

separate seizure was rather more severe, and on the evening of the eleventh day he was able to open his mouth better. On the thirteenth day the bromide was decreased to twenty grains every three hours, and on the fourteenth day was discontinued altogether. When the bromide had been omitted twenty-four hours the attacks returned at intervals of an hour, and the permanent rigidity of the muscles of the neck was re-established. His condition now steadily became worse, so that on the eighteenth day of his illness it became necessary to resort to the previous large doses, one drachm, every hour and a half. After three such doses, the expression became more natural, and he was able to open his mouth again; but it was not until the twenty-fifth day of the disease that it was possible to discontinue the remedy. The patient remained in a state of remarkable prostration and drowsiness, sleeping the twenty-four hours round, and only waking up to take his food for eight days, and passed all his evacuations under him. He subsequently steadily and rapidly convalesced. The bromide produced no ache or other disagreeable effect, and certainly seemed to exert a markedly controlling influence upon the tetanus.

Surely, under ordinary circumstances, no one would think of giving such doses of bromide, but here, under the antagonizing influence of the intense reflex irritation, their effect was vastly beneficial, conducing, beyond question, to the patient's cure.

Given as we commend, no effect is usually noted before the second or third day. Then patients mark an increasing drowsiness, which deepens into slumber, more or less profound, so much so at times that it is difficult to remain long awake. With this is a growing aversion to active exercise, not solely due to lessened muscle force, but largely to mental hebetude. Some cases are met with in which the hypnotic effect is not very decided, but the rule is as stated. Sometimes a saline taste and increased saliva with the bromic breath are noted, and the tongue becomes furred. Acne is usually absent. The renal secretion is, almost invariably, largely augmented. We have known patients to pass more than 100 ounces in the twenty-four hours, and we have noticed this, that where the renal activity is not increased, or is diminished, the sedative effect of the drug is more prompt and decided. The practical point of this is obvious, such cases require a less prolonged bromide giving.

With some there is slight transient loss of co-

ordinating power in the fingers, and, exceptionally, in unusually sensitive subjects, there may occur mild startings of the fore-arm tendons. These, however, soon subside, and their going is largely hastened by local faradic seances.

Another bromide symptom, and a curious one it is, refers to a peculiar form of aphasia, as shown by using one word for another,—Brown for Jones, cake for comb, etc. This may persist for several days. Dr. Clarke refers to such instances, and says, "they are hints of a distinct organ of language, and suggest the notion that, inasmuch as the drug we are considering paralyses reflex, before it does generally, sensibility, language may be the expression or correlation of a peculiar reflex power."

Another similar symptom is an odd effect on the memory, the loss of a word or a sentence, and entire inability to regain them at the time, so that the train of thought is abruptly ended. These, though often amusing, are sometimes quite annoying to the patient, but possess no other importance and soon pass away.

Before dismissing this phase of the treatment we must again insist upon the fact that all cases of opium addiction do not require the bromide alike. This is a point of prime importance, and failure to put it in practice, is, doubtless, often the main secret of ill-success or unpleasant results in its use. The patient, as well as his disease, must be treated, and he who uses the bromide, as Fothergill asserts Opie mixed his colors, "with brains," will accomplish far more than the tyro who sets himself up in the treatment of this or any other disorder, and fails to be guided by good judgment. To follow a mere routine giving of the bromine, or any other remedy, unvaried by individual condition, is a sorry showing of professional incapacity. We have lately learned of a case of this kind, presenting a lamentable lack of discretion. The patient, a medical man, addicted to morphia, having decided upon self-treatment, began a plan of operations with the bromide, taking it himself for several days, and then its hypnotic effect asserting itself he gave orders that it should be given him some days longer, and this senseless advice being blindly followed by his attendant, he sank into a stupor which persisted for more than a fortnight. A more indiscreet and foolish performance is seldom heard of, and illustrates anew, in another sense, the truth of that true legal proverb as to the mental status of the individual who is both lawyer and