Podopyllin and leptandrin will also be found serviceable. Castor-oil is a time-honored and an effective remedy. Small doses of syrup of rhubarb or carbonate of magnesia are frequently beneficial. In acute cases accompanied by fever and an increase of the circulation, aconite is potent for good. It will be noticed that I have said nothing as to the use of arsenic in the treatment of the various forms of infantile eczema. The omission was intentional. Arsenic is sometimes requisite in the treatment of obstinate forms of eczema in adults, but in the eczema of childhood it is not only unnecessary, but frequently injurious. For many years I have not employed arsenic in cases of infantile eczema which have come under my observation. I would advise that arsenic be avoided in the treatment of infantile eczema, as its use is often productive of more injury than any benefit it may produce on the disease.

Local Treatment.—In cases in which the itching is a marked symptom, various soothing and anti-pruritic lotions and ointments may be employed. Those which I most frequently order are:

R. Acid carbolici 2 grains
Hydrag. chlor. mitis
Ung. zinci oxide benz
M. Ft. ungt.

R. Creasoti 3 minims Aquæ 3 ounces

M. Ft. loto

R. Chloral hydrat 5 grains Aquæ menth. pip 2 ounces M. Ft. loto.

Applications of cold water, ice-water, lead-water and laudanum, or a saturated solution of bicarbonate of soda, will also be found grateful and calmative.

When the eruption has become subacute and chronic, and the integument is covered with crusts, it would be folly to expect any improvement until the diseased surface is exposed to view. The affected region should be covered with a starch poultice, or saturated with oil to loosen the crusts and scales, which must be carefully picked off. Various stimulating ointments may then be applied to the exposed, denuded surface, but care must be taken to avoid increasing the irritation and inflammation. The medicaments employed should be such as will constringe the capillaries and reduce the congestion, while they at the same time form a protective covering for the raw and oozing corium. The subnitrate and the oleate of bismuth and the oleate of zinc, either in powder or ointment form, are excellent applications for this purpose. ordinary benzoated oxide of zinc ointment alone, with 5 grains of camphor to the ounce, is also serviceable. The following ointment will be found valuable:

R. Pulv. opii 3 grains
Acidi tannici 1/2 ounce
Plumbi carbonatis 1 drachm
Olei anthemidis 5 drops
Adipis 1 ounce

Another excellent procedure is to brush a 25 per cent. solution of the fluid extract of geranium over the surface after the scales have been removed. Diachylon ointment, weak tar ointment, cucumber ointment, weak salicylic acid ointment, and the ointment of the carbonate of lead, may also be employed with benefit. Harsh and irritating applications must be studiously avoided, as they are certain to protract the disease. Cases due to external irritation usually require nothing more than the removal of the irritant and the application of a soothing ointment or lotion to the part affected. Tight, dyed, woollen or flannel clothing should be replaced by articles of wear composed of some less offending material. If wet diapers are at fault they should be removed as soon as soiled, the parts gently mopped dry with a soft cloth, and then dusted with zinc oxide, bismuth subnitrate, or lead carbonate, or painted with a dilute solution of geranium maculatum. If the eruption is due to the scratching and irritation consequent upon the presence of lice, the hair should be cut short, and any of the following ointments rubbed well into the scalp.

R. Hydrag chlor.mitis
Acidi carbolici
Ungt. zinci oxidi
1 ounce

R. Napthlithol 10 grains
Ungt. zinci oxidi 1 ounce

R. Sulphuris sublimate 2 scruples
Pulv. marantæ 1 drachm
Ungt. aquæ rosæ 1 ounce

Cases that are the result of too free use of soap and water will usually spontaneously subside upon the suspension of the practice. An infant's body should be bathed every day in tepid or warm water, but soap should not be applied to its delicate skin more than two or three times a week.

## WHEN AND HOW TO USE MYDRIATICS IN THE EYE.\*

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Nowhere in the medical application of drugs is clear and definite knowledge more important than in the use of mydriatics in the eye, and in very few directions has so much clear and definite knowledge been accumulated.

Besides their therapeutic applications to this organ, mydriatics are even more frequently used for diagnostic purposes. Before making such use of a mydriatic, one should always consider the possible presence of *contra-indications*. In an eye apparently normal the most important of these is an incipient or latent glaucoma. Glaucoma is an affection always tending toward functional destruction of the eye, only to be finally checked

<sup>\*</sup>Read before the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, at Bedford Springs, June 30th, 1887.