

Venesection was at once performed, twenty ounces of blood being taken. No relief to the symptoms followed this treatment. As regards venesection, the idea was that the patient was suffering from ingravescent hæmorrhage, though the cardiac condition would certainly have favored thrombosis.

During the next four hours the condition did not change, except that the respiration became gradually more marked in type. The patient died six hours after the onset of the attack. Half an hour before death he became comatose, with flaccid limbs, the pupils being fixed and somewhat dilated.

The *post mortem* examination showed a considerable thrombosis of the basilar artery, extending also a quarter of an inch into the right posterior cerebral artery and less into the left posterior cerebral. The cerebral arteries were atheromatous and calcareous to a considerable extent. The heart was hypertrophied and dilated.—S. H. PERRY, M.B., in *Birmingham Medical Review*.

Treatment of Severe Chorea by Chloroform and Morphine.—A girl, aged 17, was admitted into the Leeds General Infirmary in November last with moderately severe chorea. She had a rheumatic history but no existing arthritis. The movements increased rather rapidly in violence, unchecked by chloral in frequent doses of twenty grains. Beginning with one-sixth grain of morphine hypodermically immediately followed by inhalation of chloroform for a few minutes, and gradually increasing the dose of morphine to one-half grain, always aided by chloroform, the movements were kept under control with the greatest of ease. The smaller doses produced sleep lasting only from one to three hours, the patient awaking no better; but after the half-grain dose she slept almost uninterruptedly for nine hours, and was then so greatly improved that she required no further medication except by the mouth—in fact, became an ordinary mild case, and left the hospital well in about six weeks.

With moderate doses of morphine there is often a delay of many minutes before sleep occurs; the inhalation of chloroform for two or three minutes produces immediate sleep, which is continued by the morphine. If necessary, the chloroform may

precede the injection of morphine.—T. CHURTON, M.D., in *British Medical Journal*.

Thyroid Extract in Washerwoman's Eczema, and as a Local Application.—S.H., aged 42, a washerwoman, was placed on the sick list on January 27th. The patient was suffering from an acute attack of typical eczema, of the impetiginous type, with intolerable itching and exudation. The legs and arms were chiefly affected. She was unable to stand or do her daily work. She was treated with the ordinary remedies for a week, and these failing to do her any good, I determined to give thyroid tabloids a trial.

On February 6th three tabloids were daily prescribed. The result was most gratifying. In twenty-four hours she began to peel, and when I visited her on February 9th the epidermic scales and crusts filled the bed and littered the floor. The patient expressed herself much improved by the medicine, and the soreness about her limbs had disappeared. The eruption still further yielded to treatment, and on February 12th she was able to attend at the out patient department practically convalescent.

This patient occupied a small room in a back court, the general surroundings being very unfavorable for a good recovery. I think the remedy undoubtedly had a curative effect in this case.

I have been trying thyroid extract lately as a local application, and have found the remedy useful in the following cases: (1) Unhealthy serpiginous ulcers, (2) open buboes of specific gonorrhœal origin, (3) Hunterian chancres, and especially chancroids, (4) for the cure of deep sinuses. The medicine proved serviceable combined with calomel and another sheep product—lanolin. Buboes and sores quickly took on a healthy action, and in some patients desquamation was noticed. The tendency to too rapid healing had to be obviated, for example, in discharging buboes. An elegant preparation has been made for me by Messrs. Burroughs, Welcome & Co., in the form of thyroid cream. This seems to be a very cleanly and emollient dressing, the lanolin acting as a preservative. I have already noted the benign influence of the tabloids in certain syphilitic skin eruptions.—J. D. MENZIES, Surgeon R.N., in *British Medical Journal*.