

glass that I handed my patient to drink off, before sitting down at his bedside, with feelings not to be envied, to take the following notes. This was a year ago, when the foregoing treatment had not been as highly lauded as at present. The case was that of an old man of 50. I copy my notes.

This is his third debauch, he says, but he must from his appearance have been a hard drinker for many years. He has not slept for several nights. I ordered a purgative yesterday, and a dose of morphine at bed-time, which did not cause sleep. This morning his tongue is still coated yellow, and he passes but little urine, which he voids with difficulty. He is not delirious, and says he is sure he could have slept last night if it had not been for the cats tormenting him; has had no visions to-day. He can lay comparatively quiet, except when speaking or moving, at which time he becomes greatly agitated. When seemingly asleep, his eyelids twitch constantly. After every precaution to avoid having his mind interfere with the action of his heart, I gave him the digitalis, his pulse at the time being 80 lying and 100 sitting. 6 minutes after dose; his face begins to flush, and he says he experiences a "vividness" over his head, and that he feels rested, and his bowels are warmed by the medicine, and "moving about."

8 min. after the dose, pulse down to 56; does not tremble so much on speaking, and seems calmer. 13 m. after dose, pulse 64; feels a "calm tranquility." 20 m. after dose, pulse 62; twitching of lids, which has been quite regular hitherto, is getting irregular and inconstant, he is very quiet but not at all sleepy.

Half an hour after dose: the quarter minutes of the pulse begin to change for the first time, each quarter varying from 17 to 20, although the beats are equidistant; still trembles on speaking. A mild perspiration is breaking out all over him.

One hour and three-quarters after dose, pulse 83, firm and thrilling when pressed, hitherto it had been soft. Has not slept, but has been reading, a thing he was quite unable to do for several days past; the quarter minutes of pulse are 26, 23, 25, 26, 24 consecutively, taken whilst sitting up in bed. The agitation on speaking and moving has nearly left him, it is greatest in his knees now. I did not repeat the remedy. He passed a good quantity of urine, ate his food well, and had pleasant dreams, although he did not sleep much during the following night; pulse the next morning 80, and feebler; nervousness nearly disappeared. I concluded his treatment on the expectant plan.

My last case.

Tuesday, March 3, 1863.—I was called to a strong man of 45, who had been drinking nine days. Liquor affects him very easily. He has been delirious for four days, but not very bad, till this morning. His spasms are rigid, and his visions frightful, has not known any one since 5 o'clock this morning, and has tried to jump out of the window, pulse 80 and full.

At 10 o'clock a.m. I gave him $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. tr. digitalis of the best quality.

2 minutes after dose, pulse still 80. 4 m. after dose, pulse down to 68 and a little harder. 8 m. after dose, pulse 64, with a peculiar wiry feel. 12 m. after dose, face suffused; I now for the first time notice that the left pupil is more contracted than the right. He has had four spasms since he took the remedy.

15 minutes after dose, quarter minutes now begin to differ, they are consecutively 16, 20, 18, 18,

but beats equidistant; has just had a severe spasm, at its climax I noticed the pupils dilated for an instant.

20 m. after dose, pulse 72; 25 m., 72. 40 m. after dose, still 72 but softer; spasms continue, but are slightly diminished in intensity. One hour after the dose, pulse 72.

About 12 o'clock a.m. he craved some tobacco, which the attendant gave him (he is a chewer of the weed). After this he became quite quiet and getting rational, for the first time to-day.

Half-past 1 o'clock, p. m., pulse 72, pupils still unequal. The spasms and visions having returned as bad as before.

I gave him the second $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. tincture digitalis being 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours after the first dose. 3 minutes after dose, the pulse up to 80. 6 m. after dose, pulse still 80 but wiry. 10 m. after dose, pulse 80 and regular, but harder, quarter minutes are very even; no sign of sleep, and no fit since he took last dose; he lies quiet with his eyes open.

He again begs very hard for tobacco, which I give him; his hand trembles but little, and he is getting sensible very fast; passed about a pint of urine.

20 m. after 2nd dose, pulse 80 still, and even, but not quite so strong; he says my medicine eases the nerves "mighty quick."

Half an hour after 2nd dose, pulse 80 and fuller; he is very tranquil and has had no spasms since 2nd dose; he is quite sensible in every way, but the left pupil still remains contracted more than the right, both are dilatible.

Half past 4, p. m., pulse 80. Has had three spasms since I left, one of which the man said was very severe, he however talks quite lucidly, and remembers things; pupils are more equalized. I gave 3rd dose of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. tr. digitalis, 3 hours after 2nd dose.

8 m. after 3rd dose, pulse beating irregularly for the first time, the throbs being some short, and some long; the quarter minutes also vary, being 18, 20, 18, 20, in the minute. He again longs for tobacco. 15 m. after 3rd dose, he is smoking quietly sitting on his bed.

25 m. after 3rd dose, pulse 80, regular and fuller; quiet, rational, and hungry; he eat over a pint of porridge with great relish, and I left him until half past 8, p. m., when I found that the spasms had returned, but not so severely; his skin is dry, and pulse 80; he eat heartily during my absence. I gave him the 4th dose of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. tinct. digitalis, 4 hours after 3rd dose, and remained with him for an hour.

A short time after taking it, he again desired tobacco, but wishing to withhold it this time, I refused him; he however gained it by stratagem, and the attendant took it away by force, after struggling the pulse is weak, and up to 92 sitting; otherwise his pulse remained firm, about 80. The sweat is pouring from his forehead.

Quarter to 11, p. m.—Spasms had returned, and one was quite bad. Pulse 80; being determined to bring down his pulse. I gave him the 5th dose of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. tinct. digitalis, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours after 4th dose.

5 m. after 5th dose, pulse fell to 48, and became irregular. 10 m. after dose 52, and getting fuller and more regular.

15 m. after 5th dose, called for a cracker, is quite rational, and sits up to eat it. Passed urine.

25 m. after 5th dose, pulse 54; has vomited the cracker.

SECOND DAY.—Half-past 9, a.m. Pulse 48 and weak; has passed a bad night, sleeping in short