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BY P. F. CURIE, M.D.

SECOND EDITION.

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HOMŒOPATHIC

FAMILY ASSISTANT.

BY

GEORGE NEWMAN, M.R.C.S.

MEMBER OF THE BRITISH HOMŒOPATHIC SOCIETY, &c.

SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:
HIPPOLYTE BAILLIERE, PUBLISHER,
219 REGENT STREET.
1847.

Mr. William Headland, of Princes Street, Hanover Square—who has devoted himself wholly to Homœopahic Pharmacy—has arranged Medicine Cases expressly to suit this Work. Although the high character his preparations possess with the Profession and the Public, scarcely need any other testimony, the author is happy to add his, having used them for several years with perfect satisfaction.

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PREFACE.

THIS little Treatise has been the result of the Author having been frequently requested by his friends and patients to give them directions by which they may be enabled to treat themselves, or their families, in slight affections, when so placed that a homœopathic adviser was not immediately attainable, and to take such steps on the approach of severe maladies as might afford time to obtain proper medical assistance, without being obliged in all such instances to have recourse to the ordinary allopathic means.

There are, he is of course aware, several works of great merit upon this subject; but, while they enter upon a considerable range both of diseases and remedies, they are, from their very extent, rather

calculated to puzzle than assist. No work of the kind can, or has embraced even the whole known course of treatment for any one disease of moment, and in this new science additional discoveries and improvements are daily making, which require the constant study and observation of the practitioner to make himself conversant with, and confirm. What is the consequence? An individual takes upon himself to treat a serious disease; an emergency arises, he flies to his 'Domestic;' numbers of medicines meet his eyes, all very suitable, no doubt, for certain cases, but most unfortunately not for that particular malady he has under consideration, he chooses the remedy nearest to it, but after all perhaps a wrong one. In speaking thus, the Author has not the slightest intention of alluding to any particular treatise upon the subject—the fault is one inseparable from works suitable neither to the profession nor the public, giving at the same time too much and too little.

The great object the Author had in view, was

to give clear directions for the use of a few of the principal medicines in cases of every day occurrence, and, where practicable, to point out the reason of their employment.

To treat disease with success upon the homœopathic system requires a competent acquaintance with the collateral branches of medical science, a sound knowledge of the Materia Medica Pura, and other sources of information relating to the action of Medicinal Agents, and considerable judgment in their selection. To attain these indispensable requisites, a Medical Education and a long and severe course of study are absolutely necessary; and no work, however well written or arranged, can supply their place.

Any one, not so qualified, who takes upon himself the treatment of disease, can only be viewed in the light of a trifler with the health and lives of his fellow-creatures; and a perseverance in such a course is more likely to injure than benefit the system he adopts; still there may be instances in which, under proper restrictions, the use of

a medicine case may be intrusted to non-medical hands: for example, the timely administration of Dulcamara after a thorough wetting may ward off a severe cold, or a dose of Nux Vomica may prevent the unpleasant consequences of an over-indulgence in the pleasures of the table; but when serious derangement of health is present, the patient should neither trust to his own skill nor that of any non-medical friend, but have recourse to one who has made the treatment of disease his particular study.

To make this Work one of practical utility and ready reference, deserving of the title it bears, without claiming any higher ground, has been the chief aim of the author; to effect this he has endeavoured to render it as simple and as intelligible as possible, and to steer clear of all medical technicalities. He has confined himself to thirty medicines, of which a list is given at the end of the INTRODUCTION. He has carefully abstained from perplexing the reader with a variety of dilutions, and chosen those which are, in his humble

judgment, most suitable for domestic purposes, and best calculated to meet the majority of those cases which non-medical individuals may be justified in treating; and when he has touched upon some more severe maladies, it has been either with the object of pointing out the danger incurred by the inexperienced in attempting their treatment, or of advising what steps should be taken while awaiting proper medical assistance.

Any detail upon the peculiar affections of females has for obvious reasons been avoided. Moreover they would be out of place in a work of this nature, and generally require the superintendence of a medical man.

In conclusion, the author feels that the time is not far distant when the necessity for treatises like the present will become less urgent. Homœopathy is gradually acquiring a firmer standing in this country; the success of the comparatively few practitioners who have adopted it has awakened the attention of the profession, and numbers are daily joining our ranks, diffusing in different

parts of the kingdom the blessings of the New System.

He may be excused from mentioning, as the best practical refutation of the statement that the poor formerly under his care were averse to being treated homœopathically, that, within the last year, upwards of one thousand patients have applied for relief at the Dispensary established by him, after his arbitrary dismissal from the post of Medical Officer to the Glastonbury district of the Wells Poor Law Union, by the Somerset House Commissioners; and he has reason to believe that the same eagerness on the part of the poor to avail themselves of the benefits of Homœopathy exists in every part of the kingdom where similar institutions have been established.

GLASTONBURY, *Jan.* 1845.

INTRODUCTION.

REGIMEN.

The opponents of our system generally laud our dietetics, and ascribe all the benefit derived from homœopathic treatment to their influence. It would certainly be a great point gained if by any rules of regimen we could obtain the same results that Homœopathy effects; or, indeed, if we could wholly cure by these means, the benefit to the human race would be the same.

In a work by the author of this Treatise,* the following general view of the subject appears: "The diet of the patient should be simply so regulated that he may not partake of any substance of a known medicinal or stimulating character, or of anything likely to interfere with the medicines given." It

* Page 52 of a 'Concise Exposition of Homœopathy, its Principles and Practice, with an Appendix containing a statement of the proceedings that led to the Author's dismissal from the situation of Medical Officer of the Glastonbury district of the Wells Poor Law Union; Correspondence with the Poor Law Commissioners on the subject; Opinion of the Royal College of Physicians on Homœopathy, &c.' By George Newman, M.R.C.S.L. Second Thousand. London, J. Leath.

is now our intention to go more into detail on the subject; to point out what articles should be avoided and what are allowable, and how far the rules may be modified according to circumstances. But previous to entering more closely into these points, it may assist the reader to examine further into the principle as applied to chronic and acute diseases.

In the 'Organon' of Hahnemann many points are briefly but clearly marked. There is also an article of some merit in Okie's translation of 'Ruoff's Repertory,' on this subject, which will well repay perusal.

From the extreme exiguity of the doses used in homœopathic treatment, it seems to follow as a necessary consequence that anything possessing a medicinal quality should be prohibited in the regimen of the patient, in order that it may not interfere with, or prevent, the action of the remedies. Therefore, in chronic cases, we must remove all things which are injurious to the constitution, or tend to deteriorate the health, and substitute in their stead constant promotion of cheerfulness, daily exercise in the open air, and suitable and nourishing food. In acute cases the voice of Nature is our best guide, for we will rarely find that called for which possesses a bad or injurious effect, and the beneficial results which arise from not thwarting the patient, in refusing

him anything he ardently wishes for, more than compensate for any little errors in his diet which may occur by acceding to his desires. Added to this, the slight detriment which might follow our compliance with this request is more than made amends for by the powerful influence of the homœopathic remedy, and the satisfaction he feels in having his wishes gratified. This rule of course must be acted upon under proper restrictions; for example, in cases of an inflammatory nature, when ACONITE is prescribed, we must prohibit acids; but in such instances we seldom find anything but pure cold water called for.

We shall now proceed to give a few general directions as to the Homœopathic regimen, which is always simple, and easily followed; our chief rule must be to avoid the use of all stimulating liquors, or of any aliment which possesses medicinal or indigestible properties.

ALIMENTS ALLOWED. Plain soups or broths not spiced or highly seasoned, beef and mutton, ham and bacon in moderation, most descriptions of poultry, game, almost all varieties of sea and river fish except those of a rich and oily description, and those specified under Aliments Forbidden; all vegetables except those coming under the same category, ripe and sound or dried or preserved fruits, not of an acid quality, in moderation. Eggs lightly boiled, simple preparations of flour, sago, tapioca,

rice, semolina, macaroni, vermicelli, and arrow root. Among drinks, water is the best beverage, also, toast and water, milk and water, barley water, gruel, milk, cocoa, and pure chocolate. Salt as a condiment, butter and cheese in moderation.

ALIMENTS FORBIDDEN. Rich or highly-seasoned soups or made dishes; pork, especially when roasted; all young and white meats, geese, ducks, and most descriptions of wild fowl; sausages, liver, kidneys, tripe, salted meat generally, crawfish, crabs, lobsters, and oysters; raw and cold vegetables, and onions, leeks, garlic, horseradish, parsley, mint, thyme, and other herbs used for seasoning; rich pastry of all kinds; mustard, vinegar, pepper, and all varieties of spices are evidently objectionable.

Among beverages, tea, coffee, malt liquors, wine and spirits, soda water, and everything of an acidulous or stimulating nature.

The above are the strict rules for regimen; but there are, necessarily, some modifications to be observed, according to the constitution and previous habits of the patient; for example, if no dyspeptic symptoms are present, the rules regarding the kinds of meat, &c. of which he should partake might be relaxed. Many, particularly females, are so habituated to tea, that its absolut prohibition would be felt as a serious privatior with individuals to whom the use of stimula

has become, as it were, a part of their nature, they must be gradually reduced in quantity until they can, if necessary, be dispensed with altogether.

Bleedings, purgatives, and emetics are forbidden, except the latter in cases of poisoning, and under proper advice; as are also most medicated external applications, and perfumery, strong scents, &c.

As almost all dentifrices contain some substances likely to interfere with the action of our remedies, one suited for patients under homœopathic treatment can be obtained from the Homœopathic Chemist, whose medicines we are in the habit of using; he has also devoted considerable pains and attention to the preparation of different articles, which custom has rendered almost necessaries, free from any objectionable admixture. By these means many of the minor privations, in the way of pommade, lipsalves, &c. which our patients were at one time obliged to submit to, have been removed.

THE MEDICINES AND THEIR ANTIDOTES.

