

in number in an ever-widening circle. Hypnotics and analgesics, anesthetics and antiseptics, have received much attention from these industrious gentlemen, and a number of compounds of considerable value have been evolved and placed before the medical public.

One of the latest candidates for popular favor is a compound which is manufactured in the laboratory of Parke, Davis & Co., and which is said to contain within itself the qualities of a hypnotic, analgesic, anesthetic, and antiseptic, and which bears for its baptismal name Chloretone, or trichlor-tertiary-butyl alcohol. This substance is made by the addition of caustic potash to equal weights of chloroform and acetone, and occurs in white crystals with the odor of camphor. It is but slightly soluble in water, though easily dissolved by the stronger solvents—alcohol, ether, etc. It is consequently recommended that for internal administration it be given in tablet form.

While possessing the qualities of which we have spoken, the discoverers specially recommend it as a hypnotic and local anesthetic, claiming for it freedom from depressing after-effects, and a high degree of safety even when administered in large doses.

The writer has experimented with this drug as a hypnotic in a number of cases with varied pathological conditions, and has found it to be of considerable value in well selected cases and with moderate doses—ten to fifteen grains, repeated in the same doses within two hours if necessary. While it has been found of considerable value, as has been said, sufficient time has not yet elapsed to determine its true value relatively with the other hypnotics, nor to give it its true place in the *materia medica*.

Were it not for a case of exceedingly large dosage which recently came under the author's observation, it would not have been deemed advisable as yet to publish any of his inexact and incomplete experiments. This case, however, seems to demonstrate so well the harmlessness of the drug in large doses that it has been considered advisable to publish a report of the case.

A short time ago the writer had under his care a young man of brilliant parts, who had become a victim of the morphine and alcohol habits. He had indulged secretly in both drugs for a number of years, and was fast becoming a physical and mental wreck. An effort was made to cure him of his habits by placing him in a suitable environment and by withdrawing the drugs as rapidly as the case would permit, his strength being maintained in the meantime by a tonic and dietetic regimen. Considerable difficulty was experienced in producing sleep, and resort was had to the bromides, trional, and chloretone, all of which acted fairly well.

While progressing satisfactorily in regard to the drug habits, numerous abscesses developed in different parts of the body, which on evacuation freely discharged thick, fetid pus. These were no