

Nicolas Culpepper in his "London Dispensatory," 1655, describes parsley as a useful poultice for swollen eyes, "doth much help them, if it be used with bread or meal; and being fryed with butter and applied to women's breasts that are hard through the curdling of their milk, it abateth the hardness quickly, and also it taketh away black and blue marks coming of bruises or falls."

Phosphorus and Phosphide of Zinc.—The author uses the solution of phosphorus of Dr. Thompson, of which the following is the latest formula: R. Phosphorus, one grain; Absolute Alcohol, five drachms (dissolve with heat); Glycerine, twelve drachms; Alcohol, two drachms; Essence of peppermint, two scruples. Mix the two solutions, which make nearly twenty drachms— $\Sigma = 1.20$ gr. This should be given without water.

Dr. Seguin has used this solution with the greatest success in trigeminal neuralgia, and with some success in other neuralgias. He administers one teaspoonful (about 1-18 gr., if we estimate a teaspoonful to be a little over one drachm) every 3 or 4 hours. He has known a case of severe facial neuralgia (not chronic epileptiform neuralgia) cured in two days, and even in 24 hours. This solution of phosphorus has given satisfaction in conditions of nervous prostration, cerebral anæmia, incipient cortical degeneration (dementia), and in melancholia. It should be combined with cod liver oil in the proportions of 1:6 or 1:4, a tablespoonful of the mixture being given after each meal. Or, the following mixture may be extemporaneously compounded, and given two or three times a day: Thompson's solution, 1 teaspoonful; sherry, 2 tablespoonfuls; cod liver oil, from 1 to 2 tablespoonfuls; and the yolk of one egg, thoroughly beaten and mixed, with the addition of a little oil of peppermint. This is well received by most patients, and constitutes a most valuable tonic.

In the treatment of posterior spinal sclerosis, cerebral anæmia, nervous prostration ("neurasthenia"), and of incipient dementia, the phosphide of zinc in doses of $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ gr., combined with nux vomica or with belladonna, according to indication, has seemed of some efficacy.

Crystallized Nitrate of Silver.—Dr. Seguin

has used nitrate of silver in locomotor ataxy, and is disposed to agree with Erb that "among the internal remedies for tabes, nitrate of silver undoubtedly stands first, as it can show quite undoubted results." The course of the disease has been checked "in quite a number" of his cases, and in many others repeated periods of relief were secured. It is seldom prescribed in doses of less than $\frac{1}{4}$ grain, and usually $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. in pill with extract of taraxacum or with extract of nux vomica. It should be given before meals three times a day, and often at bedtime. A course of silver usually lasts two months. After an interval of two or three months, another shorter course is given. None of his patients have shown any skin discolorations, and gastric irritation has seldom occurred, albuminuria never. This paper would be of far greater benefit to the general practitioner had the author been more precise in the statement of his results. It will be observed that in all these no figures are used. It would be more satisfactory to know the number of cases, for instance, in which the large doses of phosphorus were found to arrest trigeminal neuralgia, and how many times it was given without satisfactory result. In how many cases of tabes dorsalis was the silver treatment of benefit? The account given is vague.

—♦♦♦— **VENESECTION — FOR CONVULSIONS OCCURRING DURING SCARLATINAL DROPSY.**

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On the 21st September, 1879, C. P.—, a boy eight years old, was attacked by scarlet fever which ran a severe course, and was followed in the first week of January, 1880, by general dropsy. Hydragogue purgatives, vapor and hot air baths were used. Urine diminished to one or two ounces in twenty-four hours. Had twitching in arms and legs. Leeches over kidneys, with subsequent application of cupping glasses, followed by warm poultices, did not relieve symptoms. Bled from arm to amount of four to six ounces. Rapid recovery from symptoms of convulsions and urine