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JAMES V. INGHAM,  
Sec. of the Trustees.

#### INTERNAL USE OF ARSENIC IN EPITHELIOMA.—

Prof. Lassar recently reported, *Deut. Med. Zeit., Internat. Jour. Surg.*, a number of cases of cutaneous cancer before the Berlin Medical Society, in which he obtained excellent results from the internal use of Fowler's solution. Owing to the fact that the arsenic treatment is usually resorted to at a time when operative measures are no longer indicated, he determined to employ this method in the earlier stages of the disease. His cases were as follows: A woman, aged 70, came under treatment October, 1892, for a tumor of the size of half a walnut, which had attained this size in six to eight months. Its surface was intact with the exception of a small ulceration, and microscopic examination of an excised portion, revealed typical epitheliomatous tissue. Patient was given thrice daily eight drops of a mixture of Fowler's solution and aq. menthol, equal parts; and at the beginning of December the tumor had cicatrized. The cure has persisted. In a second case of rodent ulcer, cicatrization progressed during the arsenic treatment, and no recurrence has taken place in four months. In the case of a man, aged 66, a spherical tumor had three months previously appeared on the left ala nasi, which was constantly growing. It had a firm consistency, with depressed centre. Specific treatment proved ineffective. In March, 1893, the tumor, which at this time measured  $5\frac{1}{2}$  centimetres, was treated by injections of arsenic, but later Fowler's solution alone was given internally in increasing doses. Since then complete involution and cicatrization has occurred. The epitheliomatous character of this case was demonstrated by microscopical examination of excised pieces. If it be remembered that the

further growth of the neoplasms was checked as soon as the arsenic treatment was instituted, the objection that the cure was of spontaneous origin loses its force,

HYDRASTININE IN UTERINE HÆMORRHAGE.—Gottschalk, *Brooklyn Med. Jour.*, says hydrastinine may be employed:

1. First of all, in those uterine hæmorrhages which are traceable to a pronounced congestion of the uterus. To these belong, above all, the often very profuse memorrhagias of spinsters, in whom there is no pathological change in the condition of the genitals. In some of these cases it is possible to obtain a permanent result, so that even after discontinuing the remedy the menstrual flow remains smaller.

2. Also in hæmorrhages which have their pathological and anatomical cause in endometritis, hydrastinine will lessen the quantity of blood; but here, according to Gottschalk's experience, the action is only palliative, not being sufficient alone to cure the local cause of the trouble.

3. For prophylactic or intermenstrual use, hydrastinine is useful before or during the first returning profuse menstruation after an abrasion of the uterine mucosa. It is well known that this menstruation, usually occurring after six weeks, is often very profuse. In the very cases where there was great loss of blood before the operation, it is of great importance to prevent further profuse hæmorrhage. This is possible if the treatment with hydrastinine is begun several days before the expected menstruation, and if necessary, continued during the duration of the menstruation.

4. Menorrhagias caused by retroflexio uteri are best treated by correction of the malposition; but for cases of fixed retroflexion, where the reposition is not yet possible, hydrastinine is a commendable remedy.

5. Secondly uterine hæmorrhages—*i.e.*, those caused by a change of the adnexa and their surroundings—offer a large field for the successful use of hydrastinine. To these belong the menorrhagia and metrorrhagia with pyosalpinx, oöphoritis, ovarian tumors, and exudations. Of course, the cause of the trouble is not influenced by the remedy.

6. Climacteric menorrhagias are much diminished by a faithfully carried out hydrastinine treatment.