

also, to see no particles of dirt or of leather are taken up with the fat. Vaseline appears to be the safest lubricant under these circumstances. From ten to sixty minims is the dose—fifteen minims being the quantity most frequently injected. Some smarting attends the operation, but if the operator is careful in withdrawing the needle to press on the orifice tightly, to prevent the ether escaping, much smarting will be thus obviated. A puffy swelling is caused by the vaporization of the ether, and this presently subsides, and only rarely is an indurated knot formed. An anaesthetic and analgesic area of limited extent surrounds the puncture.

The ether used should be of good quality—as good, indeed, as that employed for inhalation. The number of times injected will depend on the character of the case, but there appears to be no reason why it may not be injected frequently. Three or four times a day has been the rate in cases of adynamic pneumonia. When sudden, extreme depression of the heart is to be overcome, ten or twenty minims can be injected every five minutes, until some result is reached.

The systemic effect is that of a stimulant; the action of the heart is increased, the surface grows warm, and the nerve centres and the organs of the body in general functionate more quickly and powerfully. The curative results of the subcutaneous use of ether are not only different, but in kind, from the stomachal administration of the same agent. This fact must be recognized to obtain a correct notion of the utility of this practice.—*Medical News*.

STRUMOUS OPHTHALMIA.

The physician is often called upon to treat cases of strumous ophthalmia, children of a strumous habit, who suffer with sore eyes, and perhaps other evidences of scrofula, but in which the unpleasant condition of the eyes is the most prominent symptom. The lids are red and swollen, with numerous and frequently recurring minute pustular collections about the lashes, with some conjunctivitis and photophobia, etc., not only giving the eyes a very unpleasant appearance, but also preventing the patient from using them with any degree of comfort.

In these cases, in addition to the local treatment as sketched above, the internal use of sulphide of calcium is almost a specific. The good effects resulting from the use of sulphide of calcium in scrofulous sores, suppurating glands in the neck and similar affections occurring in connection with this strumous diathesis, have been known for some time, this use of the remedy having been brought to the attention of the profession by Dr. Sydney Ringer; but it is of more recent date that it has been recommended in cases of blepharitis and strumous ophthalmia.

I have employed it in a number of cases and with very satisfactory results; and, although my experience with it has not been sufficiently extended to be able to express a decided opinion, yet I feel that this remedy is destined to be a valuable one in the treatment of this class of cases. The testimony of others as to its efficacy is being gradually collected, and sulphide of calcium is assuming a high place in the therapeutics of strumous ophthalmia, blepharitis, phlyctenular keratitis, etc.

Of course there are some cases it will fail to cure, but it often happens that the exception proves the rule. There are some cases of ague that quinine fails to cure, and yet no one doubts the value of quinine in the treatment of ague. But even though there are some cases of strumous ophthalmia that sulphide of calcium will not cure, yet I think it cannot fail to be at least of partial benefit in every case, so that it should always be given a fair trial.—*Dr. C. H. Brown in The Medical and Surgical Reporter*.

INHALATION OF MEDICATED VAPORS IN DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

Guillemin (*Archives Méd. Belges—Lond Record*) summarizes his views as follows:

1. The affections of the mucous membrane of the respiratory passages may in certain cases be advantageously treated by inhalations of medicated vapors.
2. In the first stage of acute inflammation of this mucous membrane, pain, cough, and painful sensations, which are the consequence of irritation and dryness, are rapidly calmed by inhalations of warm, moist, and aromatic vapors.
3. The calming action is still more decided if to the liquid, which serves for inhalation, there be added a small quantity of certain volatile calmate substances, such as ether, distilled cherry-laurel water, or conium.
4. Frequently renewed inhalations of essence of turpentine, when they are administered at the commencement of the first period of inflammation, may arrest its progress.
5. The vapor of iodine exercises an irritant action on the mucous membrane of the air-passages. It induces efforts of coughing, and augments the secretion of the mucus of the air-passages. This irritating action may be utilized: (a.) To diminish the swelling of the mucous membrane by causing the inflammation to pass from the first to the second stage; this indication is present especially in cases where the inflammation occupies the small bronchi; the swelling of the mucous membrane is sufficient to give rise to fear of respiratory insufficiency. (b.) To diminish the viscosity of