

Without entering into a description of the many forms of headache, hemicrania, and neuralgia with which we meet, and without dwelling upon the various speculations and theories that have been advanced as to the actual seat and condition of the tissues wherein the pain is experienced subjects of great importance and interest it is true, but which could not be sufficiently contracted or condensed to be embraced within the limits of an ordinary lecture—I must content myself with merely mentioning those forms where it has actually proved successful, or where it is likely to be of service. These will be found to be comprised of those that have been called *bilious* and *nervous* headaches, the latter often taking on a hemicranial, neuralgic, or rheumatic character. In those forms due to intracranial *organic disease*, to *plethora*, and to *syphilis* other remedies will be more appropriate, and guarana will be of little or of no use. But in those arising from stomach derangements want of tone, debility, indigestion, sluggish liver, exhaustion, over lactation, leucorrhœa, hysteria, mental excitement, worry, anxiety, and overwork of the brain, it will very often prove beneficial if not curative. Proper hygienic measures must be also adopted; the exciting cause removed, if practicable; the diet regulated, and any morbid condition of the blood, or organs corrected by appropriate remedies before a cure can be effected. Latterly it has been highly spoken of in cases of lumbago, often removing that troublesome complaint as rapidly, as it does headache; but here again it does not always succeed. It has also proved serviceable in some cases of chronic rheumatism, and a medical friend assures me that he frequently prescribes it in that affection. It is said to have cured cholera morbus after opium and astringents had been employed without making any impression on the disease. There is no doubt but that the better we become acquainted with it, the more virtues we will discover it to possess; and perhaps we may yet be able to discern the reasons why it sometimes fails, in the same subject that it often cures; but if we can only postpone an attack of headache or lumbago to a more convenient time, we will, to say the least, by this remedy, have gained a point of some consideration.

The powder may be administered in doses of from 30 to 120 grains with sweetened water an hour or less before a meal, or two hours after, and should no relief follow, this dose is to be repeated in two hours. In cases of headache it should be taken as early in the attack as possible; as its effect is more marked the sooner it is employed. Some infuse it in warm water and add milk and sugar, and

drink as they would an ordinary cup of tea, yet it is preferable to take the powder in substance or to drink the grounds left in the tea-cup. When taken in a cup of chocolate the taste (though not disagreeable) is not perceptible. Beasley gives the following recipe for the preparation of *chocolate with paullinia*: Take of paullinia 1 oz., chocolate 16oz., mix and form into a paste. This is used as a restorative in cases of debility, chlorosis, &c.

Deschatalus recommended an alcoholic extract because he considers that fluid the only solvent of its virtues, which he ordered to be prepared as follows: Take of powdered paullinia, at will; of alcohol, a sufficiency. Introduce the powder into a displacement apparatus, and allow alcohol to pass through till the powder is exhausted, then distill off the spirit, and evaporate the residue to a proper consistence. The dose is 8—10 grs. during the day. From this extract the following preparations have been compounded in France, and used in cases of diarrhœa, dysentery, &c *Gavrelle's Paullinia Lozenges*:—Take of alcoholic extract of paullinia, 21 grains, of vanilla sugar, 500 grains; of mucilage of tragacanth, a sufficiency to form a mass, and divide into 10 grain lozenges. Dose, 16 to 20 grains during the day. *Dorvault's Syrups of Paullinia*:—Take of the extract, one part, of simple syrup, one hundred parts, and dissolve. Dose, half an ounce. *Gavrelle's pills of Paullinia*:—Powdered paullinia, a sufficiency; of mucilage of tragacanth, enough to form a mass, and divide into pills of  $\frac{1}{2}$  grains—5-10 to be taken when required.

Much of what I have reported in this paper has been gleaned from the observations of non-scientists; yet such evidence I consider exceedingly valuable, as they are untrammelled with conservative prejudices, with which the members of our profession are apt to be more or less tinctured, the result no doubt of repeated disappointments in using new and frequently extolled remedies. Yet when we find that the statements of the laity are not at variance with the facts that are recorded regarding the substance under discussion, we are perfectly justified, I believe, in drawing our own conclusions from such statements; and though much of what is asserted may be erroneous, yet there cannot be any great difficulty in winnowing the wheat from the chaff by the scientific.

*Case of Ptyalism—in a Dentist—from absorption of material used in filling teeth.* By MR. CASEY A. WOOD, Medical Student of Ottawa, Ont.

G. H., dentist of this city, æt. 29, was attacked on the 20th of April last by a severe headache.