

bladder ceases to expel its contents, I would lay stress on the importance of attempting, without loss of time, by mechanical and other agencies, to restore its power. To do this and to bring about a healthy condition of the urine, which is about the best stimulant that can be applied to a weakened bladder, I introduce and retain a gum-elastic catheter. To this is attached a piece of rubber tubing, through which the urine escapes as it is excreted, and is collected in a receptacle placed by the side of the bed. Thus urine is not allowed to be retained for a moment. Much depends on *how* all this is done whether it proves a source of comfort or not to the patient. If it is done properly—that is to say, if the utmost cleanliness in every detail is employed, changing the catheter twice a day (thoroughly disinfecting the catheter used with carbolic lotion), and adding to this, if necessary, a daily ablution of the bladder and urethra with some un-irritating disinfectant, great relief will be experienced. Under such management I have frequently noticed that the reaction of the urine, which may for some time have been alkaline, becomes acid. This alone indicates that there is now no stagnation. When the urine becomes healthy in character, I substitute for the retention of the catheter its introduction at regular intervals, allowing the patient to get up and go about.

Of the medicines that I have found most useful in restoring, in conjunction with mechanical means, the tone of the bladder, I would mention the ergot of rye, which I usually give in doses of twenty or thirty minims of the fluid extract in cinnamon-water. Of its use further experience only strengthens the good opinion of it I have elsewhere expressed in the treatment of this complication of prostatic enlargement.—*Reginald Harrison in London Lancet.*

Benzoate of Soda in Diphtheria.—Dr. Letzerich, of Berlin, has been studying the effects of the above remedy in diphtheria. It has been shown, he alleges, by the experiments of Graham that certain quantities of this remedy, when introduced into the system of an animal infected, will in a certain time put a stop to the “vegetation” of the diphtheric