

the exclusion of other treatment, but I do believe that we possess certain remedies, which, if used in suitable cases, exert a marked influence in cutting short the attack.

The theory that the symptoms of this disease are due to several combined factors is one supported by very strong argument, and although as yet we are unable to distinguish precisely in any given case which factor is the predominant one, still I think we are approaching that stage, and I have no doubt that before very long we will be able to choose the appropriate remedy to suit the special case. Until then our treatment, though often beneficial, will be in a manner unscientific.

In the meantime let us make a note of our cases, and watch the effect of the special treatment adopted, because I hold that we are in a way bound for the safety of our patient to use special means to cut short the attack, when we know that in a very large proportion of cases it is quite possible to do so, and when we know also that in so doing we place the patient in such a condition as will enable him, or her, to escape the often serious complications which in many cases arise from the prolonged continuance of the disease, and which are not due alone to its severity.

I do not purpose to speak dogmatically at all on the value of one remedy, but I will submit for your consideration a few cases treated specially with carbolic acid, which drug is certainly a valuable addition to our therapeutic armamentarium in pertussis.

I would just mention that several remedies are proposed as specifics in this disease. Among the more important ones we find atropia, quinine, croton-chloral and carbolic acid. Each one of these has its special advocates, and I doubt not that they are all beneficial in suitable cases. I hold at the same time that were we, in the present state of our knowledge of the etiology and pathology of pertussis, to use indiscriminately only one of these several drugs, we would occasionally be disappointed.

Dr. John Reynolds reports four cases treated with comparatively large doses of quinine, with a manifestly good result.