

tepid water, when the skin was hot and dry; and in a few instances leeches or cupping have been used to the exterior of inflamed localities in the abdomen or chest.<sup>10</sup>

It must also be remembered that they were all treated by the same physician, in the same wards of a general hospital, and they nearly all came from the same group of districts.<sup>11</sup> And the mean age of those of the first and last six years did not materially differ, being 22 and 23 years.

The mean time of stay in hospital of those who recovered, was in the first series 29½ days, and in the last 26½ days, being 1½ days difference.

It is in the average of deaths however that the advantage of continuous nourishment is most manifest; for by the first mode, with all his care, there was one death in every five, whilst by the last he lost but one out of every forty.<sup>12</sup>

The liquid nourishment consisted of strong beef tea and milk, of which together about six imperial pints were administered in the twenty-four hours, (nearly seven pints and a-half of our measure).

The hydrochloric acid employed was the diluted acid of the London pharmacopœia, and was given in doses of twenty minims in a little sweetened water. The most immediate result of the acid is in the improvement of the digestive mucous membrane, as shown at its two extremities, by the cleaning of the tongue at one end, and the cessation of diarrhœa at the other.<sup>13</sup> Hydrochloric acid indeed always prevents the diarrhœa of fever from attaining any prominence as a symptom,<sup>14</sup> should it ever prove insufficient, however, a dose of Dover's,<sup>15</sup> or compound kino powder might be administered.<sup>16</sup>

**Wine.**—Wine, he says, must never be employed as a substitute for food,<sup>17</sup> but should be given in all cases where the nervous system is exhausting itself and the body, by an activity in excess of the other bodily functions,<sup>18</sup> and be continued as long as the tongue is dry, and the mind raves instead of sleeping, and the hands tremble.<sup>19</sup> It should be given, increased, or left off, under the guidance of the appetite for food. As long as a sick person takes and digests food better with wine than without, so long is it doing good.<sup>20</sup> He orders the wine to be administered but twice or three times a day, giving enough at each draught to produce a decided effect.<sup>21</sup>

**Sponging and Anointing.**—The sponging of the body three or four times a day with tepid water gives great relief in fever.<sup>22</sup> Nurses sometimes add a little distilled vinegar to the water. Anointing the body with some softly scented olive oil wonderfully increases the comfort derived from the sponging, but unfortunately it consumes a good deal of time.<sup>23</sup>

**The Eruption.**—The flanks and buttocks are often the seat of the characteristic eruptions of typhoid fever, and the spots may frequently be discovered in these situations when their presence elsewhere seems doubtful.<sup>24</sup> He cautions us from mistaking flea-bites for the rose-coloured eruption; fleas cannot leave their marks without punctures, and these may readily be detected, by means of a magnifying glass, as a minute dark crimson point in the centre of each spot.<sup>25</sup>

**Pneumonia in Fever.**—Pneumonia frequently comes on in typhoid fever very insidiously, and is only made evident by auscultation; we should therefore be ever on the alert for it.<sup>26</sup> Any purging of the alimentary canal with this complication is

most injurious.<sup>27</sup> In the pneumonia of low fever position is of great importance, owing to the want of power in the blood vessels to overcome the gravitation of the blood towards the lowest part of the lungs. Our author recommends laying the patient on the side opposite to the one affected, and even on his face for a time, when both lungs are inflamed, and thus the very force of gravitation feared as an enemy, would thus become a friend by withdrawing the congestion from the weaker point.<sup>28</sup> Again, he observes, do not fear taking a little blood from the side even in low fever when the lungs are thus affected.<sup>29</sup>

On the setting in of pneumonic symptoms,<sup>30</sup> or even of congestive dyspœnia,<sup>31</sup> the sponging must be suspended lest it chill the chest and cause an attack of pleurisy.<sup>32</sup> And a large poultice should be at once applied to the side affected.<sup>33</sup>

**RHEUMATIC FEVER.**—The most desirable object in rheumatic fever is certainly to prevent metastasis to the heart. This, our author contends, will never take place if the patient be kept in a horizontal position, the skin warm, and no exposure of the body be allowed.<sup>34</sup> He says that nothing that is made of linen should ever be permitted to touch the skin, even a linen front to a shirt he has known to bring on pericarditis. The sheets are to be removed from the bed, and the body carefully wrapped in blankets, which should be so arranged as to protect even the head from any occasional draughts; the new and softest blankets are the best.<sup>35</sup> And even in our daily examinations of the heart be particularly warns us against all exposure of the chest or even the applying of a cold stethoscope to the cardiac region.<sup>36</sup> After an experience of eight years of this mode of bedding in blankets, he says that it reduces by a good three quarters the risk of inflammation of the heart, and diminishes its intensity when it does occur, and lessens still further the danger of death by this or any other lesion.<sup>37</sup>

Since June, 1851, he has treated, at St. Mary's Hospital, 257 cases of rheumatic fever, twenty-six of which were put upon drachm doses of nitre, three times a day, and their mean stay in hospital was 40 days.

One hundred and forty-one received scruple doses or more, of bicarbonate of potash every two hours and the mean stay of these was 34½ days.

Twenty-five, all that have been treated since he last, have had nothing but a little opium when the pain was severe, and an occasional purgative if the bowels became costive; and their mean stay in hospital has been but 27½ days.<sup>38</sup>

Painful joints or limbs may be fomented with flannels dipped in hot water, or a decoction of poppy heads, with an ounce of sal soda dissolved in each quart.<sup>39</sup>

**Bicarbonate of Potash.**—Although speaking so favourably of the treatment by opium, yet our author still continues to recommend the alkaline treatment which he has hitherto found so useful in relieving the swelling and pain in the joints.<sup>40</sup> But he says that he has never found any thing better than twenty grain doses every two hours to be of any real benefit.<sup>41</sup>

**Iodide of Potassium.**—The salt he recommends in cases when the pain is in the bones, is more painful on pressure than on moving, and is fixed in one spot. He directs two grains to be added to each dose of the bicarbonate, and after a charge for the better, orders the iodide to be taken alone.<sup>42</sup>