Throughout this work it has been the object of the author to give a reason for the application of the different medicines, not merely by a list of symptoms, but, in addition, by showing how far their character bore upon the disease under treatment. As, however, it would have been inconvenient to do so to any great extent, it appeared the

best course to give a few occasional hints when such seemed applicable, and to devote a separate article to the consideration of the medicines themselves, and some of their more distinguishing characteristics, which, it must be recollected, are founded upon the *whole* of their symptoms duly weighed and tested by the great law of "like cures like."

The antidotes of medicines are those substances which possess the property of destroying or modifying their action, sometimes chemically, at others by a similarity between several of their symptoms, in accordance with the homœopathic law.

The duration of action is also worthy of consideration, and it must always be borne in mind that in fevers, &c. the promptness of the action and reaction of the medicine, and the duration of its effects, are in proportion to the acuteness of the attack; or, in other words, to the impressionability of the organism to medicinal influence. This will show the impossibility of marking any specified time for the duration of this influence, although we may form some idea of the relative length of action.

We shall now proceed to the consideration of some of the remedies mentioned in this work, and to such of their characteristics as seem to bear upon the diseases here treated.

ACONITE. The employment of this medicine produces the best effects in purely inflammatory affections, wherein a full strong pulse predominates, with thirst and dry heat of the skin; it restores the equilibrium of the circulation, and does away with all excuse for abstracting the vital fluid; it is also indicated in determination of blood to some particular organs, or in acute local inflammations, attended with thirst, frequent pulse, restless impatience, and great agitation and tossing. This state often arises from sudden mental emotions, particularly from fear or fright, joined with indignation; hence its utility both in these complaints, and in those of females whose natural functions have been deranged by these causes.

In obstinate chronic affections, where great rigidity of fibre exists, and in individuals of a plethoric tendency, it should generally commence treatment.

After the symptoms above noted have been removed or mitigated by this remedy, other medicines may be required; and moreover its short duration of action, when given in small doses, generally allows us to follow it up in from six to twenty-four hours by some other medicine.

Should it cause any aggravation, which, however, is seldom the case unless repeated too frequently and in too large doses, a few drops of any

vegetable acid (for example lemon juice), in a small quantity of water, or a little wine, will remove this inconvenience.

Arnica, as an external application, is well known to all who are even slightly acquainted with Homœopathy for its wonderful effects against the results of external injuries, strains, and other accidents of that nature; hence its value after surgical operations, after child-birth, and against the consequences of fatigue. Many pains which resemble those provoked by the above causes are also relieved by it, or when there is hot, hard, painful, and shining swelling, as in gout, it has often been found serviceable; it is also of great utility in several bilious or gastric affections, some of which have been noticed in the body of the work. If used to too great an extent it is likely to promote an erysipelatous eruption and swelling, against which fomentation with warm water should be resorted to, followed, if necessary, by Rhus Toxicodendron internally, and adding a few drops of the tincture to the water. Against other symptoms, &c. provoked by over-use of this remedy, Camphor should be given. Wine should be abstained from while using this medicine, as it often elicits unpleasant phenomena; it rarely requires repetition in less than twenty-four hours in acute, and from four to six days in chronic cases.

Arsenicum. This remedy, as is well known,

has a specific action upon the stomach and rectum; hence its great value in inflammatory affections of the stomach, with burning pains; in severe attacks of vomiting, and diarrhœa. Among its characteristics are, a predominance of coldness, extreme debility, great thirst, tendency to the low or even putrid form in fevers, and periodical sufferings; formation of ulcers, with raised and hard edges, surrounded by a red and shining crown, which are not unfrequently met with in the more severe kinds of sore throat, &c. It is a medicine very prompt in its action, and often, when given immediately on the first symptoms of an attack, will check it in a few hours. In the doses prescribed in this work it will rarely aggravate, but any unpleasant symptoms that arise may be promptly relieved by a dose of Ipecacuanha; and if they are not removed in three or four hours, we may follow it up with Cinchona, if there is irritability, with restlessness and feverishness at night; or Nux Vomica, if the same symptoms occur during the day or after walking; or Veratrum, if a tendency to nausea, vomiting, heat or coldness of the body, and great weakness remain.

Belladonna. This remedy seems to rank nearly upon an equal footing with Aconite in inflammatory affections, particularly in those of the mucous membrane, the lymphatic and glandular system, and in local affections characterized by

bright redness of the part affected; it is of great service after Aconite, in inflammation of the eyes, in sore throat, with swelling, and in all complaints characterized by determination of blood to the head, or attended with spasms and convulsions; hence the great value of its cautious employment in the derangements of infancy; its powers of preventing the attacks of Scarlatina, and of curing that disease, have been fully established. Vinegar, even applied to the forehead, aggravates the sufferings caused by Belladonna; the erysipelatous swellings, and other phenomena, provoked by its too frequent use yield to Hepar Sulphuris; depression of spirits, with inclination to shed tears, coldness, and headache, to Pulsatilla; other cases, where Belladonna is serviceable, have been given throughout this work: in acute cases its action is very rapid, and soon passes off.

Bryonia. Among the characteristics of this medicine may be noted the bilious temperament; it is, consequently, best suited for individuals of well-marked outlines of features, of dry and meagre frame, and rigid fibre, with dark hair, eyes, and complexion, and irritable temperament; in the fever indicating Bryonia, cold often predominates; it bears a marked resemblance in many points to Rhus Toxicodendron, with the exception that the symptoms, being relieved by motion, and worse in a state of repose, is a characteristic

of the latter medicine; while the contrary is that of Bryonia. Bryonia has one property that should be taken into account in prescribing it; the first dose, although well chosen, may not produce the effects expected from it; but a second, given in twenty-four hours, will declare a salutary action. It is extremely efficient in colds arising from exposure to easterly winds, and should always, when possible, be administered in the morning.

Many individuals are peculiarly susceptible to the influence of this medicine, even at very high attenuations; if it acts too powerfully, a dose of Rhus Toxicodendron will quickly relieve.

Calcarea. We but allude to this remedy, which is one of the most powerful among those denominated by Hahnemann antipsorics, to mention, that unless under medical advice, it should never be administered to females during pregnancy; it is of great service when carefully employed in the affections of children, and of individuals of strumous habits, with tendency to glandular swellings, and may be allowed to act for ten days to a fortnight in ordinary cases; if it produces too powerful effects, Camphor will modify them.

Chamomilla (*Matricaria Chamomilla,*) in cases of great sensibility to pain and of extreme susceptibility; it appears particularly suitable to the affections of women, infants, and children; there are few of the complaints of the latter in

which it is not called for, whether from a chill, gastric derangement, mental emotions, or other causes; it is a medicine of prompt and short action; some of the pains calling for the employment of Chamomilla are relieved by Coffee, which also materially modifies the effects of this medicine when too powerful. This plant must not be confounded with the *Anthemis Nobilis*, the flowers of which are those employed in the practice of the old school under the name of Chamomilla. This remark is necessary, as in some homœopathic works, by a strange inadvertence, two plants of distinct classes, and no doubt possessing different properties have been confounded, and the antidotes prescribed against the effects of the one ordered against those of the other; (as, however, the flowers of the MATRICARIA are *sometimes* employed as a domestic remedy we have in one or two places pointed out what medicines should be substituted in such cases:) in this country at least, Chamomile tea, as it is called, is generally made from the flowers procured from a druggist, namely, those of the Anthemis Nobilis. In the Materia Medica Pura, Hahnemann notices the differences between the two plants, and remarks severely upon the error of confounding them.

CINCHONA. One great use of this remedy is restoring the weakness consequent upon severe

loss of the animal fluids, or upon profuse or long continued evacuations; its value, in other complaints, has been pointed out in the body of this work; two of the best antidotes against any slight inconveniences from an aggravation are Ipecacuanha and Arsenicum. The evil consequences of large or allopathic doses of Quinine require medical treatment.

Coffea. One of its most marked properties is its power of allaying extreme excitability, and in sleeplessness from that cause; this points out its application in a great number of the derangements of females, and in the evil effects of sudden and excessive joy. The medicines best suited as antidotes to the evil effects arising from an abuse of this substance are Chamomilla, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, and Ignatia.

Dulcamara. This remedy seems to possess a specific property over colds and their consequences, particularly those brought on by a wetting, or even from being exposed to damp; and occurring in rainy, cold seasons. Camphor modifies its effects.

Hepar Sulphuris. This medicine is most valuable in forwarding the suppurative process when matter has already begun to form; in such cases it should be given in repeated doses, three globules dissolved in six teaspoonfuls of water, one every four hours; in cases of emergency with

children in double the quantity of water, and at longer intervals. When no matter can be detected, if given the moment the swelling commences, it will often dissipate it. Belladonna modifies its action.

IGNATIA. Against the symptoms produced by deep concentrated grief, and in individuals, particularly females of a high nervous tendency, who after being in the highest spirits will suddenly sink into the lowest despondency. As many of the symptoms of this medicine resemble those of Pulsatilla and Nux Vomica, particularly the latter, this state of the *morale* ought to be taken into account in selecting among those medicines. When from being too frequently repeated it increases the nervous sensibility present, a dose of Coffea should be given; the medicine should, when practicable, be administered in the morning; and as in Bryonia, we often find good effects in repeating it in twenty-four hours.

IPECACUANHA is suited to fair-haired persons, or children of the lymphatic temperament in cases where a feeling of coldness predominates with a tendency to nausea and vomiting. It is an excellent remedy in the vomiting coming on in the first months of pregnancy, particularly with temperaments to which Nux Vomica is not suitable; and from its very short and extremely prompt action and brief duration, extremely suitable where

immediate relief is required; if from being too frequently repeated febrile motions declare themselves, Arnica will generally remove them.

Nux Vomica. This valuable medicine has been already so fully gone into in different parts of this work, that it requires merely to be noticed for the sake of uniformity; and for the distinction of this temperament, which is very marked, it is suitable for persons of the sanguine or bilious temperament, with dark eyes and hair; of irritable disposition, or in complaints where that is a marked characteristic; moreover, when the derangement is worse in the morning; and in sufferings from the abuse of stimulants, whether the result of a temporary excess or of a long continued habit of indulgence. See also Dyspepsia, and elsewhere in this work for further information; it should, when practicable, be given at night; Wine modifies its action.

