

weapon against hyperpyrexia and in those grave cases of acute rheumatism in which an unduly high temperature proves refractory to the influence of salicine or the salicylates, there is no remedy to compare with the cold bath for its repression. Now, in enteric fever in this country, at any rate, it is certainly exceptional to meet with a temperature much exceeding 105 degrees, though its occurrence is not by any means uncommon in the tropics. When, however, a patient's temperature approaches this level the symptom pyrexia demands attention, and the need is emphasized in the presence of restlessness, stupor, or delirium. It is especially in the later stage of the fever when there is likely to be some degree of cardiac dilatation that the continuance of a high degree of pyrexia is fraught with danger.

During the late period of the attack it is seldom wise to put a person into a cold bath unless he has been acclimatized to it by previous experience, but in the early stage there would not be the same objection. As a means of reducing hyperpyrexia in enteric fever I much prefer the cold pack to the cold bath. When given with this object the whole surface of the body from the neck downwards, with the exception of the arms and feet, should be enveloped in a couple of draw-sheets wrung out of cold, or even ice-cold, water. A mackintosh should previously be spread upon the bed, but there is no necessity to use a bed cradle or further covering of any description. A blanket, however, may be thrown across the legs below the knees and a hot-water bottle encased in flannel applied to the soles of the feet, a provision which will materially lessen the patient's discomfort. The pack should be maintained for from fifteen to thirty minutes, its duration and the temperature of the water being regulated by the strength of the pulse and the amount of shivering or cyanosis which it induces. Some degree of shivering, however, must always be expected. On removal of the pack the patient should immediately be wrapped in a warm, dry blanket, and as soon as the skin has obtained a comfortable degree of warmth, he should be placed between the sheets and covered, preferably with a single blanket. It is always desirable to give an ounce or so of brandy before the application of the pack, since, apart from its primary effect in lessening shock and steadying the pulse, the antipyretic property of alcohol may be expected to supplement in some degree the action of the pack.

In occasional instances the reduction of temperature brought about by the bath or pack proves to be of a very temporary character, the pyrexia in the course of an hour or two attaining its former level. In these circumstances the bath or pack should