

from the meagre presentation of the subject in our recent textbooks.

Some considerable care is necessary in employing phosphorus internally, but if it is properly administered and due precautions are exercised, I believe it to be perfectly safe; some of my patients have taken it continuously for months, not only without harm, but in some instances with marked improvement to their general health.

While it is the phosphorus that is of service in the disease under consideration, there is a great difference, both in regard to its immediate and later effects, as to the form and method in which it is administered. In my earlier trials with the remedy I gave it, as is often recommended, in oily solutions, and in the form of pills; but with these I had on several occasions such severe digestive and liver disturbances, and occasionally accompanied with violent jaundice, that I was led to adopt wholly the form of administration about to be recommended, and to exercise other precautions, so that now for a number of years past I have had no single instance of disturbance from the remedy which could cause uneasiness.

The form in which I now administer the phosphorus is in a solution, which was first suggested, I believe, by Dr. Ashburton Thompson, primarily for employment in nervous conditions. I give here the formula which I have long used, and which is known in my clinics as "Thompson's solution of phosphorus":

R.—Phosphorus . . . . . gr. vj.  
Absolute alcohol . . . . . 3xxx.

To be dissolved with the aid of heat and agitation, and then mixed, while still warm, with the following mixture, also warmed:

Glycerin . . . . . ʒixss.  
Alcohol . . . . . ʒjss.  
Essence peppermint . . . . . ʒss.

Each drachm contains  $\frac{1}{20}$  grain of phosphorus.

In most cases I begin with fifteen drops, in water, three times daily after meals. It is well to have the water added quickly after the liquid has been dropped out in an empty glass, and