Pulsatilla is more suitable for females or individuals of mild character and temper, of the lymphatic temperament, of pale complexion, light hair and eyes; with a tendency to mucous discharges, and who easily take cold, are subject to styes, and to those in short in whom there seems a general tendency to laxity of fibre and deficiency of warmth; also when the sufferings increase towards evening; Coffee removes the consequences of an over-dose.

Rhus Toxicodendron. The value of this remedy in sprains, &c. has been already pointed out in an article devoted to the consideration of this subject; it is especially suitable to injuries of the tendons, ligaments (particularly those of the joints), and membranaceous structures. Bryonia modifies its action; these two remedies are, however, often useful in alternation; their most marked distinction has been noted under Bryonia; in some points Rhus resembles Arnica, but is slower in developing its action; it also modifies the effects of the latter medicine when in excess. It is highly valuable as an external remedy.

Sulphur, in individuals who have any, even the slightest, constitutional taint, or who are or have been subject to any eruption of the skin, however apparently trifling, this medicine is required; few cases of derangement of long standing are curable without its employment, and in many instances, where the other medicines, although suitable, do not show their full action, a dose of Sulphur will remove this difficulty. In chronic affections it may be allowed an action of ten days, or even longer. Nux Vomica and Pulsatilla modify its effects.

Sepia has been merely noted in this work as extremely useful in some derangements of the uterine function; it is of long action, and, like Sulphur and others of its class, should not be

too frequently repeated. Vinegar diminishes the effects of Sepia when it seems to act too powerfully.

The medicines to which no particular allusion has been made in this article, are sufficiently remarked upon in other parts of this work; we shall merely enumerate them, with their antidotes.

Medicines.	*Antidotes.*
Cina	Ipecacuanha.
Cocculus	Camphor.
Colocynth . . .	A cup of strong black Coffee.
Cicuta Virosa . .	Arnica.
Drosera	Camphor.
Lachesis	Arsenicum.
Mercurius . . .	Hepar Sulphuris. Mercurial Diseases require a great variety of remedies.
Moschus	Camphor.
Natrum Muriaticum	Camphor.
Opium, a medicine of short duration of action	Camphor, and Coffee.
Spongia	Camphor.

When CAMPHOR is used as an antidote, a couple of drops of the SPIRITS of CAMPHOR may be taken in half a wine-glassful of water, and repeated as often as required. When COFFEE is prescribed

as an antidote, a cup of strong black Coffee, without milk or sugar, should be taken. When the word COFFEA is used, the Homœopathic preparation is meant. The best mode of using the antidotes is to dissolve one or two globules in six teaspoonfuls of water, and give one every hour, two, three, or six hours, till the aggravation is diminished.

The medicines should be kept in a moderately cool place, and should be carefully preserved from the influence of damp, strong continued light, or powerful odours. With these precautions the globules will retain their medicinal virtues unimpaired for years.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE MEDICINES.

Although it is impossible to lay down any specified rule for the administration and repetition of the remedies, yet a few general directions may prove serviceable. The course most suitable to follow with children and females is noticed at pages 243 and 283, and need not therefore be repeated in this place.

It has been remarked in the preceding article that Aconite, Ipecacuanha, Belladonna, Coffea, Arsenicum, Chamomilla, and Opium are medicines of short duration of action in acute attacks. As soon, therefore, as we have obtained from them

the relief desired, if circumstances are pressing, we may give another medicine. If such is not the case, and the patient is improving, we will find better results by waiting about twelve hours; or if the same symptoms return, we may repeat the dose, unless in cases requiring proper medical aid. For the other medicines the following directions may prove useful.

In cases of deranged stomach, &c. where immediate relief is desired, we should take one globule of the suitable remedy, which it will be rarely necessary to repeat. In affections of long standing, dissolve two globules in four teaspoonfuls of water, and take one morning and evening, except Bryonia, Rhus Toxicodendron, and Ignatia, which should, when possible, be given only in the morning; Pulsatilla in the afternoon, and Nux Vomica at night. Of these medicines dissolve two globules in the same manner, and give two spoonfuls for a dose at the times stated; then wait about five days after taking the last dose, unless in the meantime any particular symptoms that may have arisen, or any deviations in diet calls for the selection of another remedy, or the repetition of the former.

Sepia and Sulphur being medicines of long action, the patient may continue under their influence from ten days to a fortnight.

LIST OF MEDICINES.

Names.	*Dilution.*
Aconitum Napellus	24
Arnica Montana	6
Arsenicum Album	30
Belladonna	30
Bryonia Alba	30
Calcarea Carbonica	30
Chamomilla Vulgaris (*Matricaria Chamomilla*)	12
Cinchona Officinalis (or China)	12
Cina	30
Cocculus	30
Colocynth	30
Cicuta Virosa	30
Coffea Cruda	3
Drosera Rotundifolia	12
Dulcamara	24
Hepar Sulphuris	6
Ignatia	12
Ipecacuanha	6
Lachesis	30
Mercurius	12
Moschus	12
Natrum Muriaticum	30
Nux Vomica	30
Opium	3
Pulsatilla	12
Rhus Toxicodendron	30
Spongia Tosta	30
Sulphur	30
Sepia	30
Veratrum Album	12

HOMŒOPATHIC
FAMILY ASSISTANT.

HEADACHE.

This painful and common affection frequently forms a prominent symptom of other diseases; and even when it presents itself in an idiopathic form, particularly in individuals who suffer frequently from its attacks, requires no small degree of skill to treat successfully. It is well known as an almost invariable attendant upon disordered digestion, and only to be cured by removing the functional derangement from which it arises.

Considering this affection by itself, it may arise from a great variety of causes: from congestion; derangement of digestion; rheumatism or catarrh; mechanical injuries; abuse of substances possessing a medicinal action, for example, mercury, or among articles of diet, coffee;

some latent taint of constitution, mental excitement, &c. &c.

ACONITE is the remedy which, from its great controlling power over the circulation, is evidently pointed out, in the first place, in headaches arising from determination of blood to that organ. The symptoms indicating its use are violent stupefying compressive pains; burning or drawing pains either through the whole head, or confined to one side; redness or flushing of the face, the eyes being bloodshot; coldness of some parts of the body: hot dry skin, and strong full pulse are additional reasons, if present, for its employment. We must also look to the causes of the headache, if it has been produced by heat, or is the consequence of a chill; the symptoms appearing after drinking anything cold being aggravated by motion or conversation, and relieved in the open air, form additional reasons for prescribing Aconite. In many cases this remedy will be found sufficient. but in others it will be necessary to have recourse to the one immediately following, or some other.

BELLADONNA, when the pain is of a violent, pressive, expansive nature, as if the head would split, with shooting pains in the temples or above the eyes, and extreme fulness of the head, or sometimes confined to one side; strong pulsation of the carotid and temporal arteries; redness and

bloated appearance of the face; cloudiness of vision, spots before the eyes, vertigo and giddiness, and general nervous susceptibility to noise, touch, light, or movement.

PULSATILLA is most frequently required in headaches arising during indigestion, or from disordered stomach, and attended with the symptoms noted under that head; it is generally indicated in this affection when arising from derangements in the female economy; it is suitable for delicate or susceptible females, or individuals of either sex inclining to fair complexion or hair, and with light eyes, or of a mild and equable disposition. The symptoms which, combined with the foregoing, indicate this remedy, are a sensation of fatigue in the head, or emptiness with giddiness, or a feeling as if the forehead would burst, or as if the brain were compressed; the headaches generally make their appearance towards evening, sometimes after lying down, and are increased by keeping quiet, while moving about affords relief; although in many cases walking in the open air aggravates the pain; a tight bandage round the head occasionally mitigates suffering.

NUX VOMICA embraces a great variety of headaches arising from too great indulgence in the pleasures of the table, particularly in the use of wine and spirituous or malt liquors, and coffee;

keeping late hours; excessive study; or sedentary occupations; or in individuals who have for a long period injured their constitutions by the irregularities above mentioned; or from indigestion. The headaches generally declare themselves in the morning, upon first awaking, with a feeling of giddiness or confusion, as if arising from intoxication, sometimes with heaviness or pressure as if the forehead were about to burst: they not unfrequently come on after a meal, or at the same hour every day, and are much increased or even provoked by the smallest quantity of wine, spirits, malt liquor, or coffee: they often seem very deeply seated, and are attended with a marked degree of irritability. This medicine is suitable for individuals of quick temper, and of dark hair or complexion: it is generally more called for in affections of the male than the other sex.

When headache arises from constipation, this remedy, by removing the cause, will effectually relieve: it is also useful in determination of blood to the head, arising from the other causes, errors in diet, &c., already remarked upon.

Opium. In headache from constipation the value of Nux Vomica has been just remarked upon. When, however, an inactive state of the bowels is the evident cause, this last-mentioned medicine will rarely fail to afford speedy benefit.

NATRUM MURIATICUM will also frequently relieve headaches from this cause, particularly when the constipation has become habitual.

CHAMOMILLA is required in headaches arising from passion or anger; in bilious headaches, which are, however, treated of in common with other symptoms of these complaints; in some from abuse of coffee; in catarrhal headaches, particularly those caused by sudden chill; and in those, from whatever cause, which are felt on awakening in the morning, but become gradually better after rising.

BRYONIA. In this affection, when caused by dry cold easterly winds, whether attended with catarrhal or rheumatic symptoms or not, or if brought on by over fatigue, or anger, or even by a sedentary life. Moreover, the whole head is generally affected with pains of a most distracting nature, becoming as it were one mass of pain, or as if the brain was swollen too large for the skull, which feels as if it would burst: it obliges the sufferer to assume a recumbent posture, and is increased by the slightest movement, by light, by conversation, or even thinking.

COFFEA CRUDA will generally be found to afford relief in headaches arising from or caused by extreme excitability, or from emotion of sudden joy, (see Moral Symptoms;) it is also useful in the

headache attending restlessness and tossing at night, with slight febrile symptoms, in which, if not speedily relieved thereby, a dose of Aconite may be given.

VERTIGO.

