

Thus discharges are removed, the fætor is corrected, and in a short time the morbid condition of the mucous membrane begins to amend, and a durable cure is ultimately effected.—*Virginia Medical & Surgical Journal*.

*One Hundred and Eighty Cases of Intermittent Fever treated in the Philadelphia Hospital with Sulphate of Quinidia (Quinidine).—*Reported by J. S. Dorsey Cullen, M. D., one of the Assistant Physicians.—The increased consumption of sulphate of quinia, and the fears lest the source from which it is derived should fail, have excited the ingenuity of the medical public to find some cheaper preparation of, or substitute for Peruvian bark. Quite recently the attention of the profession has been called to *quinidine*, the newly discovered alkaloid of cinchona, as possessing anti-periodic and febrifuge properties equalling those of quinia.

By permission of the physician in chief, Dr. A. B. Campbell, an opportunity has been afforded the writer of testing the virtues of this medicine in a large number of cases of intermittent fever treated in the Philadelphia Hospital during the last few months. A tabular report of these cases, with the result of the treatment, is subjoined.

From the similarity of their names much confusion has arisen respecting the *quiniodine* of Serturner ("the amorphous quinia of Liebig"), and the alkaloid *quinidine* here alluded to. It may, therefore, be best to give the following notice of these articles, taken from the new (10th) edition of the U. S. Dispensatory. After adopting, for the sake of an uniform nomenclature, the termination *ia*, the author says: "Besides quinia and cinchonina, there can be no doubt that one other alkaloid, *quinidia*, exists in Peruvian bark, and it is highly probable, that though found most abundantly in the pale, and some of the Carthagena barks, it is contained, occasionally at least, to a greater or less extent, in all. . . . With acids it forms salts, most of which are beautifully crystallizable, and much more soluble than those of quinia. . . . When treated, first with chlorine, and then with ammonia, it does not, like quinia, yield a green colour, nor like cinchonina, a white one, but remains unaffected. It differs from quinia, too, by its much less solubility in ether. . . . The sulphate of *quinidia* is obtained from the *quinidia* barks by the same process as that by which the sulphate of quinia is from Calisaya barks. *Quiniodine* (or the substance left after the crystallisation of sulphate of quinia, purified by solution and precipitation) consists of the alkaloids, mixed with a large proportion of resinous and colouring matters, into which the salts of the alkaloids have been transformed."

The price of sulphate of *quinidia*, though less than that of the salt of quinia, is higher than that of cinchonina; but, the fact that it abounds in the cheaper kinds of bark, especially in the Bogota cinchona, from which, at this time, it is extensively manufactured in Massachusetts, induces the belief that it will yet be obtained at a rate much lower than it now is.

The patients treated were chiefly Irish and German labourers, as their names indicate. Most of them had been employed on the canals, the banks of the river, and other exposed situations, which may explain the