much distressed at the prospect of the child being a confirmed idiot, and readily promised to persevere in the treatment recommended, in spite of the advice of officious neighbours, which is the curse of country practice.

Two smart purgative doses of calomel and scammony were given each week for about one month, or till the flushed and congested state of the face and head was removed; at the same time the Iodide of Potassium was given, and some time after the scalp was painted with Tincture of Iodine; in six months this child was perfectly restored, was able to run about, and is now a strong robust boy.