Persons of nervous and delicate constitutions are frequently subject to this affection. The most apparent symptoms are great giddiness and lightness of the head; everything appears to turn round, and the patient is compelled to sit or lie down. When the case is severe, the sight is frequently obscured, and a general suspension of the senses takes place. In children this affection is seldom of consequence, but in adults it frequently precedes apoplexy, and therefore requires prompt and efficient attention. The principal remedies found useful in treatment are Aconite, Lachesis, Hepar Sulphuris, Nux Vomica, Moschus, Chamomilla, and Cinchona.

ACONITE. In all cases of vertigo this medicine is appropriate; but more especially when it arises from sudden heat, and is accompanied by palpitation of the heart, nausea, and great weakness, and when motion increases the symptoms.

Lachesis, when there is headache, loss of memory, great nervousness and irritability, melancholy even to shedding tears, bright spots before the eyes, which are red and inflamed, sight confused and at times obscured, nausea and general weakness of the stomach, the slightest pressure insupportable. This medicine is particularly indicated when there is a tendency to apoplexy.

Hepar Sulphuris, if the vertigo is accompanied by total loss of consciousness and dimness of sight; and if the fits come on at night. Like Lachesis, this medicine will be found of great benefit where there is a constitutional tendency to apoplexy.

Nux Vomica when the attacks come on in the morning, or if fatigue from intellectual labour has caused them; and when there is stupor, as though from intoxication, cloudiness of vision, headache, great uneasiness and excitability, pain in the stomach and nausea, and a disposition to be angry or passionate. This medicine will frequently be found of great benefit after Lachesis, where the latter has not effected or materially forwarded a cure.

Moschus when the affection is hysterical and aggravated by cold: and where there is headache, with great nausea, general debility, and sleeplessness.

CHAMOMILLA, if there is vertigo with fainting, pain and heaviness in the head, eyes swollen and vacant-looking, sight confused and sometimes obscured; a sensation of hunger and weakness in the stomach, and great debility and prostration of strength. This medicine is particularly suitable to females and children.

CINCHONA will be found of great benefit in restoring the strength in vertigo arising from debility caused by loss of blood or other humours.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BRAIN.

This is a disease which certainly does not come within the province of domestic treatment; and which is here chiefly mentioned to point out the danger which may result from too rash a confidence in the employment of certain remedies most useful in judicious hands, but frequently negative in those who employ them without a knowledge of their action, or of the disease which they are ignorantly attempting to treat. And although in some instances amateurs have been successful, yet a few isolated cases by no means justify them in persisting in conduct calculated to injure a good cause, and, in a malady like the present, liable to be attended with such fatal consequences.

One not uncommon result of non-medical individuals interfering with acute diseases is their utter incompetence to meet any emergency which may arise, and to ward off any pressing danger: under such circumstances the patient is lost for want of prompt treatment. Another evil, when those medicines they may have selected have done good, arises from their incapacity of conducting the affection to a happy issue, whereby the unfortunate victim of their mistaken zeal endures an unnecessarily long and tedious convalescence.

In considering this disease ACONITE seems more adapted to general than local inflammation, though of course this rule is to be taken with a certain limitation; in cases, in fact, when there are marked febrile symptoms, (for which see article on Fever,) it may prove of great service; but in others, when direct inflammation of the brain has evidently began, BELLADONNA should be selected without loss of time, if an homœopathic practitioner is not immediately procurable. In good hands this medicine has often succeeded of itself; but as in a great number of cases effusion or disorganization of structure may commence, which if not skilfully treated may prove fatal, we feel that pointing out the other remedies might only tempt incompetent parties to trust to their own efficiency in their employment, and prove a source of mischief.

INFLAMMATION OF THE EYES.

There is no class of affections which, if neglected, are more likely to result in organic injury than those of this exceedingly sensitive and tender organ. And when it assumes an acute character, and inflammation runs high, if it be not promptly taken in hand and subdued, absolute loss of sight may be the result.

Homœopathy will no doubt throw considerable light upon the treatment of this class of diseases; and we may hope that ere long the application of its law to eye affections will form a branch of itself; not forgetting, at the same time, the great rule of our founder, not to be guided by an isolated symptom, but in all cases to form as perfect a picture of the disease we have to treat as possible, and select a remedy accordingly.

Great talents and deep power of research have been devoted to ophthalmic pathology, and certainly this branch stands deservedly high: it is for the homœopathist to avail himself of the lights the labours of others have thrown upon this difficult subject, to study it in all its numerous details, and to take also into account the other symptoms

of derangement in the general health of his patients, assigning to each of them, to the best of his judgment, its proper value. He must become the accomplished oculist, without at the same time neglecting the other essential attainments of the medical practitioner.

Any unprejudiced reader of the MATERIA MEDICA cannot but be struck with the marked (it would be scarcely too much to say specific) effect of some medicines upon inflammatory and other eye affections; and the consequence has been the evident superiority of the homœopathic treatment in many of these diseases: yet generally speaking this branch seems to deserve a more exclusive attention upon the part of some of the professors of our science than it has hitherto met with. The resources which homœopathy offers have not yet been fully availed of.

What we would principally press upon the attention of our non-medical readers from the above, is the great responsibility they incur from rashly treating every case of eye inflammation that may come in their way, and to caution them that in many cases, while they are vainly trying remedy after remedy, the delicate organ upon which they are experimenting may be gradually altering in structure, for the very want of prompt and decisive measures.

Very acute inflammation of the eyes should be intrusted to skilful hands, as well as those attacks which reappear frequently, although apparently cured for the time, which argues a decided vice of constitution: and moreover if they arise from any disease, such as gout, leaving some other organ and fixing upon the eyes.

We will, however, mention a few remedies which may be had recourse to in cases of emergency, and which if given according to the rules about to be laid down, will rarely fail to afford relief. In such cases, the attention of the reader is particularly called to the causes which may have led to the affection, which will afford him great assistance in prescribing accurately and to the point.

The ophthalmic affections which fall principally within the range of domestic practice are those which arise from external injury, or from anything getting into the eye; a kind of subacute inflammation of the eye from exposure to cold winds; and that from taking cold, commonly called catarrhal ophthalmia. There is also a frequent affection, inflammation of the eyes in newly-born infants, which shall be considered apart at the conclusion of this article.

ACONITE is a remedy which possesses a certain control over most inflammations of the eyes, and of itself will not unfrequently subdue them. When

any foreign substance has effected a lodgment in the eye, and has set up so much inflammation that its immediate extraction is impracticable, a globule of this medicine, repeated in the course of an hour or two if no marked relief has been experienced, will gradually lower the inflammation so far as to permit the removal of the extraneous body; and unless the eye has been materially injured nothing farther will be required. If, however, such has been the case, a dose of ARNICA may be given, and the eye bathed from time to time with a weak lotion of the same: say four drops of the mother tincture to one hundred of water.

If the eye has been much irritated or inflamed by any insect or fly having stung the ball or been crushed under the eyelid, ARNICA, used as above, is of itself sufficient.

ACONITE is also of great service in inflammations with a burning sensation, or as if a grain of sand were in the eye, and with infiltration of the conjunctiva, and redness of the margins of the lids, with sensibility to light, whether the cause be catarrhal or otherwise.

Should the inflammation prove very intense, and be not speedily relieved by Aconite, we must have recourse to BELLADONNA, which is properly speaking more specific to this organ; and we frequently find that when Aconite has but partially

relieved, Belladonna will affect a cure, provided no scrofulous or other taint be present; which cases are, however, quite beyond the range of a work of this nature. In fact, the experience of the author has taught him that such instances are rarely curable by a single medicine, or even a course of medicines, but by a careful alternation of a few well-chosen remedies.

In the smarting and inflammation arising from exposure to cold winds, bathing the eye with the ARNICA lotion above mentioned will generally afford prompt relief. In cases where the eye has suffered injury from a severe contusion, Arnica is specific; it may be given internally and used as a lotion, in the proportion of one part of Arnica to twelve of water, except in cases of abrasion of the cuticle, when half the quantity of Arnica will suffice.

Catarrhal ophthalmia, which has been glanced at above, should be treated with the other symptoms of "Common Cold."

We have now to speak a few words upon inflammation of the eyes in newly-born infants. In some works this has been treated of as an affection almost purely owing to the influence of light upon the extremely sensitive organ of tender infancy; and although in some cases a scrofulous taint is tacitly acknowledged by the treatment prescribed,

yet, as every medical man of any experience in the diseases of children knows, this complaint may arise from other causes not necessary to specify in this place.

However, when little doubt exists but that heedless exposure to light is the exciting cause, and the affection is yet only in the first stage, characterized simply by redness of the eyes and lids and slight discharge, ACONITE may check it at the outset; but if this medicine does not afford speedy relief, we may follow with a dose of BELLADONNA. The eyes must also be kept constantly bathed with a sponge and tepid milk and water to prevent acrid matter accumulating under the eyelids. If, however, a discharge of yellowish white matter takes place, and the eyelids swell and become glued together, and if the disease gain ground, and particularly if we have reason to suspect any other cause than that above given, immediate recourse to medical aid must be had, since if proper means are not taken in time, total and speedy destruction of the organ may be the issue.

SULPHUR and CALCAREA have been recommended by many homœopathic authors in obstinate cases; but this is only prescribing for one class of these affections, excluding other valuable remedies, and encouraging non-medical individuals to persevere in a useless course of treatment for

weeks, till they have made the mischief irremediable. However, when the acute inflammation has been subdued by the remedies before mentioned, and some redness or soreness remain, from an evident scrofulous tendency, a dose of SULPHUR will often remove it.

STYE.

This well-known eye affection will generally yield to PULSATILLA. ACONITE may be given if the inflammation runs high, or the pain is very severe—followed by BELLADONNA, if it is of a bright red colour. If neglected, it often comes to suppuration, which process, when inevitable, a dose of HEPAR SULPHURIS will forward, and so shorten annoyance and suffering.

EARACHE.

