

bility, and tension,"\* and thereby impart strength and vigor to the whole system. *Stimulants*, by increasing the sensibility and irritability of the parts to which they are applied, powerfully augment, through the nervous system, the organic actions. Stimulants exalt the functions of innervation and circulation without imparting permanent strength to the system. Tonics give tone and strength to the muscular and nervous system at the same time, without increasing, necessarily, the action of the heart. "Tonics give strength, stimulants call it forth."

The tone or energy of the system which is gradually acquired through the administration of tonics, becomes permanent, and is not replaced by a consequent exhaustion or depression. The introduction of stimulants into the living body is quickly followed by increased energy of the vital actions, and is succeeded as rapidly by a state of depression or collapse. Stimulants are not indicated when inflammation is present, but "tonics, by imparting strength to the capillaries, operate beneficially in inflammation, even when the use of the lance is requisite to keep down the action of the heart."† Both tonics and stimulants may produce their effects on the system, by making their impression chiefly on the stomach, or by operating through the medium of the blood, or through the medium of the nerves.

As tonics, strictly speaking are neither stimulant nor sedative, they may be appropriately, and, often, very usefully combined with either. In many cases, where tonics are indicated, and yet from some cause are not well borne, they may be administered, especially the martial preparations, with much safety, and often with great advantage, by combining them with some of the peculiarly sedative medicines. The different forms of iron, whether employed as found in the natural chalybeates, or in artificial preparations of the chemist, make their primary impression on the digestive organs, augmenting, ultimately, the power of the secretory system, and rousing the nutritive faculty in every part of the body.

The following combination of a chalybeate with a stimulant and a sedative has, for many years in our hands, proved a most valuable tonic, particularly when administered during convalescence from disease, and in all debilitated and anæmic cases.

R. Extracti Conii,	3ij.
Sesqui oxydi ferri,	3iij.
Tinct. Columbæ,	ʒss.
Syr. Toluta,	ʒss.
Ol. Gaultheriæ,	gtt. x.
Aquæ fontanæ,	ʒij.

Fiat mistura; cujus sumat coch. parv. mane ac nocte.

Or the following may be substituted:

R. Sesqui oxydi ferri,	
Extracti Taraxici,	an. ʒss.
Vini Xerici	ʒvj.
Tinct. Gaultheriæ.	ʒss.
Aquæ font	ʒiv.

M. Capt coch. magn. bis in die.

\* Thompson's Therapeut.

† Thompson,