

the treatment, which included tonics, electricity, digitalis, etc., tried several months, she grew so much worse as to be confined to bed. It then occurred to the writer that the rapid forcible, occasionally tumultuous, action of the heart would favor the idea that increase in the resistance of the systemic arteries was one of the features; and as digitalis increased tension, it was concluded that was the reason it failed to quiet the heart's action.

Strophanthus was said to lessen the arterial tension; consequently he tried this. The woman was then unable to walk, had painful sensations in the præcordia; was emaciated in an extreme degree, yet relief soon became manifest; the pulse went down, the patient became able to take a fair amount of exercise, and finally she became symptomatically cured, and the prominence of the eyes and size of the thyroid diminished.

He had since tried strophanthus on eight other cases, with marked benefit in all except one, in which there was accompanying pulmonary trouble, probably tubercular. He had no explanation except that the strophanthus relieved the overtaxed heart by overcoming resistance in the systemic circulation. He had employed the tincture in increasing doses, but care should be taken to obtain a good quality. Only recently had he seen mention of strophanthus in ophthalmic goitre in medical literature.

PAPOID IN GASTRIC CATARRH.—There are several drugs that have distinct remedial effects in this affection (*Times and Register*), especially rhubarb and ipecacuanha in minute doses, which have the property of stimulating the gastro-intestinal glands to secretion; but the stomach should first be freed from the viscid mucus that it contains by using hot water with alkalies, to be taken an hour before meals, the drug following in about fifteen minutes. If the secretion of mucus be profuse, the oxides of zinc and of silver are of value, being alterative and astringent.

But there is another agent representing another and entirely different principle, that of *coaxing* the organ back to its duty in a similar way to that in which pepsin does in dyspepsia. The agent is papoid, a powerful digestant which will begin the work of peptonizing albumin in an alkaline

medium. And, after the formation of peptone is commenced, and when the natural stimulus—food, has caused the secretion of the gastric juice, the pepsin simply continues the process until completed. It may be given in two to five grain doses, with a grain of potash or soda, and a minute amount of ipecacuanha, or rhubarb.

If the secretion of abnormal mucus in the stomach is excessive, it is well to give the hot alkaline water half an hour before meals, and the papoid immediately after meals; but, in most cases, this is unnecessary, as the papoid itself quickly rids the stomach of mucus.

ANTIMONY IN LOCAL INFLAMMATIONS.—Surgeon-Major E. Lawrie, in the *Practitioner*, relates his experience of the treatment of local inflammations by small and frequently repeated doses of antimony. He has found that, in this way, all inflammations not dependent upon a specific or septic cause, can be arrested. More particularly he instances the great benefit which antimony produces in the mucous enteritis of children; and he also found it extensively serviceable in cases of typhoid fever. He states that it cuts short the fever when all other remedies fail. No depressing effects on the heart's action was observed as long as the drug was not pushed so far as to cause nausea, and diarrhæa; and if considered desirable, it may be combined with cardiac tonics.

CAPILLARY BRONCHITIS.—A favorable formula for the administration of carb. ammonia to children, even infants, is the following:—

R—Ammoniæ carb., 32 grains.

Mucil. acaciæ 1 ounce.

Syr. simplic, 1 ounce.

M. Sig.—One teaspoonful every hour, two or three hours, according to graveness of the attack.

In the capillary bronchitis of children, which is often so alarmingly fatal, the formula in teaspoonful doses every thirty or sixty minutes, in cases where suffocation is threatened, will be found a specific.

A BOY'S ESSAY ON BREATH.—Breath is made of air, writes a Kentucky school-boy. If it wasn't for our breath we would die when we slept. Our breath keeps the life agoing through the nose when we are asleep. Boys that stay in a room all day should not breathe. They should wait till they