

look upon the patient in hand, not as a sentient and suffering fellow-creature, but as a more or less interesting incarnation of disease.

In the course of a recent address, Prof. Osler made the following admirable plea for the recognition of the human element in all patients—a plea most opportunely addressed to an entering medical class: “In your dealings with patients, public or private, there is but one law to regulate your conduct: ‘Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do unto them.’ Kindness of disposition and gentleness of manner are qualities essential in a practitioner. There is a tendency among young men about hospitals to study the cases, not the patients, and, in the interest which they take in the disease, to lose sight of the individual. Strive against this. Realize, so far as you can, that the mental state of the patient enters into his feelings, bear with his complainings, and scan gently his faults. The kindly word, the cheerful greeting, the sympathetic look, trivial as they may seem, help to brighten the paths of the poor sufferers, and are often as ‘oil and wine’ to the bruised spirits entrusted to our care.”—*Medical News*.

MEDICAL NOTES.—In *chronic gastric catarrh*, a pill, as follows, was given by Prof. Da Costa:—

R. Argenti nitrat., gr. $\frac{1}{4}$
Ext. belladonnæ, gr. 1-16

Sig.—Ter die. —M

After passing a catheter, to relieve a man of *retention of urine*, Prof. Brinton gives, usually:—

R. Tinct. opii camph., f3 ij
Quinina sulph., gr. x. M.

Sig.—Take once, after operation.

Several times Prof. Da Costa ordered the following combination for *constipation*:—

R. Ipecacuanhæ, gr. $\frac{1}{4}$
Rhei, gr. ij
Ext. colocynth. co., gr. j.

Ft. pil.

Sig.—At bedtime.

For a case of *hysteria*, Prof. Bartholow gave:—

R. Mass. ferri carb., gr. v
Liq. potassii arsenitis, gtt. ij
Mucilaginis, q. s. —M.

Sig.—After meals. Also tinct. nucis vomicæ, gtt. x, before meals.

For a case of *flatulent dyspepsia*, Prof. Da Costa advised the following course of treatment:—Milk and under-done meats—nothing starchy—sacch. pepsin, gr. v, with meals, also a pill of—

R. Argent. oxid., gr. $\frac{1}{4}$
Ext. nucis vomicæ, gr. $\frac{1}{6}$
Pulv. capsici, gr. $\frac{1}{3}$

Sig.—Ter die

A pill of aloin, gr. 1-10, every night, for accompanying constipation.

Prof. Da. Costa, when advising the chloride of gold and sodium, for *interstitial nephritis*, at the hospital, at one of the recent clinics, told of a physician suffering from this disease to whom he recommended this remedy and who now declares that he is entirely cured.

Prof. Bartholow recommends the following *solution for hypodermatic use*:—

R. Ergotinæ (aq. ex.), 3j
Glycerini, f3j
Aque dest., . . . ad . . . f5j —M.

Sig.—8 minims = gr. j of ergotine.

—*Col. and Clin. Record*.

ATONIC DYSPEPSIA.—G. J. Preston, M.D., Professor of Practice of Medicine, Baltimore, finds that atonic dyspepsia is by far the most common form of indigestion met with at the Polyclinic. The alkaline treatment, even in cases where acidity was marked, was soon discarded as being only temporary. Sometimes the combination of a simple bitter, as tincture of columbo with soda bicarbonate, acts well for a time. Pepsin has proved of little value in adults, unless given in quantities larger than most dispensaries can afford, or than a patient will take.

The most generally useful drug is strychnia in the form of tincture nux vomica. This can be given in much larger doses than it is prescribed. For many of the cases the initial dose was gtt. x to xx. t. i. d. with as much acid hydrochlor. dil. This given before meals in cases where the normal acid is in excess, and after meals where it is deficient in quantity, is of inestimable service. It is by no means a new treatment, but after a careful and extensive experience with it, it has proved the most satisfactory. In some of these cases where, in addition to the ordinary symptoms, there is pain, a very good plan is to add to the above, m. i. to iii. of acid hydrocyanic dil. This drug seems to have peculiar sedative action upon the terminal nerves of the stomach, and will be found useful in various painful affections of this organ. Many of these cases improve rapidly on iron, and the best way to overcome the unpleasant effects which often prevent its use, is by combining gr. x. of pot. brom. with gtt. x. to xx. of the tincture of the chloride.— *Md. Med. Jour.*, Aug. 15th.

COCAINE IN SURGERY.—Speaking of the various uses of this late valuable addition to our materia medica, Dr. Samuel Logan, writing in the *New Orleans Med. and Surg. Jour.* for September, says, that in relieving the suffering due to painful defecation from any cause, much distress may be averted by means of the oleate, simply applied on a pledget of absorbent cotton as far into the anal orifice as the special case may demand. He has thus used it with marked satisfaction in cases of painful piles and fissures—that is, so far as the relief of pain is concerned.