

side, and very distressing cough, and no contra-indication to its use, then opium may be given with advantage in small doses, the hypodermic injection being the best way to administer it. In cases where there is restlessness, and opium cannot be given, chloral in small doses will produce sleep, and act beneficially upon the cough as well. Many use expectorants in pneumonia, while others claim that they are of no service on the ground that the accumulations within the bronchi are due to the loss of muscular power to free themselves, hence expectorants cannot remedy the difficulty. So, when this condition exists, belladonna can be given with advantage, as this drug gives tonic to unstriated muscular fibres.

Poultices if properly used are of service in hastening the period of resolution, promoting absorption and aiding in expectoration.

In conclusion, a word might be said about counter-irritants. Some strongly recommend them in the early stage, while others condemn them on the ground that they only increase the distress of the patient, without being of any benefit. I think, however, all will admit that when there is considerable pleuritic effusion, or when the period of resolution is delayed, counter-irritants are of great service.

PROPHYLAXIS AND TREATMENT OF ANGINA TONSILLARIS.*

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There are numerous abortive remedies for the treatment of certain pathological conditions, which might be separated from the domain of therapeutics to be inscribed in that of hygiene. In this list are to be found all those agents which produce a rapid disappearance of a pathological condition at its onset, without proving dangerous to the subject of it. If for example we were acquainted with a powerful and efficacious abortive of eczema, we should accord it no consideration as a hygienic measure; we should not advise that its use and management should be within the reach of all, because in certain cases, eczema is repelled to the

grave detriment of the bronchial and digestive passages. The same may be said of erysipelas, although in this case a solution of silicate of potash has proved of great service, as it does not act in repelling the phlegmasia, but rather in extinguishing the local inflammation, which in my opinion is the cause of the general symptoms that have occasioned this disease to be considered by many practitioners as essentially an internal affection. To be entitled to the term hygienic an abortive remedy should fulfil the following conditions: 1st. The substance employed should be entirely innocuous to the animal economy. 2nd. The immediate resolution of the affection should not entail any morbid consequences. These two conditions are fulfilled in bicarbonate of soda as an abortive in angina tonsillaris, applied in substance to the surface of the inflamed tonsils, from the commencement of the pathological process. I have found that the employment of this agent constitutes a practice worthy of receiving the sanction of hygiene, and of entering into the field of popular knowledge in order to protect the public from a frequent, painful and recurrent disease. My abortive method for simple tonsillitis rests upon a rational basis and has practical sanction. The rational basis is derived from an anatomical knowledge of the follicular glands of the tonsils, the physiological conditions, and the pathological nature of tonsillitis. (1) The closed vesicular glands of the tonsils are of a structure similar to those of the neighboring parts of the tongue and pharynx; but in the tonsils they are grouped in conglobate glands, the excretory ducts of which are to be observed at the bottom of certain anfractuositities and grooves in the free surface of the gland. The fluid which these glands secrete is essentially mucous, but it differs from that which is elaborated in the closed follicles of the base of the tongue, inasmuch as it ordinarily presents whitish masses of a pultaceous or tuberculous aspect, masses which, becoming more abundant in the acute phlogistic conditions, have occasioned lamentable errors from the confounding of a simple benignant angina with diphtheritic angina. (2) The physiological rôle of the tonsils, like that of the muciparous follicles of the base of the tongue and pharynx, is simply that of lubricating the isthmus of the throat and thus facilitating the passage of the alimentary bolus. The exudation of

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