This disease very frequently proceeds from catarrh, or common cold, and is usually of a rheumatic character; it often affects the teeth, head, and sometimes even the brain. If the pain is violent, and of long duration, it requires prompt treatment; for if neglected, inflammation of the ear may ensue; and, as we rarely have any external mark to show the ravages disease may be

making inside, we would caution our non-medical friends not to trust too much to themselves, but seek efficient assistance ere the case becomes critical.

If the affection arises from common cold, sitting in a draught of air, a chill, or from wetting, DULCAMARA will, in many cases, completely remove it, particularly if the pains increase at night, and the patient suffers from nausea. MERCURIUS will be found of great benefit if the pain is acute, and of a sharp, tearing, shooting character, with a sensation of great coldness in the ear, obstruction, and deafness with swelling of the parotid and submaxillary glands—followed by BELLADONNA, if there is any discharge of matter. When the ear is hot and appears inflamed, the pain acute and great sensibility to noise, PULSATILLA is well indicated. ARNICA, when the pain arises from contusion, and is accompanied by deafness, and a sort of humming noise. If the pains are of a rheumatic character, extending through the head and face, NUX VOMICA ought to be given, particularly if the patient is of a hot, passionate disposition. When the pains are of a lacerating description, aggravated by stooping, the glands inflamed and swollen, the slightest noise almost insupportable, and the disposition very irritable, CHAMOMILLA is particularly well indicated.

MUMPS.

This well-known glandular enlargement is of a catarrhal character, and sometimes, but rarely, runs so high as to become dangerous; it frequently appears epidemically. It is to be distinguished from the chronic glandular swellings arising from scrofula, which peculiarly require medical superintendence.

As there is mostly some degree of general fever at the commencement, we will frequently find good results from a single dose of ACONITE; if the complaint occurred in damp, moist weather, we may generally follow with DULCAMARA, which has also a direct action upon both swelling and induration of the glands; stiffness of the nape of the neck, from taking cold, is an additional reason for employing this medicine.

MERCURIUS, if the swelling is painful and of an inflammatory nature, and particularly if the symptoms given under Dulcamara do not appear; in a great number of cases, however, we will find both these medicines called for.

Swellings are often apt to take place in other parts of the body when this complaint is present, or the disease may desert the organ it first attacked

and fix upon some more vital region: to avoid the latter danger, and to assist the reduction of the glands, the jaws of the patient should be carefully protected from all external influence by a flannel wrapper. It may be scarcely necessary to observe, that no repellent preparation of lead, camphor, &c., should be employed, such treatment being very likely to produce those consequences we are most anxious to avoid.

When the swelling of the internal parts of the throat threaten to become dangerous by producing suffocation, no time should be lost in procuring proper medical assistance.

BLEEDING AT THE NOSE.

This is frequently extremely salutary, and forms the crises of many acute diseases, particularly those of an inflammatory nature; and in individuals of what is commonly denominated of a plethoric habit, it is found to afford immediate relief, and headache, vertigo, and other heavy and oppressive symptoms disappear at once.

But when it returns frequently, or continues long so as to cause weakness, we should at once have recourse to proper remedial means: some

cases, particularly those where a scrofulous tendency exists, require a course of alterative treatment; for until a change has taken place in the constitution, we can scarcely look for a cessation of the effect arising from that cause.

ACONITE is a medicine found useful when there is accelerated pulse, flushing of the face, and some heaviness of the head; when, in fact, it appears to arise or has arisen from anything giving an increased activity to the general circulation.

BELLADONNA, when the symptoms of determination of blood to the head are strongly marked, such as deep flushing of the face, beating of the temporal and carotid arteries, great heaviness in the head, flashes of fire before the eyes, &c., and also in individuals who suffer considerably from this determination.

It may be remarked that many cases will be found, in which either medicine may be of itself insufficient, but, followed by the other, may effect a cure.

ARNICA, particularly in men, when the pricking or tingling sensation is felt in the nose or forehead, as if from the crawling of some insect, followed by a discharge of bright red fluid blood: it is also the specific in that arising from external injury, and also when the tendency to return results from some vessels not healing, and conse-

quently yielding to the slightest pressure; in such cases, when the bleeding has ceased, we may endeavour to prevent its recurrence by bathing the nose and forehead with a weak lotion of Arnica (cold), in addition to giving it internally, and the sufferer should be kept as quiet as possible.

Nux Vomica. We have found this remedy of great utility in those cases where the patient had previously suffered from piles; upon whose disappearance, bleeding from the nose had set in; and also in instances where either extremely sedentary habits, or too much indulgence in the good things of this life, seemed to have been the principal cause.

Sulphur also has been of great service to follow Nux Vomica in hemorrhoidal dispositions, and also in strumous habits.

Cinchona should be given in all cases in which the loss of blood has been very profuse, and the patient greatly weakened thereby; it may also follow an attack, to prevent a recurrence.

Refraining from stooping, or over-exertion, sustaining the body in an upright position, and keeping the head well raised when in bed, and cool at all times, and the feet warm, are the best preventives, together with an avoidance of all things likely to predispose to, or bring on, an attack of this annoying complaint.

RHEUMATISM.

By this term is generally understood a disease arising from having taken cold, or from suppressed perspiration affecting the muscular and membranous parts of the body, and sometimes felt as if seated in the bones themselves. When attended with febrile symptoms, it is called acute rheumatism; and, when very severe, rheumatic fever. In the form of chronic rheumatism it is exceedingly prevalent, particularly in this country. Some individuals suffer from it during every change of weather; and many complaints, both acute and chronic, are ultimately connected with it: a marked criterion of which is their being aggravated by atmospheric changes.

Rheumatism may arise not only from suddenly checked perspiration, by a draught of cold air, or a wetting when heated, but from the suppression, either sudden or gradual, of that insensible cutaneous secretion, by which so much transpirable matter is discharged from the system which, if retained, must necessarily generate disease. This suppression may arise from a great variety of causes; insufficient clothing, damp dwellings, a cold, moist, or variable climate, or neglect of cleanliness, where-

by the pores of the skin being stopped up, the healthy action is hindered.

A want of proper exercise in the open air, and habits tending to enervate the system, create a predisposition to this complaint; there can be no doubt, moreover, that some constitutions are more liable to its influence than others.

Once rheumatism has fixed upon the system, it requires great skill, time, and patience to eradicate it. The cases most difficult to bring to a successful issue are those of paralytic rheumatism, when the motion of the parts has been destroyed; yet, even in several of these, homœopathy has been successful.

Looking to the cause, as noticed under Catarrh and elsewhere, will be of great assistance in the treatment of the more ordinary forms of this affection.

CHAMOMILLA is the best remedy to ward off rheumatism, arising from a sudden chill. When heated, and when the attack comes on with a degree of fever; when the pains are of a drawing nature, and come on at night in bed, with a feeling of paralysis or torpor in the limbs, particularly in the hips, with a constant desire to move them, in order to relieve that sensation; when warmth mitigates the pain; and also when that marked characteristic of this medicine is present, an excessive

sensibility of the nervous system, when the patient suffers less from the actual severity of the pain than from his own over-acute perception of its intensity.

BRYONIA is another valuable remedy in rheumatic affections, particularly in those caused by a dry easterly wind. The pains are principally muscular, of a tensive, drawing, and shooting nature, most of them exacerbated by movement or contact. When the lower limbs are affected, it is generally accompanied with weariness and want of stability in the legs.

NUX VOMICA is also serviceable when the pains are the result of a chill, and principally of a burning nature, felt in bed, or in the morning, and declaring themselves upon or immediately after movement: sometimes also of a paralytic nature, and accompanied with torpor, or rigidity of limbs, with extreme susceptibility to the open air, and generally worse on rising in the morning, or after dinner.

DULCAMARA is the chief remedy when the rheumatism has been caused by wet, or has occurred in cold, damp weather: when such is the cause of the affection, this medicine relieves almost without exception; it is also, as well as *Bryonia* and *Chamomilla*, most useful in rheumatic sufferings arising from a chill, and may be advantage-

ously followed by either medicine, according to circumstances; but in most cases, we will find reason to give a preference to the former.

RHUS TOXICODENDRON. The principal indications for this medicine are the rheumatic pains appearing, and becoming worse at night and during repose, and on coming out of the open air, and being relieved by movement and walking, and pains as if the bones were scraped; altogether the pains seem more seated in the tendons and ligaments than in the muscles, as in *Bryonia*. Stiffness, and even pains of the joints on rising from one's seat and going up stairs, are also symptoms, among others, indicating Rhus.

PULSATILLA is especially serviceable in those attacks of flying rheumatism, which are continually changing their seat; the pains setting in, or being exacerbated towards evening, is also a characteristic for its employment.

ACONITE, it may be scarcely necessary to observe, is found serviceable in most cases of acute rheumatism. At the commencement of treatment, or during its progress, when febrile symptoms declare themselves, or severe pain is present.

MERCURIUS will scarcely fail after Aconite, when, from restlessness and pains in the limbs, the patient cannot obtain any rest at night.

The foregoing treatment will be frequently found serviceable when medical advice is not attainable; the rheumatism treated of is that generally arising from Catarrh, called by some medical authors, "true rheumatism," not that excited by taking cold upon mercury, or arising from any specific virus. Such complaints, it is needless to observe, are beyond the scope of this work.

Chronic Rheumatism requires a skilful treatment to effect a cure, as, though great benefit may be effected by the use of the remedies above mentioned, they generally require the assistance of sulphur, or of some of the other medicines generally termed Antipsorics, to conduct the affection to a favorable issue.

LUMBAGO.

Lumbago may either exist as a purely rheumatic affection, or be caused by a determination of blood connected with piles, or, finally, be the result of a fall, contusion, or severe strain.

Accordingly, to prescribe successfully, we must look not only to the symptoms but to the nature of the complaint itself; in such cases, it is a great assistance to have some slight idea of the disease we are treating.

We shall therefore take each class separately, which, we hope, may simplify the treatment.

In rheumatic lumbago, when we can trace the cause, it will greatly facilitate our selection of the proper medicines: the symptoms also given under Rheumatism should guide us, and to them the reader is referred. We will, therefore, briefly give those appertaining to the particular part affected. The medicines we find most generally called for are Bryonia, Nux Vomica, and Rhus Toxicodendron, and, in many cases, Dulcamara, Pulsatilla, and Aconite.

