

2nd. The great prevalence in Austria of deformed pelves as the result of rachitis and osteomalacia.

3rd. The numerous cases which are received after unsuccessful treatment on the part of physicians and midwives outside of the hospital.

4th. The repeated examinations which the patients undergo at the hands of physicians and students.

5th. The reception of many patients who, on account of previous difficult labors, betake themselves to the hospital only because they are assured of the most skilful attendance there.

Selections.

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THE TREATMENT OF WHOOPING-COUGH.

Whooping-cough is ordinarily regarded as a very troublesome disease, and one whose duration is seldom materially influenced by treatment. But if we can rely upon various reports which have recently appeared in the current literature, these views must be modified very considerably. We propose to review, briefly, a few of these different methods which have been so highly commended by their originator, leaving it to our readers to try one or more of them as they see fit.

Dr. Kohlmetz writes in the *Deutsche Medicinal-Zeitung* of June 14, 1886, that an epidemic of whooping-cough in his neighborhood has given him an opportunity to try many of the new methods, but he has found only one to give good results. He uses a solution of quinine, four parts, dilute sulphuric acid, two parts, and distilled water, two hundred parts. He fills a glass syringe (size not stated) with this solution, and injects it forcibly against the posterior wall of the pharynx, the mouth being held open and the tongue, if necessary, depressed with a spatula. Some of the solution may be spattered into the larynx, but the greater part is either swallowed or spit out, and it is diffi-

cult to account for the excellent results which the author claims to have obtained. The application is made every two hours during the first three days, and every three hours after this time, and a cure, or a very marked improvement, is obtained from three to eight days.

In the *Centralblatt für klinische Medizin*, of June 12th, 1886, Dr. J. Bachem speaks very highly of insufflations of quinine into the nostrils. He employs muriate of quinine, three parts, rubbed up with gum acacia one part, and blows about three grains of the mixture into each nostril once or twice in the twenty-four hours. In a child who has been coughing for two weeks, having from ten to twelve attacks during the day, and six to eight at night, at the end of a few days the attacks were reduced to four or five in the twenty-four hours, and a cure was obtained in three weeks. Other cases are cited in which the results were almost equally favorable. An acorn-shaped tip is attached to the insufflator, in order to ensure the delivery of the powder and to prevent any loss.

We find in *El Sentido Catolico en las Ciencias Médicas*, of June 12, 1886, a reference from some other journal of the results obtained by Dr. Michael by nasal insufflations of various powders. He employed quinine, pure or mixed with benzoic acid in the proportion of one part to three; tannic acid, boracic acid, salicylic acid, iodoform, cocaine, bicarbonate of soda, and marble-dust. Of these substances good results were obtained only with quinine, benzoic acid, tannic acid, and marble-dust. The success obtained with the last-named powder would seem to imply that the curative value of insufflation is largely dependent upon mechanical causes. In eight cases a cure was obtained in three days; in six cases, in eight days; and in six other cases a marked diminution in the severity of the symptoms was observed, though the duration of the disease was not apparently influenced.

At a recent meeting of the Société Médico-Pratique of Paris (*Concours Medical*, June 12, 1886) Dr. P. Guerder stated that he had also had excellent results from nasal insufflations. He had tried benzoic acid, as used by Dr. Michael, but had been more success-