

of a similar one devised by Dr. Ellis of Toronto, by which the construction was simplified and adapted to taking the samples more rapidly.

Dr. Wilkins read a paper on "Cold Baths in the Treatment of High Temperature in Typhoid Fever."

Dr. A. Ruttan (Napanee) said that for the last fifteen years he had been in the habit of using cold baths in all cases of typhoid fever when the temperature was high. He had been first led to begin the treatment by observing the unexpectedly favourable turn of a very severe case with high temperature and delirium, after the patient, a young girl, had escaped from the house in her night-dress and remained out during a cold night, having fallen asleep on the grass. When found she was shivering with cold, but her general condition was greatly improved, and no ill effects whatever followed the exposure. He had seen the most beneficial results from the treatment. When it was impossible to overcome the objections of the patients or their friends to the bath he would fill a napkin with pounded ice and apply it to the spine, rubbing it up and down the back till the temperature was lowered. He thought that this modification embodied the essential feature of the cold bath treatment, as a cooling of the central nervous system was, after all, the main object.

Dr. Powell (Ottawa) had had no experience with this form of treatment. The great objection was the difficulty of carrying it out in private practice. And also that it would be dangerous to allow the patient to stand up and walk to the bath when the heart was weakened by the fever.

Dr. Jas. Ross also objected to any exertion in typhoid fever, but if the treatment could be carried out otherwise there could be no objection.

Dr. Sloan asked for Dr. Stewart's opinion.

Dr. James Stewart said he had given close observation to the method of treatment by cold baths, and was convinced of its great value in typhoid fever. The great advantage was the shortening of the period of convalescence. He thought that it acted through the central nervous system, and that it was a purely scientific method of treatment. He complimented Dr. Ruttan on his success and perseverance.

Dr. Wilkins, in reply, advised reading a paper by Dr. Hare in the March number of the *Practitioner*, in which he reports 1700 cases treated at the Brisbane Hospital. He was delighted to hear of Dr. Ruttan's success. A skeleton bath could be obtained for \$6 or \$7 from any plumber. He did not allow patients to stand up except in the early stage of typhoid fever or in the case of robust patients. Sponging was very valuable in cases where the cold bath was unsuitable. The temperature of the cold bath was between 68° and 70° F.