

*Iodide of Ammonium in Diseases of the Glandular System.*

Dr. I. WARING-CURRAN writes to the *Medical Press and Circular* :

The iodide of ammonium in diseases of the glands I find by experience a much more active therapeutic agent than that of the iodide of potassium, whether internally administered or locally applied. In the following forms of glandular diseases I can testify to its efficacy and curative properties, and have no hesitation in pronouncing it one of the best preparations with which I am acquainted.

GOITRE.—There is no part of England wherein I have seen more cases of bronchocele than at Bacup, a cotton manufacturing valley, about twenty miles from Manchester. Sixty per cent. of the female population suffer from goitre in some shape or form. The usual history is, that it commences "*during the pains of the first labor.*" I have had ample opportunity of remarking the accuracy of the statement that there was a connection between goitre and the uterine functions, that the gland became enlarged during the menstrual period, and particularly so in old goitres in women about change of life, when the discharge is scanty and the color altered. All the several varieties of bronchocele are to be seen in the valley of Rossendale. One patient is so unfortunate as to possess one which I am confident would weigh fourteen pounds; it extends over the clavicles and sternum, upon which latter it rubs, and causes little inconvenience apparently. The enlargement has been steadily increasing for thirty-seven years.

Cases of incipient goitre treated soon after their being first observed with the iodide of ammonium, made good and permanent recoveries. I prescribe the iodide thus:

R. Ammonii iodidi, gr. xl.  
Spiritus chloroformi, ʒ ij.  
Aquæ camphoræ ad, ʒ viij.

Cap. ʒ j., ter in die.

At the same time I direct the following cerate to be rubbed into the growth night and morning :

R. Ammonii iodidi, ʒ ij.  
Glycerinæ, ʒ ij.  
Adipis benzoat, ʒ jss.

In some few cases I have obtained great benefit by stopping the iodide of ammonium mixture for a few days, and substituting the hypophosphites of lime. Hitherto, I have inwardly given the old standard formula of iodide of potassium, but a more extensive field in the treatment of the complaint convinces me of the superiority of the drug I advocate.