

with certain loss of the breast now and probably for the future also. Remembering Mr. Browne's suggestion in the Journal of May 31st, I determined, with the patient's consent, to try his plan, using a large Chapman's spine-bag filled with ice, which encircled the lower half of the breast. It felt very cold indeed for a minute or two, then a considerable quantity of milk was shot out as from a syringe (no milk had flowed before), the pain abated, and in an hour was almost gone. I now renewed the ice in the bag, and the patient kept it closely applied with her arm, which was protected from the cold by a folded towel. Next morning I found her hugging the ice-bag and loud in its praise. She continued suckling her infant, but she suggested that the baby should not be put to the breast oftener than two or three times in the twenty-four hours. On the fourth day after the commencement of the ice the most careful examination failed to detect anything wrong in the breast, and she is now quite well and nursing her child. No other remedies were used; and I thank Mr. Browne for one of the most valuable hints I have ever got, and wonder why he has not told us before.—*D. M. Williams in the British Medical Journal.*

#### CUPPING IN CARBUNCLE.

In the early period of my practice, some forty years ago, I used the cups in the treatment of local diseases more often than now. During this period I had to treat a bad case of carbuncle, situated on the back of the neck of an old man. While dressing it one day it struck me forcibly that cupping would be just the treatment for this case. Calling for a large goblet and some cotton, I applied it as a cup, after expanding the air by burning cotton in it. The effects were truly wonderful, drawing out from the interior of the tumor a large amount of pus and corruption, which gave immediate relief. The night following the old gentleman rested for the first time. Since this experiment—the first one of which I ever heard or knew—I have relied mainly on the cups for the local treatment of carbuncle. It fulfills the most important indications in the local treatment of this often troublesome and sometimes dangerous disease. It relieves tension and pain, and limits gangrene of the cellular tissue. It materially shortens the time of cure. With appropriate general treatment the disease is thus shorn of half its pain, duration, and danger. The cups may be applied once or twice a day, or even oftener. If resorted to in the early stage, the scalpel or lancet should be used to induce a free flow of blood. Mere dry cupping at this time would increase the flow of blood to the tumor without relief. I would caution against too severe cupping until pus is formed; I more of-

ten use a large, blunt-rimmed tumbler or goblet than any other kind of cup. The size of the opening of the cup should be, if possible, sufficiently large to cover the base of the tumor. An air-pump attached to the cup, if at hand, would be much more manageable and convenient; but the tumbler and cotton may be used with almost equally good effect if adroitly done, besides having this advantage, of being always available.—*Dr. Hunt, in Chicago Medical Examiner.*

#### DOVER'S POWDER IN THE NIGHT-SWEATING OF PHTHISIS.

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It is a noteworthy fact that pathological sweating may be arrested not only by drugs that exert an inhibitory action upon the sweat-centres, but also by agents that in health promote perspiration.

Dr. Leared speaks highly of the Turkish bath as a remedy for the nocturnal perspiration of phthisis. He says, "The direct action of the bath has been more strongly shown in removing night-sweats than in any other symptom."

M. Vignard, of Nantes, recommends sage tea in pathological sweatings. He records the case of a young man who for many years had suffered profusely from night-sweating. It generally began about two or three o'clock in the morning, and was so profuse that it saturated the bed-clothes, and to a considerable extent the mattress also. Sulphate of quinine was tried in vain. At length M. Vignard prescribed the following preparation: "Take of chopped sage a large pinch, of water six fluid ounces. Boil the sage a minute or two in water, let it stand to cool, then filter and sweeten to taste." The perspiration ceased whenever the decoction was taken, but reappeared when it was omitted.

The employment of Dover's powder in the treatment of the night-sweating of phthisis is by no means new, and was, it is said, first suggested by Stokes, of Dublin. In 1861 M. Descamps published a paper giving the result of eighteen years' experience of this mode of treatment. The effect surpassed his expectation, the result being uniformly successful, and the sweating being suppressed from the first. "We possess," he says, "several records of cases of phthisis in which the perspiration was arrested up to the period of death. The powder was generally given in the dose of fifty centigrams (about seven and a half grains) in the evening, at different hours, according to that which announced the commencement of the sweating; and not only was it always observed