

night. Still there was no intermediate leucorrhœa ; there were no pains in the back, none in front, and none were determined by pressure on the abdomen ; but the thighs were so painful that she could scarcely walk, and her legs were at times much swollen. For this symptom my opinion was requested by her mother. The girl had very much fallen off, was much debilitated by loss of blood, and the undue influence of the generative organs on her system had caused catamenial headache, heaviness for sleep, momentary loss of her senses, and often fits of lowness and shedding of tears.

I thought I could promise a speedy return to health, and I ordered the following pills :—Sulphate of quina, ten grains ; extract of gentain, a scruple ; extract of aloes, ten grains ; extract of hyoscyamus, a scruple. Mix for ten pills, one to be taken night and morning. I prescribed the compound camphorated mixture, and belladonna plasters to each of the ovarian regions.

The symptoms rapidly abated, and menstruation was forthwith brought back to its original type.

The preceding cases are, in my opinion, samples of an idiopathic aberration from the normal type of menstruation, and perfectly independent of any *inflammatory* lesion of the ovaries or uterus. They are illustrations of similar cases which have come under my care—cases in which various preparations of steel had been fruitlessly tried, and which soon yielded to the use of sulphate of quina alone, or in combination with other remedies ; and I therefore strongly recommend this practice to the profession, premising that the treatment will not be so rapidly effectual, and may even be attended by mischief, if the remittance of the menstrual flow depends, as it sometimes does, on ovarian or uterine subacute inflammation, as in the following case :—

Eliza H., aged twenty-one, of florid complexion, full habit, and of middling stature, applied to me at the Paddington Free Dispensary for relief. For the last two years she had been living in London, menstruation first appeared between thirteen and fourteen, became regular from the first, was very abundant, and lasted five days at each period.

A few months ago, the patient was attacked by a severe cold with fever, which stopped menstruation for two months. When the latter returned it was scanty, and accompanied by more than usual pain in the back, the stomach, and head ; and, attended by these symptoms, it made its appearance every three weeks instead of every month, giving rise also to sensations of weakness, trembling, and lowness of spirits, with which she had previously been wholly unacquainted.

The patient localized her pains in the ovarian regions ; pressure increased them, so did walking or any unusual exertion ; she was slightly feverish ; the tongue was furred, and the bowels were costive.

I considered this case was one wherein the remittance of menstruation was dependent on subacute inflammation of the ovaries, and I ordered six leeches over each ovarian region ; poultices to be kept to the same regions at night ; and a flannel sprinkled with camphorated liniment to be applied over the abdomen during the day. Aloetic purgatives and a sedative mixture were also prescribed—the pain subsided ; the patient felt well ; but menstruation returned at the morbid period of three weeks and was still painful, and left behind it a certain amount of abdominal pain. After giving a brisk purgative, I applied belladonna plasters to the ovarian regions, and gave pills similar to those taken by Miss A. L. The patient now says she feels well, and as menstruation has resumed its physiological type, I believe her to be cured.—*Lancet*, Feb. 8, 1851.