

CONVULSIONS.

FROM WM. H. COOK, M. D.

Friend HADLEY:—I send you the following case, as copied from my Journal. Take it for what it is worth.

August 2nd. This evening was called to see Mrs. D.,—æ. 30. On arriving found her in a fit: Insensible, eyes open and fixed, grinding the teeth, spasmodic twitching of the hands, arms and legs; palms of the hands and soles of the feet warm, with the rest of the extremities *very cold*; pulse imperceptible. The fit passed off in a few minutes, leaving her perfectly sensible. Pulse now 54, *very* small and weak. Complained of having a severe darting pain in the head, and right side. Swelling over the region of the liver and stomach. Palms of the hands and soles of the feet now cold. Skin loose and flabby. The fits come on without warning, and usually last about ten minutes. An Allopathic physician had been attending her for five days, but she grew worse every day. Had had fifty-one during the twenty four hours previous to my being called.

On examination, I found nephritic torpor, hepatic torpor and congestion. prostrate nervous system, and consequently weak circulation. A strong tendency to general *internal* congestion, and a considerable collection of gas in the stomach.

Treatment.—1st. Gave a single dose of

Spts Nitre dulcis,

Ess. Mentha viridis, (spearmint,) aa 10 drops.

This produced micturition in a short time.

2nd. Applied cloths wet in *warm* water over the stomach and liver. In one hour there was no pain. In two hours gas and swelling all gone. Discontinued the cloths.

3rd. At the same time began giving infusion of

Asclepias tuberosa, (white root,) 8 parts.

Capsicum annum, (cayenne,) 1 “

A table spoonful every hour. This roused the lagging circulation, and relieved the internal organs, by determining the blood to the skin.

4th. Lobelia inf. sem., (lobelia seed,) 2 parts.

Podophyllum pelt., (mandrake,) 1 “

Potassæ bitart., (cream tartar,) 1 “ M.