

*Case No. 6.*—Mrs. L. McD., a married woman, æt. about 30, nursing an infant 6 months old. The mother contracted the disease, and the eruption made its appearance on fourth day, of a copious character, not confluent. Fever high, great thirst, and pains in back, head and bones very distressing. Gave seidlitz powders as aperients, and prescribed above remedies in following doses: Acid carb. grs. ij, sodæ sulphitis grs. xv. with glycerine, every three hours. The diaphoretic mixture also, during first two days, or until fever abated, in liberal doses, and the usual topical application to the skin or eruption. In this case the effect of the treatment was most marked; the pustules immediately began to decline, not going on to fill or mature as is usual in small-pox; the fever subsided on the second day, the pains left simultaneously with the fever; the sleeplessness, which had been a distressing symptom before using the medicine, was succeeded by comfortable rest during the first night after taking medicine, and patient continued to rest well after. The eruption, which had begun to desiccate on second day of treatment, began to scale off on the fourth day, and soon entirely disappeared, leaving a surface free from any traces of its former presence.

Strange to say, the child continued nursing throughout, and did not contract the disease. This woman is mother of six young children, none of whom contracted the disease.

Mr. F.'s children, two boys, aged respectively 10 years and 4 years, residents of St. David's Lane. Was called to see oldest child, who was first taken ill; had been ill for some days. Found head and face very much swollen, throat much inflamed, tonsils enlarged, eruption copious and confluent, body completely covered, fever high, and attended with constant delirium, eyes swollen and shut, and deafness present; child had been vaccinated in infancy.

Prescribed external applications of strong carbolate of glycerine to surface of body, and the following diaphoretic mixture:

℞ Potass Chloras 3j, Liq. Ammon Acet. ʒj, Tr. Aconit Rad. Gtt. xxxij, Spts. Eth it, 3 Niv, Aquæ ad. ʒiv. A teaspoonful every four hours. Made use of a mouth wash for fauces and tonsils of Potass Chloras. Ordered carbolate of soda mixture every three hours.

This patient appeared to improve during the first week. The eruption declined during first four days, after which it refilled again, or rather an eruption succeeded it of what might be termed copious white blisters, filled with a thin milk serum or fluid. The delirium suddenly increased, the throat became

much worse, and the patient refused all fluids, even medicine.

By this time the tonsils were extensively ulcerated. I prepared a lotion of carbolic acid, 1 to 100 of equal parts of glycerine and water. This enabled the patient, after a few hours frequent application, to take some milk; beef tea was now ordered in spoonful doses every hour, with tart drinks. The patient continued insensible, and in a few hours afterwards showed signs of sinking, succeeded by a feeble pulse, coldness of surface, shiverings, and finally patient died on 14th day, in a state of collapse. My two important mistakes or omissions in this case seemed to me to have been omitting to immerse the whole body in a warm bath in the beginning of the case, or even later, which might have been daily repeated; and not using carbolic to the throat affection when first seen, and depending too much upon chlorate of potash. The throat difficulty seemed to be the pivot upon which the result of the case depended. Altogether the case was the most severe I had seen for years, and had been contracted from a straw bed, which had been thrown out of a neighboring house, upon which two patients, a mother and child, attended by a prominent medical gentleman, had died of the most severe and confluent type of the disease. The second boy came under my care during the fever stage, and I at once began the internal administration of the carbolic acid and sulphite of soda mixture, paying great attention to the skin and throat to which I applied a very weak carbolic acid lotion. The bowels were kept relieved by castor oil; and the eruption, which appeared on the fourth day, began to decline on the sixth day, and was entirely gone on the 8th. This child had been tried with vaccine, but unsuccessfully. Wherever administered, in early stage of the disease the pustules have been prevented from maturing, and in no instance has any one contracted the disease from those thus treated.

This treatment is essentially the same as that followed by Dr. Boyer, of Philadelphia, and published in the Medical and Surgical Reporter: He gives a solution of 2 grs. carbolic acid, with 15 to 20 grains sulphite of soda every three hours, but with *no other treatment* than an ordinary purge during the initiative or forming fever.

The result of Dr. Boyer's experience with this plan of treatment, which seems to have been large, he gives as follows:—"The result, after several months trial, with myself and son, has been, that, in *every case of variola* and confluent small-pox, on the fourth day of the eruption the swelling of the face abated, the pulse fell to a normal rate, the tongue commenced