

consisting simply of horsehair matting, to the inner side of which was attached some flannel or cotton-wool, and on this the inhalation-mixture was dropped. The cost of the inhaler was about three-pence. Where the pills were badly borne (especially in women), the iodoform was added to cod-liver oil. In very young children, iodoform inunction, made with olive oil or vaseline, was to be recommended, while older children seemed to take iodoform, either as powders or in small pills, very siwell. The good effects of iodoform seemed to consist in the following: 1. Increase of weight; 2. Increase of appetite; 3. Diminution of cough and expectoration; 4. Diminution or even total cessation of night sweats; 5. The temperature was often a little lowered. No symptoms of iodoform intoxication had ever been seen. Several medical men who had tried the iodoform treatment, had also obtained every satisfactory results.—*Brit. Med. Journ.*

THE TREATMENT OF SPERMATORRHOEA.

Dr. H. Coupland Taylor thus sensibly writes in the *Britt. Med. Jour.*, March 24, 1883:

Obstinate cases of spermatorrhœa and frequent nocturnal emissions constantly come under the care of the practitioner. Too frequently the medical man consulted simply tells the patient that, if he breaks off the pernicious habit of masturbation, which has probably originated his malady, he will soon quickly recover. But in fact, in most cases, the habit has already been abandoned before he comes to seek advice; and these cases do not get well for months or even years afterwards, unless proper measures be taken. Knowing that he has left off this bad habit, and that he nevertheless does not improve, his complaint being made light of by the regular practitioner, and being greatly depressed in mind, he seeks the advice of the quack, who is always ready to benefit by these cases. I will give an outline of the treatment I have followed, and which I have found most successful in several such cases. The treatment should be: 1. Moral; 2. Hygienic; 3. Medicinal. 1. *Moral.* a. The pernicious habit of masturbation, which has probably been the origin of the complaint, must at once be discontinued, or no good can result from any treatment. b. The thoughts should be directed from himself by his having regular work and exercise. c. The anxiety of mind which ensues should be allayed as much as possible, and a happy state of mind instituted. 2. *Hygienic.* a. The patient should have regular but not excessive mental employment, and bodily exercise in the form of walking, riding or outdoor sports and games. b. Cold sponging of the genitals night and morning for some minutes, or as long as can comfortably be borne, is a most important agent in giving tone to the relaxed organs. c. The patient should have a hard mattress, and as little and as light clothing as possible at night.

Care should be taken not to lie on the back, which may be prevented by wearing a knotted towel over the spine, or by some other device. d. No quantity of liquid should be taken before retiring to rest, and the bladder should be emptied the last thing. 3. *Medicinal.* A mixture containing tincture of perchloride of iron and tincture of nux vomica should be given twice or three times a day; also a pill containing a fourth or a third of a grain of extract of belladonna with three grains of camphor should be given at first every night, and then every other night, immediately before going to bed. If these lines of treatment be adhered to, the patient, whether suffering from real spermatorrhœa or simply from frequently returning nocturnal emissions, will steadily improve, and the emission will occur less and less frequently, till, in the course of a few weeks, or possibly months—for a malady of long standing (as this usually is) is never cured immediately—they will cease altogether, or only occur at such intervals as may be deemed normal, and in which there is no harm whatever.

SULPHUROUS ACID IN SCARLATINA MALIGNA.

In the *British Medical Journal* Dr. Keith Norman Macdonald, after denying the prevalent opinion, that no reliance can be placed on any drug in cases of scarlatina, does not hesitate in affirming that, when properly applied, both locally and internally, sulphurous acid is by far the most efficacious remedy we possess. He continues: "I have had several opportunities of testing its efficacy in some of the worst cases I have ever seen, during the epidemic which has been rife in this town (Cupar Fife) for the last two months, and I am bound to say that, of all remedial measures in this disease, it is, in my opinion, the most reliable. My treatment is as follows: The moment the throat begins to become affected, I administer to a child, say of about six years of age, ten minims of the sulphurous acid, with a small quantity of glycerine in water, every two hours, and I direct the sulphurous acid spray to be applied every three hours to the fauces for a few minutes at a time, by using the pure acid in severe cases, or equal parts of the acid and water, according to the severity of the case. Sulphur should also be burned in the sick chamber half a dozen times a day, by placing flour of sulphur upon a red-hot cinder, and diffusing the the sulphurous acid vapor through the room, until the atmosphere begins to become unpleasant to breathe.

"In the worst cases, where medicine cannot be swallowed, this and the spray must be entirely relied upon; and the dark shades which collect upon the teeth and lips should be frequently laved with a solution of the liquor potass permanganatis of the strength of about one drachm to six ounces of water, some of which should be swallowed, if possible.