

to occur in the old place: and that it can be performed after four months and a half with less irritation to the parts around it, than accompanies any ordinary primary fracture. Yours, &c.—P.M.

**ENURESIS WITH DIABETES INSIPIDUS KEPT UP BY OATMEAL PORRIDGE.**—Nov. 15, '62, R —, a pale, sickly-looking lad of 13 years of age, has been constantly passing a large quantity of limpid urine, and wetting his bed at night for the past ten years, the discharge being most excessive and frequent during the winter months. His appetite is very great, but his thirst does not seem proportionate to the quantity of liquid excreted. His urine during the 12 day hours now measures 35 ounces, but his mother thinks that the quantity passed during the night greatly exceeds this. He has been accustomed for many years to making his breakfast and supper on oatmeal porridge, but although the rest of the family, 5 or 6 in number, have lived in a similar manner they have never suffered from either enuresis or diabetes. Many efforts have been made from time to time to prevent his wetting his bed, but without success. After having fairly tried extract belladonna in quarter grain doses, tincture of iron and various other remedies, I prescribed three grain doses citrate of iron and quinine, three times a day.

Feb. 10th, '63, somewhat improved in all his symptoms; he likes the bitters, continue them.

April 4th. Improvement slowly continues. A change of diet was now for the first time suggested, the oatmeal might be preventing the proper effects of the remedies; on this he began at once to improve in every way and to gain flesh.

Sept. 30th, '63, has enjoyed excellent health all summer, looks fat and hearty, and has entirely lost his cachectic appearance. He has not taken any porridge since last April. But there is now and then a little breaking out as it were of his old complaint, and his mother will not allow that he is quite well until the "cold weather sets in."

I should not have considered this case worthy of reporting, had not another just occurred in my practice, where the suspension of the use of oatmeal alone succeeded completely in removing a troublesome enuresis.—*Editor.*

**THE SPIKE CASE.**—The case of fracture with dislocation of the spine, reported in the March number of the Canada Lancet, as having been so admirably reduced without deformity, did not long remain without displacement. The patient is still lying in the Montreal General Hospital in a precarious state, after a period of nine months and a half, with quite a prominence at the seat of injury, and paraplegia. Had as great care been exercised in keeping the parts of the bone in apposition afterwards, as that employed for a week or two subsequent to the fracture, it is our opinion, it would have become ossified without deformity, and the man have thereby obtained a better chance of recovery.—*Ed.*

#### ICE IN THE TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.

The *Revue Thérapeutique* contains a paper by Dr. A. De Grand of Boulogne, late French Vice Consul at Havana, in which he mentions ice as an infallible remedy for diphtheria. As this, from its extreme simplicity, would, if so effective, be far superior to any yet tried, I cannot refrain from quoting the cases mentioned by the author, who first brought it into notice in February, 1860; and con-

sequently complains, not without reason, of the inexcusable negligence of many practitioners in not adopting it, and thereby saving the valuable lives now annually lost by this disease. The following cases came under his observation after that date.

In March and April, 1861, diphtheria broke out in an epidemic form, chiefly attacking adults, and was of such virulence that in one week three young women died in a single house. One of Dr. De Grand's patients was seized with it, and as he could not immediately attend, and the case being a severe one, another physician was called in, who ordered emetics and aluminous gargles, which were of no effect. On the doctor's visit, he found the tonsils greatly swollen and a false membrane covering them. He immediately administered small pieces of ice, and by the following morning the tumefaction of the tonsils had diminished by half, and the false membrane had nearly disappeared. That very evening she was enabled to take food. A few days afterwards, her brother was seized with a similar sore throat, when, profiting by the example, he took ice and was rid of it in a few hours.

Dr. De Grand was summoned, in another case, to a young lady who had been labouring under the disease for two days, and was evidently sinking in spite of all previous treatment. The parents, relations, and friends of the family were immersed in the deepest sorrow. The doctor ordered ice, a general cry of astonishment was uttered by all present. Ice for a sore throat! Impossible! It would be sheer murder! He, however, maintained his ground: and after much expostulation, during which precious time was lost, he obtained his end. Before twenty-four hours the patient was full of convalescence.

Being at Vera Cruz on a mission, he was requested to see a young man who was attacked with malignant sore throat, and had been treated without effect by cauterizations with hydrochloric acid and astringent gargles. Here again he had to battle with the prejudice of the family, but was at length allowed to administer ice. The young man recovered in the course of the following day. Dr. De Grand says, that although he has prescribed this remedy for the last twelve years, he has never yet met with a single failure after its adoption: he is evidently sincere in his opinion of its efficacy, and although it may not be as successful in other hands it certainly deserves a trial. Cold gargles have been recommended by Dr. Blane of Strasburg.—*Why not employ ice?*

*Dr. W. N. Cost.*

*Med. and Surg. Reporter.*

**INDURATION OF THE MAMMARY GLAND.**—Dr. E. J. Tilt remarks that menstruation will sometimes originate a hard and painful swelling of some portion of the mammary gland, which may last for months or even years, being always worse during the menstrual process. He tells, among others, of a case where a portion of the breast became thus indurated and painful, in the wife of an eminent medical man. It was pronounced to be cancerous by several surgeons; but Sir C. Locock, and Sir B. Brodie, thought it benignant; and this mammary tumour was the first indication that the menstrual function was going to be re-established after 13 years' absence. The painful swelling then subsided; the lady became pregnant, and has had three children, although Prof. Simpson, had previously given it as his opinion, that she would never have a child, but would die in childbed should pregnancy occur.—*T. on Ovarian Inflammation.*