

teen in number, on the action of colchicum and its known utility in rheumatism, seem to bear strongly on the truth of the opinions expressed as to the pathological nature of the disease.

The employment of calomel, with a view of obtaining its full purgative effect in cases of the stheno-phlogistic variety, should be more steadily pursued to carry out this indication than the plan of giving it with opium in order to obtain its constitutional effect. From its special action on the biliary organs, it is in Indian rheumatism an invaluable remedy; and in this country too, when properly administered in aid of colchicum and other purgatives, will be found of much utility, by depurating the blood, through increased biliary secretion, in those hyper-carbonized states of the system associated with the disease in many of those cases met with in London. The practice of mercurial fumigation, as successfully used both in this country and in India, proves useful by increasing the elimination from the skin, and restoring the cutaneous functions to a normal state. The same result may be partially secured in both varieties of the disease, by means of warm bathing, warm clothing, and friction of the surface.

The third indication has more immediate relation to cases of the asthenocachexial kind than to those of acute rheumatism. The impaired state of the digestive function being so intimately associated with the origin and progress of the rheumatic constitution, it is of much importance, while carrying out the second indication, in acute varieties of the disease, that due attention should be given to the diet of the patient, which must be diluted and of easy assimilation. In the early stage of disease it should consist of gruel, thin arrow-root with milk, or weak broth; and if tea-beef be allowed, it may be given with the addition of twenty or thirty drops of the liquor potassæ; the alkali serving to neutralize the lactic and other acids which accumulate in the stomach along with diseased mucous secretions. As phlogistic symptoms, even in the worst examples of acute Indian rheumatism, are associated with much destructive irritation and waste of tissues, a too active or injudicious employment of the diaphoretic and purgative treatment must be avoided, as such will both derange the primary and secondary assimilation. Such derangement is marked by emaciation, loss of strength, pale, anasaruous visage, and other signs of cachexia; and as the early appearance and rapidity of such symptoms are most remarkable in persons inclining to the leuco-phlegmatic temperament, the treatment for carrying out the previous indications should not be such as makes too great a demand on the resources of the constitution. When cachexia appears, we must have recourse to the bark, sulphate of quinine, preparations of iron, or iodide of potassium, all of which operate beneficially on the constitution, by improving the tone of the organs of primary assimilation, modifying the nutrition of the tissues, and increasing the hæmagine of the blood. A combination of these several remedies may be necessary, according to the nature of particular cases; and where iodide of potassium, if given alone, would utterly fail in relieving symptoms, it may be usefully employed in combination with the bark, or sarza-decoction, or extract of taraxacum, by which the double effect of healthy cutaneous action and increased elimination by the kidneys may be generally secured. The iodide of potassium must not be given in large quantities, but along with it laxatives are as essential as in using colchicum. In many such cases, the compound decoction of sarza to the extent, at least, of half a pint twice daily, with an equal proportion of warm milk, has been found to be of much utility in promoting the nutrition of the tissues and bringing back healthy cutaneous action. The extract of sarza pills, with resin of