

never seen such cases do well in elderly people. He died on the fourteenth day.

Meteorism, or tympanitic swelling of the belly, was another unfavourable symptom, occasionally met with towards the close of fever. A medical assistant in the Hospitals in 1836, who died from Typhus, had this distressing affection supervene on the seventeenth day. In his case it was ascertained, by a subsequent post-mortem examination, to have been caused by ulceration of the ileo-cæcal valve. Forty-eight hours previous to his dissolution, there was as complete a reversion of the peristaltic motion, as in the most perfect case of strangulated hernia, as evinced by constant vomiting of fecal matter. Severe and protracted cases, especially those which ran into dysentery, were often complicated with excoriation and sloughing sores of the back, sacrum, and hips; the irritation and exhaustion produced by these frequently turned the scale against the unhappy sufferer. Various topical applications were made to these sores, and means adopted to take off pressure. Among the former of these was a weak solution of Mr. Ledoyen's disinfecting fluid (solution of nitrate of lead). Marked benefit was obtained by its use in many cases, and in all it corrected the effluvia which so constantly attends large sloughs. In two of the cases where it was so used, it brought on lead colic.

Inflammation and swelling of the parotid gland was an occasional event after the fifteenth day; it was always looked upon as an unfavourable symptom, terminating often in gangrene and death with us.

Among the irregular and anomalous cases which occurred, were two or three, in which there existed an enormous craving for food, chiefly for meat, and any kind would be swallowed with avidity. This took place in each instance during the height of the fever, and at a time when the tongue was dry, cracked and glazed, the face flushed, and the pulse over 100. A similar phenomenon was observed during the progress of the fever with which Dr. Painchaud, the Senior Physician of the Marine and Emigrant Hospital of this city was attacked. In his case, during the ingravescence of the disease, and at various periods afterwards, he was seized with an inordinate desire for food, which he eat with avidity, swallowing large pieces of beef steak imperfectly masticated. His convalescence was tedious, and accompanied by diarrhœa. I find that Dr. Satterley relates an analogous case, in the Medical Transactions, vol. v. Art. xxii., where the desire for food re-appeared on the fifth day, with a craving which it was impossible to satisfy. When food was not allowed, various indigestible substances were devoured in its stead. In this

case the disease extended, with numerous variations, to upwards of thirty days, when the fever unequivocally subsided, and the patient gradually recovered. A greater number of deaths took place from relapse after fever and from dysentery, than from fever itself; in both instances induced by errors of diet, which the greatest watchfulness could not prevent; or from sudden atmospheric changes, to which the convalescents were exposed in hospitals built of boards, and constructed with a view to free ventilation. The treatment was necessarily modified in different cases, according to the predominance of diseased action in the different organs, whether in the *brain, chest, or abdomen*.

General bleeding was rarely employed, as few cases were seen in the very outset, when this remedy, if used at all, is alone justifiable. I fully concur with Dr. S. Smith in the opinion, that "it is in vain to hope to terminate fever by a stroke of art; that when once the disease is set up, it advances with a step as steady as time, and, like time, it never retraces a step." Many of the medical gentlemen in charge of the Hospitals at Grosse Isle last season, had great faith in emetics in arresting the disease, but all sooner or later gave up their use, from a conviction of their utter inefficacy. Cleanliness, quietness, cool drinks, gentle aperients of calomel and rhubarb, or senna and salts, so as to produce two or three stools in the twenty-four hours, with three half pints of gruel or arrowroot per diem for diet, were the chief means resorted to during the progress of the fever. If head symptoms showed themselves, the *douche* was used, and a single fold of linen cloth wet with cold water was kept applied to the shaved scalp. If there still existed great restlessness and insomnia notwithstanding these applications, recourse was had to hyosciamus, as long experience has taught me, that delirium, coma, and death, often ensue, where attention to the important point of obtaining sleep is neglected. Stimulants were rarely employed in the early stage of the disease; towards the close, and when the struggle came, brandy and wine were freely used, and when these failed to rouse the sinking powers, great benefit was often derived from the administration of large doses of gum-camphor; doses of 20 to 30 grains three times in the twenty-four hours were given, in substance reduced to a powder by means of a drop or two of spirit of wine. I have witnessed the most astonishing effects from the use of this drug, in cases where there was almost total insensibility, a thread-like pulse, and complete loss of muscular power, as evinced by the sliding down in the bed. In such cases re-action has been brought on, and the flagging powers recalled by it, even when wine and brandy by the half pint had failed to