

SPLENIC ANÆMIA—CASE—BLOOD CURED.

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Mary P.—, age 49 years, admitted on December 2nd; diagnosis splenic anemia. Patient complained of diarrhœa and swelling of the abdomen. An examination showed a tumor in the left side of about two years standing. For three years she had been a sufferer from progressing anemia with greatly enlarged spleen. There was nothing of any moment in her family history and no history of any other diseased condition. Malaria was not present. She said that three years previous to my seeing her she had an attack of diarrhœa, and shortly after noted a swelling in the left side beneath the costal margin. From the outset her color was bad, of a grayish brown unhealthy tint. Diarrhœa had been almost constant and great care had to be taken in her diet. In spite of this the patient said she had never passed any blood or mucus, and on several times within the three years there had been intervals when the diarrhœa had entirely stopped. The swelling on left side, she said, had steadily increased and now caused a heavy dragging, uneasy sensation. There was no edema or ascites. The patient was a slight woman with a highly anemic appearance, mucous membrane pale, tongue slightly coated and some pigmentation, murmurs at the base of her heart could be discerned. On the left side a bulging just to the left of the umbilicus was a marked prominence. An examination showed a large solid mass with sharp border, and one well-defined notch just above the navel. The whole mass was readily moveable and on percussion extended over the seventh rib. Examination of the blood showed hæmaglobin about 55 per cent., red blood corpuscles of 2,900,000 per cubic millimetre. The corpuscles were pale, the red blood corpuscles not nucleated. The feces were of a greenish brown color, containing no blood or mucus or parasites. Of this I am certain, for they were frequently examined.

The patient was put to bed, the secretions regulated, an elastic abdominal belt applied and bovine ordered, a teaspoonful every hour in peptonized milk. Also one-twentieth grain biniodid of mercury every three hours.

Dec. 28th, the bovine was increased to two teaspoonfuls every hour.

Jan. 6th, the bovine was increased to a tablespoonful every two hours.

Jan. 18th, the diarrhœa had ceased, the patient was feeling stronger, her color was better, examination of her blood showed hæmaglobin to be about 60 per cent., white corpuscles slightly over 5,000 per cubic millimetre. The urine, outside of just a slight trace of albumen, was normal.

Jan. 20th, the bovine was increased to a wine-glassful every three hours, the mercury discontinued. The patient made a steady and uninterrupted recovery and was discharged cured, January 29th.

A WAIL OF DISAPPOINTMENT.—An Eastern concern, which makes an imitation of Gude's "Pepto-Mangan," and, for years, has traded upon the reputation which this preparation has earned for itself, has recently sent broadcast to the medical profession of America a circular letter, in which, after bewailing the enormous returns brought by the "unethical methods" of other manufacturers, modestly refers to its own "ethical" virtues, and expresses the belief that, in spite of present non-appreciation of these virtues by the doctors, "the day will come when physicians will realize the importance of ceasing to be the *instigators and propagators* of the popularity of certain proprietaries" and will patronize "*ethical preparations*"—like *theirs*, for instance.

This, to say the least, is a very left-handed compliment to the great body of the medical profession, who will not be slow to catch its drift, or fail to inquire wherein consists the "ethicalness" of the methods of the concern who thus sharply takes them to task for preferring a genuine to a spurious article.

Druggists, as a rule, are not much interested in the quibbles of the doctors on questions of "ethics," but in this matter most of them will recognize in the circular referred to, a wail of disappointment and an effort to draw attention away from the methods adopted by its authors to supplant the preparation thus covertly assailed by them with their own imitation thereof.

The time has gone by when either doctor or druggist can be deceived by any such false play. Every member of both professions knows that "Gude's Pepto-Mangan" is a preparation of genuine value, manufactured on scientific principles, by reliable men, and introduced to physicians in an ethical manner, solely on its merits, and for these reasons physicians will continue to be "instigators and propagators" of its popularity, just as the druggists will continue to keep in stock an article for which there is a steady demand and a ready sale.—*The National Druggist, November, 1900.*