

as to the effects of certain remedies, although all agree as to the beneficial influence of arsenical preparations in most cases.

"Strong mercurial preparations," says Willan, "are of no advantage in the scaly tetter, but eventually rather aggravate the complaint. Of this I am well assured, from many experiments cautiously made. Dr. Willis has likewise acknowledged the repeated failure of mercurial inunctions, and of mercurial remedies, taken internally, even when they had excited a salivation. His observations on the subject may serve to deter others from entering upon a mode of practice so injurious to the constitution."—*Willan on Cutaneous Diseases*, p. 183.

Bateman opposes the use of mercury in the following terms: "A more recent empiricism which resorts to mercury in all affections of a chronic nature, and of some obscurity, is not more successful. In fact, all the varieties of scaly tetter are ultimately aggravated by a perseverance in a course of mercurials.—*Bateman's Prac. Synop. Eighth Edition*, p. 60.

In the treatment of scaly diseases by purgative medicines, Hamilton insists upon the superior efficacy of calomel, or those given in combination with calomel.—*Cazenave & Schedel, op. cit.**

"Calomel," say Bielt, Cazenave, and Schedel, "however, is, without doubt that which succeeds the most often and promptly. It is not rare to obtain a complete cure in two months, or even in less, by the aid of this preparation, which, administered every day in the dose of four grains, scarcely ever induces accidents. It is true, that in some cases it induces a salivation, which obliges us to relinquish its use; but whatever may be said, these cases are rare, when used in this dose."—*Amer. Trans. op. cit. p. 252.*

The following is extracted from Rayer's work, before quoted, page 77:

"I have seen patients labouring under old and inveterate psoriasis use half a pound of precipitated calomel, by way of friction, without their mouths becoming in the slightest degree affected, and obtain a perfect cure."

Upon the treatment by bleeding:

"I have never seen a case of psoriasis in which bleeding, or the repetition of purgatives, could be properly applied."—*Willan op. cit. page 180.*

"But bleeding and repeated purging are injurious."—*Bateman's Prac. Synop. page 59.*

"Notwithstanding this objection of Dr. Bateman's to bleeding, the editor (Dr. A. T. Thompson), has had much experience of its salutary influence, even when repeated at short intervals, provided the quantity abstracted at one time be moderate."—*Op. cit. page 60.*

* I think it right to state, that I find no reference whatever to scaly diseases, in the work of Hamilton on Purgative Medicines.—*See Fourth Edit. 1811.*