Bryonia. Pain in the loins like a painful weight; not allowing the sufferer to remain upright; during rest resembling a bruise in the loins; shootings in the loins and back.

Nux Vomica. Pains like those caused by a bruise in the back and loins, or pains which incapacitate one from turning in the bed at night, or of a rheumatic drawing nature; sometimes pains in the back occasionally in the evening.

Rhus Toxicodendron. Pains in the loins, as if beaten, especially when touched, or during repose, and also as if from lifting too heavy a weight.

Dulcamara, in Lumbago, arising from wet or damp (as in Rheumatism), violent, searching,

shooting, or drawing pains in lumbar region, chiefly at night when at repose.

PULSATILLA. Pains in the loins and back, as if from having stooped a long time, or as if occasioned by a tight band, with rigidity of the muscles: moreover, if flying rheumatism be present, or if it be strongly indicated by temperament, or other circumstances.

ACONITE is frequently called for by the state of general fever that accompanies acute Lumbago: this applies to most of its varieties, but more particularly to the rheumatic.

CHAMOMILLA has been also found serviceable in the nervous excitability present, and also when indicated by characteristic rheumatic or other symptoms.

The second variety we have to treat of is that arising from hemorrhoidal congestion. Under the article HEMORRHOIDS, the reader will find some remarks, which may assist him in forming a proper judgment as to the existence of this predisposition, which being ascertained, he will find that the remedies most serviceable in that complaint are those most likely to remove the lumbago from that cause: among these NUX VOMICA will frequently afford a prompt relief; but in sensitive females, or individuals of fair hair and complexion, and mild temper, we might, as there remarked, give a pre-

ference to PULSATILLA, particularly if Nux Vomica has not answered our expectations; or if some decisive symptoms, like the pains we have mentioned when we had occasion above to allude to this medicine, are present, whichever remedy may have been chosen, good effects will generally result in following it in a few days with SULPHUR.

Cases in which a hemorrhoidal tendency is complicated with rheumatic lumbago require professional aid, although there are few examples in which great benefit will not be derived from a judicious employment of the medicines above noted.

When lumbago arises from a fall, contusion, or strain, it comes under the class of external injuries, which will be remarked upon in their proper place, and the treatment there prescribed should be followed; however, these injuries, when at all neglected, are apt to become chronic, and assume a rheumatic character, evident from the patient's sufferings being materially influenced by all changes of weather.

In such cases, Bryonia and Rhus are most useful, since they cover both the result of mechanical injuries and rheumatism, and, consequently, the rheumatic affection grafted, as it were, on the issue of such lesions. The distinction already given for these two medicines, under Rheumatism, may serve as a guide, and instances not unfre-

quently occur in which they may be given alternately at intervals of from five days to a week.

As lumbago may arise from scrofulous, or some other taint of the constitution, and may originate serious affections of the bones, &c., all obstinate and long-standing affections of this nature ought to be placed in medical hands.

COMMON COLDS.

PREVENTIVE TREATMENT.

We have already treated of Rheumatism and Lumbago, two diseases most frequently arising from obstructed perspiration, upon which we mean to say a few words, and then to point out the homœopathic means most serviceable in both warding off the consequences of any exposure or imprudence in dealing with them when these precautions have not been resorted to in time; after which, it may be advisable to consider the most usual forms of the above-named affection separately, and according to the symptoms present.

We may, however, mention that there is one class of colds which it would be scarcely consistent with the design of this work to enter upon here, namely, those which arise in constitutions

impaired by the use of mercury, or immediately after having taken that drug.

In the extremely variable climate of Britain, even slight colds neglected not unfrequently lay the foundation of serious diseases. The means, therefore, of obviating the evil effects of the many causes of cold, to which we are hourly exposed, must needs merit our most serious attention. It is almost needless to observe that, while employing the remedies which experience has pointed out as most serviceable in those instances, we must not, at the same time, neglect the ordinary precautions which reason and common sense have inculcated upon us.

Anything that causes an obstruction, either sudden or gradual, of the proper action of the skin, may give rise to a cold; but Homœopathy, by looking as closely as possible to the cause, in many cases checks it at the outset; in fact, before any well-marked symptoms have declared themselves to guide us in the selection of the remedy.

One not unfrequent cause of taking cold is DAMP.

This may act upon the system by exposure to rain; being obliged to remain in wet clothes; getting the feet wet; sleeping in a bed not sufficiently aired, or being exposed to heavy night dews; or by a damp state of the atmosphere:—in

such cases, DULCAMARA, if taken at the time, will scarcely ever fail to prevent any bad consequences; and although its power is not limited to those particular cases, yet in them, it is almost without a rival. When symptoms of a cold have set in before it has been employed, they may even grow worse during the first twenty-four, or even thirty-six hours, after which they generally pass off; therefore, not obtaining immediate relief is not, in ordinary cases, a sufficient reason either for repeating it, or resorting to another medicine, under the idea that the dose already given is insufficient. Any exceptions to this which may occur will be alluded to in their proper place.

BRYONIA is generally most suitable when the natural transpiration of the skin has been checked by a cold, dry easterly wind, or in colds caught during the prevalence of easterly or north-easterly winds; or when from exposure to a draught, either when heated or moderately warm—in case this circumstance has taken place, when the state of the atmosphere was not such as to give a marked preference to either Dulcamara or Bryonia, if we have no very definite symptom to guide us, a dose of Dulcamara, followed in twenty-four hours by Bryonia, will often prevent the evil from making any further head.

CHAMOMILLA is a medicine most frequently

serviceable when considerable visible perspiration has been suddenly suppressed, either by a draught of cold air, wet, or other cause, or from sudden transition from heat to cold. This is a most useful remedy in cases of children overheating themselves by exercise, and then throwing off some of their clothing, or exposing themselves to a draught or cool breeze.

ARSENICUM displays a specific action in cases where cold threatens from having been chilled in water, particularly after having been heated, and also when the natural temperature of the body has been also lowered by a long-continued immersion. It may also be mentioned in this place (though as a matter of great moment it will be again alluded to) that this medicine possesses the power, if administered in time, of preventing the dangerous, and sometimes fatal, consequences that ensue from drinking cold liquids when heated; also those which arise from partaking of raw or cold fruits or vegetables when in that state, which, although scarcely so sudden in their effects, yet are often extremely injurious.

The reader will at once see that the four above-mentioned medicines cover a considerable range, and by a timely use of them as preventives many a cold and all the fevers and other diseases, both

acute and chronic, that follow in its train, may be at once checked.

When a cold has set in, although the causes of it should have their due weight, yet symptoms may arise calling for other medicines. Among these, Belladonna, Pulsatilla, Nux Vomica, Mercurius, and Aconite are often serviceable, not only when the evil is fully developed but even at the very beginning of the attack. We will now proceed to treat of the forms in which a cold commonly declares itself, in the course of which we shall have occasion to again allude to the valuable remedies already mentioned in this article.

COLD IN THE HEAD.

Cold in the head may be simply discharge of serum and mucus, or dryness with obstruction; it is frequently attended with pain at the root of the nose; it may be accompanied with fever, cough, and other catarrhal symptoms: it shall here, however, be treated of in its individual form, and if any of the above-mentioned accompany it, there can be no difficulty in referring to the medicines under those respective heads, and adding their indications to those here given.

The medicines most serviceable in ordinary cases are Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Chamomilla, Arsenicum, Mercurius.

Nux Vomica in any of the following cases:—dry obstruction of the nose and general feeling of the head being stuffed; or obstruction of one side only, often with itching of the nostrils and discharge of mucus; heat and heaviness in the forehead; the obstruction sometimes shows itself most in the morning or at night; sometimes, however, there is a fluent discharge in the morning or during the day, with dryness and obstruction at night; also extreme sensibility of the inner nostrils, sneezing, dryness of the mouth and throat; general irritability and languor.

Pulsatilla. Pressure at the root of the nose, with dry obstruction of the nose, principally in the evening and in a warm room; discharge of greenish or yellowish pus of a fetid smell; loss of the senses of taste and smell; tickling of the nose with sneezing, principally in the evening and morning; ulceration of the nostrils and of the wings of the nose; shivering, and tendency to depression. Generally the above and other catarrhal symptoms, if present, grow worse towards evening.

Chamomilla seems peculiarly suited to the fever arising from checked perspiration, and to the action set up by the skin to throw it off: it is also

called for when there is a continual discharge of acrid mucus accompanied by great heaviness of the head; the nostrils being inflamed, scabby, and ulcerated, and the lips chapped and painful; there is also generally considerable thirst, with the fever and shivering. It is also the remedy most called for in this affection in children.

ARSENICUM. This medicine is most frequently called for when the cold in the head is accompanied by many of the symptoms which are classified under the general name of Influenza, (to which we refer;) but also when there is swelling of the nose, violent sneezing, burning sensation in the nostrils, obstruction of the nose, with a profuse discharge of a thin, watery, acrid, excoriating fluid; sometimes this discharge is present without the feeling of obstruction.

MERCURIUS is a good remedy in common cold in the head, with excessive discharge and soreness both of the nostrils and wings of the nose; it is often serviceable in completing a cure, and in checking the troublesome discharge which frequently remains after every other symptom has departed.

HOARSENESS.

This is a symptom common in most colds, and generally associated more or less with cough. When, therefore, proper means have been taken for the removal of the cold, it will generally disappear with it. There are, however, individuals in whom all attacks of this nature seem to fix upon the mucous membrane lining the windpipe, without any really marked sore throat, or other catarrhal symptoms; in fact, with nothing but hoarseness, sometimes amounting almost to aphonia, or complete loss of voice.

In treating this, our first care should be, if possible, to ascertain the cause of the cold which has given rise to it, if that is practicable. The reader may advantageously consult the article on the PREVENTIVE TREATMENT OF COMMON COLDS, and select accordingly. If this be done judiciously, the hoarseness will frequently yield.

