

BELLADONNA AS AN APERIENT IN CONSTIPATION.

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Adverting to the frequency of constipation and the abuse of purgatives, the author offers a few remarks on its medicinal treatment by means of belladonna, from observations made, for the most part, on the patients of the York Dispensary, where I gave it to nearly all who suffered from constipation, simply to restore the natural action of the bowels, and not to cause a flow of secretion from the intestinal mucous membrane. The method followed was, in the main, that recommended by Trousseau. Extract of belladonna was given in doses of gr. 1-6 to gr. 2-3 on rising every morning. A grain of the extract and gr. iij. of the ext. gentian were divided into six pills, and one to four prescribed for a dose.

* * * Belladonna in the usual dose of gr. 1-6 to gr. 1-2 produced no dryness of the throat, or dilatation of the pupil, but presented the following advantages over ordinary purgatives: It did not gripe, but gave usually a healthy, solid stool; increased constipation did not follow its use, and it very often restored the natural action of the bowels, so as to render a recurrence to this or other aperient unnecessary. Another and important advantage is the small bulk in which the remedy can be given.—*Practitioner.*

MODE OF ADMINISTERING CREASOTE.

As creasote is now frequently employed in the treatment of typhoid fever, and is exceedingly distasteful to some patients, it may be worth while to mention here a formula which in great measure covers its flavor, and is easily prepared:—

Creasote, 3 drops.

Essence of lemon, 2 drops.

Orange-flower water, 1 ounce.

Spring water, 3 ounces.

A spoonful to be taken at frequent intervals throughout the day.

Dr. HUGHES BENNETT recently reported the following sad case:—A beautiful daughter of an Edinburg barrister, in perfect health, went to a dentist's office one morning and had a tooth extracted. Five minutes afterward she was dead. He believes this is only one of many similar cases which occur, and are never published.