

a most disagreeable and pernicious state of affairs. Voisin has referred to two forms of poisoning, which he has divided into the slow and rapid. In the first the complexion becomes muddy, the eyes sunken, sight and hearing poor, and memory obscure. The patient cannot write, and cannot express himself, as he forgets words—there is tremulousness. In the other variety of the *slow* form there is dementia, or delirium with maniacal outbursts. Ataxia is also a feature of this variety. In the *rapid* form—that with which we are most familiar—somnia, headache, uncertain walk, difficulty of speech, loss of expression, “fishiness” of the eyes, drooling of saliva, etc., etc., are the ordinary symptoms.

Various grades of toxæmia, or even a state which Voisin calls the “cachexie bromique,” and which terminates in a typhoid condition, may result from a reckless use of this drug.

As regards the variety of bromide, I think the sodic is the most reliable and stable; the potassic salt varying very much in strength. The others either have a tendency to deliquesce, or are expensive. It will be advisable to keep the solution in a tight-stoppered bottle, and have fresh quantities put up constantly, as it is very apt to undergo changes—in which the bromine is evolved. And now a word regarding the time of administration. It has been shown repeatedly that these salts are much better absorbed when the stomach is empty. I have found also that a heavy dose at night is apt to do more good than if the amount prescribed is equally divided up through the day. In a great many patients I have found the attacks to occur at the waking hour, and I suppose this is due to the sudden change in the cerebral circulation. A mild diffusive stimulant has overcome this, and in many cases ward off the attack. I direct my patients who have their convulsion at this time to keep a glass of sherry or a small quantity of Spts. Ammonizæ Aromaticus near at hand, to be taken before arising. Cold douches to the head are valuable. If the attacks be irregular, it will be found necessary to divide up the dose.

The treatment of the disease in women should be directed as well to the pelvic organs. It will be found that the bromides will markedly

affect the flow, and relieve the pain or uneasiness which is connected with the menstrual period. Locally, I have found that cold applied for a few minutes daily over the ovaries, will modify the attacks should they be connected with irritation of any of the pelvic viscera. The progress of the disease should be soon modified by the doses I have recommended, and it will be seen by the table condensed from that prepared by Dr. Hollis and published in the *British Medical Journal*, that even smaller doses modified or cured the majority of the cases he cites. At the Epileptic and Paralytic Hospital, where most of the cases are the very worst that can be collected as regards chronicity, I find that sixty grains a day will cut short the attacks of a great many patients, and I have cured a number of private patients by this method. Dr. Hollis' cases were not selected, and are evidently hospital patients, like my own. (We omit the tabulations.)

The other observations are selected from my note book, and are illustrative of the efficacy of the dose I have advocated. Bromism occurred in spite of all I could do in most of them, though it was a mild form and under control. They were all patients of the better class, and, of course, had all the advantages of comfortable homes, attentive friends, substantial food and good air, although many of them were inclined to over-eating, as in fact all epileptics are. In this respect there is an advantage in favour of the poorer patients, who cannot obtain rich food.—*Chicago Med. Jour. and Examiner.*

(To be continued.)

THE STRAND TO BE PAVED WITH WOOD.—It is with great satisfaction we chronicle the success of the movement to secure immunity from noise for the Strand by paving that thoroughfare with wood. We make no apology for having fought the *local* battle in these columns, because the principle asserted is one of universal application. Wherever there is noise from a crowded and constant traffic, wood-paving is not only a merciful precaution, but a necessity. The wear and waste of nerve-power, fretted away by ceaseless irritation during the day and sleeplessness at night, is so serious, that a remedy at any price is demanded by common prudence, and a remedy which will remove the cause must be priceless.—*London Lancet.*