But in cases where this is not possible, or the attack is only partially relieved by the medicine employed, we frequently find SPONGIA of the most marked service, followed in two or three days with SULPHUR.

When hoarseness is associated with SORE THROAT, it will be found treated under that article.

The other descriptions of catarrhal hoarseness are rarely found without cough; to save, therefore, the reader trouble, he may refer to them under that head; and if symptoms of COLD IN THE HEAD are present, consult the preceding article.

Individuals who have suffered from an abuse of mercury are very subject to this affection upon the slightest exposure; they should therefore place themselves under an homœopathic anti-mercurial treatment; if it, however, arise from any scrofulous or other taint, they may derive great benefit from being put under a regular course of medicine, which, if judiciously chosen to suit their case, will fortify their constitution, and render each attack less severe than the preceding, until the evil is wholly eradicated. In a great number of these cases SULPHUR is the principal medicine; and although it may require the assistance of others to perfect a cure, rarely fails to promote it considerably.

CATARRHAL COUGH.

Cough is generally a symptom in cold, or the result of one neglected or improperly treated. When it has existed for a considerable time, or becomes very obstinate, we should be careful lest

it prove the precursor of some more serious complaint, and not trifle with it until the mischief becomes irremediable.

The medicines found most serviceable in ordinary cases are Belladonna, Dulcamara, Chamomilla, Bryonia, Aconite, Ipecacuanha, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Ignatia, Arsenicum, and Lachesis.

BELLADONNA. Cough short, dry, spasmodic, convulsive, or hollow, as if caused by having swallowed dust, or as if there was some foreign body at the larynx, or at the pit of the stomach. The cough may be attended with other symptoms of catarrh, namely, cold in the head, hoarseness, and mucus in the chest: the voice may also be much affected, or completely lost. The cough is mostly at night, in bed, and increased by the slightest movement, and often accompanied by shootings in the abdomen during the paroxysm.

DULCAMARA, in coughs or hoarseness arising from a wetting, or in wet or damp weather, or from exposure to a draught. If the cough is moist, this remedy will frequently cure of itself; but in many cases it may be necessary to follow it with another medicine in a day or two, in which we must be guided by the symptoms that may then declare themselves. We shall, however, generally find either Belladonna or Bryonia most required.

CHAMOMILLA, against cough or hoarseness con-

tracted by a sudden check of perspiration, and particularly in children, when the cough is very severe during the night, even when the sufferer is asleep, or when it has been brought on by a fit of passion; the cough is of a dry character and strong, and seems produced by a constant tickling in the larynx and under the breast-bone during coughing, and also something appears to rise in the throat and threaten suffocation. If the nocturnal cough in children is only partially relieved by this medicine, we may give a dose of Belladonna.

BRYONIA is serviceable in most coughs or attacks of hoarseness arising during the prevalence of a dry cold atmosphere, or of biting easterly winds; it is also good in dry coughs excited by a tickling in the throat, as if caused by smoke in the windpipe, obliging the sufferer to breathe frequently. It is of great service, moreover, in the cough attending pleurisy, bronchitis, and other chest affections.

ACONITE is particularly serviceable when the premonitory febrile symptoms of a cough or cold declare themselves; such as shiverings, alternately with flushing, &c. and in all cases where we find general fever; it is also of itself adapted to that dry, frequent, and continuous cough, which is excited and increased by exercise. This generally shows itself in young people—individuals of what

is called a plethoric habit, with strong full pulse; sometimes we also find determination of blood to particular organs, most frequently to the chest with dyspnœa and pain in that region. Here the utility of this medicine, from the control it possesses over the circulation of the blood, is evident, and its timely use may prevent spitting of blood and other serious chest affections.

IPECACUANHA is useful in dry cough, attended with nausea and vomiting; it occurs principally at night, and is often accompanied with painful shocks in the head and stomach. We also find among the catarrhal symptoms a continued obstruction of the nose and loss of the sense of smelling; a tickling of the throat, with a feeling of constriction; expectoration of mucus of a disagreeable taste, and soreness in the chest.

NUX VOMICA. This remedy is more frequently called for in catarrhal cough than almost any other, from the character of the cough it covers, being one of the most common, namely, dry and harsh, with a sensation of scraping in the throat and tickling in the palate; hoarseness, with slimy mucus in the throat, exceedingly difficult to detach; the cough is renewed by movement, and often attended with pain in the head and soreness of the pit of the stomach. See also some other symptoms for this medicine, not uncommonly

accompanying the cough, under "Cold in the Head."

PULSATILLA is found generally called for in catarrhs, accompanied with profuse mucous discharge, and in moist coughs. It may be here remarked that individuals of the temperament suited to Pulsatilla are generally those most affected with this kind of cough. There is also hoarseness, which generally grows worse towards evening, or at night, or upon lying down; expectoration of white adhesive mucus, or of thick yellow matter, leaving a bitter or salt taste upon the mouth.

IGNATIA is best suited to dry hoarse cough, equally present day and night, and increased by lying down; the temperament and disposition of the patient will here also furnish a guide in the selection, it being best suited to hysterical females and individuals of uneven temper, and subject to sudden depression of spirits.

ARSENICUM. The nature of the cough calling for the employment of this medicine will be detailed under Influenza, in the treatment of which it is one of our most efficient remedies; when common catarrh closely simulates that affection, it should—from the vital principle of the homœopathic law—be selected.

LACHESIS. Continual hoarse hollow cough, or dry whistling cough, attended with scraping in

the throat, or excited by pressure upon the throat, generally worse during the night and on rising from lying down.

The above are remedies found most serviceable in ordinary cases of catarrh; if, however, we find the affection obstinate, medical advice should be sought, inasmuch as, if not promptly treated, it may prove the forerunner of some more serious affection. The cough present in consumption is, of course, not here treated of; we have also avoided giving some symptoms under different medicines, which more properly belong to that complaint.

STOMACH-COUGH.

There is another species of cough, upon which it may be as well to say a few words, as it is a very common and troublesome variety, and one in which the homœopathic remedies have been found very serviceable; it is that generally known under the name of Stomach-Cough.

Catarrhal or pulmonary coughs are excited by taking a deep inspiration, or by exertion, while a stomach-cough usually declares itself after eating or drinking, and is generally attended with deranged digestion, or occurs in dyspeptic individuals.

In most cases of stomach-cough relief will be found in the employment of Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Bryonia, Arsenicum, or Ipecacuanha.

The characters of the cough closely resemble those already given under catarrhal cough, but with dyspeptic symptoms in addition; a few indications may therefore be of service in leading the reader to the choice of the proper medicine.

NUX VOMICA, in cough from deranged stomach, generally declaring itself in the morning from over-indulgence in eating or drinking, or closely resembling the unpleasant sensations arising from excess. It is the medicine generally found most suited to the cough of those who have injured their digestion by sedentary or over-studious habits, or prolonged vigils; it is also, as has been frequently remarked, most adapted to individuals of quick or irritable and sanguine temperament.

PULSATILLA should be selected for persons of a reverse temperament to that given under either Nux Vomica or Bryonia, of which latter medicine we will next speak. The cough generally comes on, or grows worse, in the evening, after or at a meal, or at night on lying down; it is attended with nausea and strong inclination to vomit, with a sensation of sickness extending into the throat and mouth, and sometimes even vomiting, with dislike to meat and everything of a rich nature.

This kind of cough is more frequently present in the female sex than the male.

BRYONIA is well suited to the bilious temperament, to persons of harsh outline and strongly-developed fibre, and of dark hair and complexion, particularly when the cough is of a spasmodic suffocating nature, especially after eating or drinking; vomiting attending the cough is an additional reason for employing it; it is, generally speaking, a medicine better adapted for the affections of adults than those of children.

ARSENICUM is an excellent remedy in most stomachic disorders, particularly in those of long standing, and in the cough that comes on after drinking; it also abates the nausea and tendency to vomiting which that kind of cough occasionally provokes.

IPECACUANHA will be found well adapted to the affections of fair persons and children; the symptoms are the same as those given under catarrhal cough.

In a long-standing complaint of this nature, though any of the above-named medicines, well selected, will relieve, we may require one or more to effect a cure; and in most constitutions we may do great good by commencing with SULPHUR, and following it up in ten days by any other medicine which the symptoms lead us to prefer;

bearing in mind the indications we have given for the temperament, according to which Nux Vomica may perhaps be best followed or preceded by Bryonia, or Ipecacuanha by Pulsatilla. Arsenicum is suitable for both the bilious and lymphatic temperament; moreover, although it and Ipecacuanha are mutual antidotes, yet experience has shown that they answer in alternation at sufficient intervals to allow to each medicine its proper sphere of action. In severe stomach-cough, of an almost acute nature, it may also be remarked that great immediate relief is often derived from a dose of ACONITE, after which we may proceed to whatever medicine appears most specifically suitable to the complaint.

For the cough often attending affections of the liver we refer to that complaint, and for the treatment of the cough provoked by worms, teething, or hemorrhoidal suppressions, see those articles.

Young girls just approaching puberty are often troubled with a short, dry, husky cough. This, SEPIA, acting upon the cause, rarely fails to remove; in some instances, however, it may be advantageously assisted by a dose of PULSATILLA.

NERVOUS COUGH.

This cough depends greatly upon constitution, and often requires long and judicious treatment to eradicate it. A change of air and gentle exercise will also materially conduce to this result. It may be distinguished both from catarrhal and stomach cough by the absence of the symptoms respectively attendant upon these varieties, and by its being excited by anything acting upon the nervous system, especially moral emotions. It is often rather diminished than increased by speaking or violent exercise. When this cough has been brought on by any strong moral emotion, we refer to the article upon that subject for more minute details; however, in many instances we may select our remedies as follows.

ACONITE, when there is a feeling of strangulation attending the cough, whether from grief, rage, or any strong emotion, followed by CHAMOMILLA, if from passion, particularly in young children; BRYONIA, if caused by rage, especially in adults; or IGNATIA, if grief is the exciting cause.

MOSCHUS too will be found an excellent remedy in relieving the constriction in the larynx, and croup-like and suffocating spasm in the chest fre-

quently attending this kind of cough, particularly when symptoms resembling hysteria are present even in the male sex.

