

employed. It may be given in doses as high as 3 i. t. i. d.

R. Bismuth subnitrat..... 3 i.
Morphia sulph..... gr. i.
M.

Div. in pulv. No. xij.

S. One every four, six, or eight hours. p. r. n.

Sometimes benefit will be derived from the use of mineral waters. Water from the Rock Ridge limespring of Virginia is the best that can be employed. The water contains lime and iron, and is astringent and tonic. Of this $\frac{3}{4}$ ij. to $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. may be taken every three to six hours. It can be taken clear or with other water.

Oak Orchard water is regarded as very serviceable in the treatment of chronic enteric difficulties of any kind.

In the latter stages of the diarrhoea of phthisis, especially when the large intestines are the seat of ulcerations, *opium* is the chief remedy to be relied upon. When given to relieve pain, hypodermically or by suppositories, it is much less liable to disturb the stomach. Suppositories made of *gum opium* alone are much more efficient than when the opium is compounded with other substances.

Salicine, in ten-grain doses t. i. d., has something of a reputation in the treatment of diarrhoea of phthisis. The remedy may be given in divided doses, and administered more frequently if desirable.—*New York Med. Record.*

TREATMENT OF CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

Dr. Dowse, of the Central London Sick Asylum, after giving a good account of the etiology, symptoms, and post-mortem appearances of this disease, as it effects the base of the brain, observes that there is no disease requiring more constant watching or careful medical interference than this. He has seen an acute meningitis and myelitis treated with those drugs which produce congestion; for instance, opium and strychnine. Nothing can be more productive of harm than such treatment in the first or acute stage.

1. It has to be considered how to relieve the vessels of the cord, and to equalize the action of the vasomotor system of nerves. Nothing appears to be of greater service in effecting this than the ergot of rye, and belladonna. The former he has prescribed in decided doses, such as half a drachm of the powder every four hours; and the latter he has applied to the spine in the form of a belladonna paste, made by mixing the extract with one-third its weight of glycerine.

2. To check the reflex vomiting, small pieces of ice must be swallowed, not sucked, as the full effect of its sedative influence upon the stomach is thus obtained.

3. To relieve constipation, Dr. Dowse prefers the administration of a pill of the watery extract of aloes, for the reason that it acts upon the mucous membrane of the rectum and dilates the hemorrhoidal veins.

4. To relieve sleeplessness, both chloral and bromide of potassium have proved ineffectual, but what he found of most service was a suppository of eight grains of the extract of henbane, with four grains of the extract of conium.

5. One essential practical point must not be forgotten—namely, to keep the paralyzed bladder constantly free from urine. It is not sufficient to draw off the water night and morning, which is the course usually adopted, but a self-retaining catheter must be kept continually in the viscus.

6. In reference to diet, it ought to be both nutritive and stimulant from the first.

7. There is a stage in the treatment of this disease where quinine in large doses becomes of the most signal value—at that crisis when exhaustion appears imminent; the skin covered with sweat; temperature 102° to 105° ; pulse small, weak, and over 120. But more especially is quinine invaluable when rigors supervene, when it never fails to have a good effect. It must, however, be given in ten or twenty grain doses; and, if the stomach cannot tolerate it, must be introduced into the system by the rectum.

8. The abstraction of blood in any manner is not advisable.—*Med. Times and Gaz.*

PUERPERAL CONVALESCENCE.

Dr. WM. GOODELL, Clinical Professor of Diseases of Women in the University of Pennsylvania, contributes to the *Medical and Surgical Reporter* (Feb. 21, 1874) some special hints on puerperal convalescence, as follows:—

Let the physician see to it that his patient has a good getting up, as well from a miscarriage as a natural labour. Lactation should be encouraged, and the first day the diet should be generous. The canonical purge on the third day should be dispensed with: it weakens the body needlessly, and tends to promote the absorption of septic matter. Premature exertion must not be allowed. On the other hand, a recumbent posture ought not to be too rigorously enjoined. I feel persuaded that this tradition of the lying-in chamber does more harm than good, for nothing relaxes muscular fibre as a confinement in bed. In my experience, women feel stronger on the fifth day after labour than they do on the ninth or fourteenth, if kept in bed. Among the ancient Greeks, those models of physical strength and beauty, the women took a bath on the fifth day. That this was also a custom of the Romans is evident from a play of Plautus, entitled "*Truculentus, or the Churl.*" Since labour is in general a strictly physiological process, there can be no sound reason why a woman should not sit up in bed, or even slip into a chair, whenever she feels so disposed. These are not idle phrases, but the conclusions of a long and well-sifted experience. Such movements excite the womb to contraction and empty it and the vagina of putrid lochia which may be incarcerated by a clot or by the swollen condition of the soft parts. When, therefore, the lochia are offensive, these upright positions should be insisted upon, as being, in fact,