

3. It is easily given, dissolved in *warm* tea or water, and does not cause nausea.

4. I have met with no untoward effects from its use with the above-mentioned precautions.

5. It has given me better results in complete resolution of the affected lung tissue than any drug I have tried.

Retrospect Department.

QUARTERLY RETROSPECT OF MEDICINE.

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TABES DORSALIS.

The Treatment by Suspension.—During the last three months of the old year the mechanical treatment of tabes dorsalis has had full trial at the Salpêtrière and the results have been so satisfactory that M. Charcot has recently devoted a lecture* to it. The practice is not absolutely novel, since in 1883 it was first initiated by Dr. Motchoukowsky of Odessa, who published a pamphlet upon the subject, but it received no attention in Western Europe till 1888, when Professor Raymond of Paris while on a scientific mission in Russia was struck with the results he witnessed. In Motchoukowsky's pamphlet considerable improvement was ascribed to it in twelve tabetic persons ; also in various neurasthenias, independent of tabes, in which the sexual functions were re-established after this treatment. The patient is suspended by means of a Sayre's apparatus for a period beginning with a duration of half a minute and progressively increasing up to three or at most four minutes, an interval of two days occurring between each suspension. In order to exert greater traction on the spinal column it is well to raise the arms every fifteen or twenty seconds. Eighteen tabetics, embracing four hundred suspensions, have been so treated. Excluding four who were not suspended more than three times, the improvement was marked in fourteen, and eight of these most remarkably. They were all confirmed cases, and had mostly been

* De la Suspension dans le Traitement de l'Ataxie Locomotrice Progressive et de quelques autres Maladies du Système Nerveux (*Progrès Medical*, Jan. 19, 1889).