

*Puerperal Mania the result of metritic irritation from imperfectly developed scarlatinal exanthema.* By J. A. GRANT, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., M.R.C.P.L., &c. Attending Physician General Protestant Hospital, Ottawa.

On the 25th October, 1864, Mrs. W., æt. thirty-five years of age, a woman of regular conformation of body and somewhat robust, was delivered of her fourth child after a natural labor of four hours' duration without an unfavorable symptom. On the evening of the third day after her delivery she had a rigor, succeeded by heat of skin, without any particularly localized pain. The pulse 120 and weak, mouth parched, tongue furred, bowels relieved by castor oil, which was administered the night previous. Urine voided in moderately normal quantity, but high colored and abounding in uric acid and urates. Ordered compound powder of ipecacuanha gr. v., with two of calomel. She slept several hours during the night, and next morning the skin was covered with a bright scarlet eruption, particularly the face, neck, shoulders, and chest, accompanied by a general aching sensation over the body, but more particularly at the articulations of the joints. There was slight headache, suffusion of the eyes, fauces red, tonsils humid, tongue moist and covered with a slight fur, much thirst, pulse 120, skin over the abdominal surface pale, excepting a few mottled patches; no very marked tenderness experienced upon pressure over the abdomen; uterus firm and well contracted.

Ordered R̄ Ammon. sesquicarb. 3 ss.

Liquor ammon. acet. ʒ iss.

Mistura camphora ʒ ii.

Aqua distillato. ʒ ivss.

Misce: sumat. cochl. amplum tertia quaque hora. The feet placed in warm water, hot fomentations applied over the abdomen and a sinapism to the neck, the bowels also relieved by an injection of gruel. During the afternoon of the third day from the development of the eruption, delirium supervened, of which there was not any particular indication previous, either in the countenance or general demeanor of the patient. Soon, however, there was observed a troubled, agitated and hurried manner, a restless eye with the usual suspicious and unpleased expression of face, a constant desire to talk, contradict and compose rhyme, after being asked a question, without any desire to answer, inclined to leave her bed, and destroy her garments; pulse still rapid and compressible, temperature of the skin reduced several degrees, tongue coated with a slimy fur and the saliva scanty and glutinous, urine voided in small quantity and the lochia less copious than the day previous and slightly foetid. She