HOOPING-COUGH.

This well-known complaint of children scarcely requires any lengthened description; it is frequently found endemic, that is, prevalent in a particular district, and is generally supposed to be contagious. Be that as it may, as we know no means of preventing its attacks, and it is a malady which most children, as the expression is, "have to go through," a proper course of treatment, which would materially curtail its duration and diminish its violence and danger, has been long a desideratum which homœopathy has at last supplied.

It first sets in with the symptoms of an ordinary catarrhal attack, generally with a higher degree of fever. As long as either the fever lasts, or the catarrhal character continues, we shall find the medicines we have already mentioned under Catarrhal Cough serviceable. ACONITE should be given if much general fever exists; DULCAMARA if the hooping-cough becomes prevalent during damp or rainy weather; BRYONIA, on the con-

trary, if the disease is raging when cold easterly winds prevail, or when the atmosphere is dry and frosty, and also when pains in the chest are complained of. As the cough gradually assumes a spasmodic character, BELLADONNA will be found to relieve; this medicine is also indicated by the attacks coming on most violently at night, and by the character of the cough itself. CHAMOMILLA is called for in most cases in children; it relieves both the fever and cough present. Another indication is anger or rage, provoking a paroxysm. The attacks, as in Belladonna, are generally at night, and are accompanied with a feeling of obstructed breathing.

NUX VOMICA, as may be seen from the symptoms given under Catarrhal Cough and elsewhere, will be found of great use in the first stage of this malady, particularly when the attacks come on after midnight, and continue the next morning; the cough partakes of a spasmodic nature, and is excited and provoked by movement, or lying on the back. The vomiting, threatened suffocation, and bleeding from the nose and mouth, often present in hooping-cough, have been relieved by this among other medicines.

If after Belladonna, Chamomilla, or Nux Vomica, the cough changes its harsh dry character, and becomes moist and loose, with profuse expectora-

tion, PULSATILLA will be found eminently useful; also, if this character of cough has existed from the commencement, or, moreover, if mucous diarrhœa is present, or if vomiting of food follows or attends the paroxysm.

IPECACUANHA is among the medicines most suited to hooping-cough already far advanced, and assuming its true character, namely, a spasmodic, dry, shaking cough, worse at night, with fits of suffocation, rigidity of the body and bluish face, disgust, inclination to vomit, and vomiting of food, attended with bleeding from the nose and mouth.

ARNICA may be used at any period throughout the course of the disorder, should the bleeding from the mouth or nose prove considerable, or when each attack of coughing is followed by crying.

We have thus far treated of this disease in the catarrhal stage, gradually entering into the spasmodic. And although we have given rules in the Introduction to this work for the administration of the medicines in most cases, a word or two upon the same subject in this place may not be unacceptable.

The instances, even under homœopathic treatment, of medicine cutting short this disease at the commencement, are too rare to lead us to hope any farther than materially shortening its course,

and alleviating its violence, as observed in the beginning of this article. We may have occasion, therefore, to employ several of the medicines mentioned, as the symptoms change. We must also bear in mind that, if no relief follows a medicine after a reasonable time, it is no use repeating frequently; our selection has been incorrect, and we had better reconsider the symptoms, and choose some other remedy more appropriate. If we find the next paroxysm, or even the one immediately succeeding that, alleviated, be it ever so slightly, we should not repeat, but wait, and patiently watch the effects of that one dose; if, however, the patient again retrogrades, or the improvement seems stationary, and the symptoms remain the same, we may safely repeat; if the symptoms have changed, change the medicine accordingly, as it may even in the first stage have a tendency to complication with inflammation of the chest.

ACONITE, BRYONIA, and PHOSPHORUS, may be called for, but such cases evidently require the supervision of a medical man.

We will now consider the disease as fully developed, exhibiting its true spasmodic character. In most cases the medicines that have as yet proved serviceable in the hands of the homœopathist are Drosera and Veratrum.

DROSERA is in most cases the medicine when

the cough is attended with the characteristic whoop from which it derives its name. When the paroxysms succeed one another with such rapidity as to threaten suffocation; when it comes on at night, and in the evening, immediately after lying down, attended with inclination to vomit or vomiting during and after the cough, the cough is generally dry and spasmodic, with blueness of the face, wheezing, obstructed perspiration; there may also be bleeding from the mouth and nose. The cough is sometimes attended with expectoration and shooting in the lower part of the chest, with a burning pain in the chest or back.

Shivering and coldness are also often found present; or fever, with nausea and desire to vomit.

VERATRUM. There are few really severe attacks of hooping-cough, as it appears, in this country, in which this medicine will not be found to do good, particularly when the disorder has been of long continuance, and the little sufferer has become much debilitated from its attacks; accordingly, many of the signs that call for its employment are those which strongly speak of the great inroads the disease has made upon the strength. It acts well in cases where the whoop is defined, and Drosera, although indicated, has perhaps relieved the cough, but still left other symptoms only partially mitigated, and also in those instances where

the more distinguishing characteristics of the disease are absent.

Among the symptoms indicating this remedy may be noted a dry hollow cough, excited by deeply-seated tickling sensation, sometimes attended with vomiting and obstructed perspiration, almost sufficient to cause suffocation, and mostly excited by a spasmodic constriction of the throat and chest, and slow fever, sometimes with a feeling of external coldness, with cold clammy perspiration, especially on the forehead, more or less thirst, and sometimes with depressed pulse, loss of strength and flesh, great languor, and repugnance to movement and speaking.

Not unfrequently we find that a tendency to worms shows itself during this as well as other complaints. CINA is here a useful remedy; as the symptoms which it covers in worms and abdominal derangement attendant thereupon will be fully given in that article, it is useless entering upon their detail here; we shall merely mention those most applicable to the complaint now in question.

CINA is indicated when the cough is attended with attacks of rigidity during the paroxysm, and after it a kind of clucking noise is heard descending from the gullet into the abdomen. As above mentioned, vermiculous symptoms or a scrofulous tendency are strong reasons for its selection.

MERCURIUS will often be found to follow CINA with advantage; we may also give it when the cough comes on only at night, with profuse perspiration, in bed, and great nervous susceptibility.

SULPHUR may be given at any time during the course of the disease, when from some taint of constitution the malady lingers, in spite of an apparently correct selection of the remedies.

When the cough is on the decline, it is evidenced by marked intermissions; and if it has been of long duration, by increased weakness. This is, however, rarely so great, for obvious reasons, under homœopathy, as under the old medical regime; indeed, if the disease has been well treated, the convalescence is generally so rapid, that no third stage is observable. The following remedies may, however, prove serviceable in cases where some cough remains.

DULCAMARA. Moist cough, with considerable easy expectoration of mucus. The cough is always excited by taking a deep inspiration.

PULSATILLA. Moist cough, with expectoration of white tenacious mucus, nausea, and even vomiting.

HEPAR SULPHURIS. If the violence of the cough is diminished, but still dry, hollow, and hoarse, with vomiting after each paroxysm, and tears.

ARNICA, if, as in the spasmodic stage, the paroxyms are preceded, excited, or followed by crying. Wherever any scrofulous taint is evident, or suspected, we may give a dose of Sulphur, and follow it up, at an interval of a fortnight or three weeks, with CALCAREA CARBONICA.

If the cough should continue, attended with profuse expectoration of mucus, or increasing weakness, the patient should be placed forthwith in the hands of some competent practitioner.

The great benefit of change of air in this malady, even from a wholesome to a less pure atmosphere, is too well known to be here further insisted upon. The diet all through should be light and easy of digestion; during the accesses of fever the patient must be kept low, but towards the decline of the disorder a little more indulgence may be allowed.

CROUP.

This very dangerous disease requires the most prompt treatment, from the rapidity of its course and the great danger there is of suffocation. It is always attended by catarrhal symptoms, short difficult breathing, great hoarseness, with a whistling or rattling sound in the throat; the voice becomes very shrill, and the face flushed; there is

also harsh, dry, hoarse, barking cough, great oppression of the chest, and frequently violent fever. Very young children are most liable to its attacks.

This malady prevails generally in winter: it is evidently sometimes hereditary, from the peculiar tendency to its attacks which exists in some families. Cold, damp, easterly and north-easterly winds blowing into the mouth, wearing thin shoes in wet or damp weather, sleeping in linen not sufficiently aired, sitting in wet clothes, or, in fact, anything which obstructs the perspiration, may be the exciting cause.

The principal remedies in the treatment of this affection are Aconite, Hepar Sulphuris, Spongia, Lachesis, Moschus, and Phosphorus.

ACONITE should be taken to subdue the febrile symptoms which attend this disease, and to lower the pulse and abate the general heat which always declares itself in the commencement of the affection.

HEPAR SULPHURIS, when there is great hoarseness; severe pain in the throat, which cannot bear the least pressure; weak, hoarse voice; great difficulty of breathing, and a feeling of suffocation, which compels the sufferer to throw back his head; deep, dry, dull, hollow cough; pain in the chest; loss of appetite; great thirst and fever; headache and flushed face. This medicine is particularly

applicable where there is any constitutional taint or the disease is supposed to be hereditary.

SPONGIA is indicated when the patient is overpowered by attacks of suffocation which drive him to despair; the cough continues night and day, with scarcely any cessation; there is also burning, dry sensation in the throat, and a feeling as if something impeded respiration. This medicine may be advantageously alternated with Hepar Sulphuris; in many cases they are sufficient of themselves to effect a cure.

LACHESIS may be had recourse to when, combined with the other symptoms, there is great prostration of strength, fainting, great anguish, sickness of the stomach, and when the very slightest pressure on the throat impedes respiration almost to suffocation.

MOSCHUS, like the last-named medicine, is well indicated when the symptoms are attended with fainting fits, and there is suffocating constriction, and great pain in the chest.

PHOSPHORUS should be given where the inflammation threatens to extend to the lungs or bronchial passages, or where there is a constitutional tendency to disease in those organs.

There is no malady in which the superiority of the homœopathic system over all others has been more clearly demonstrated than in this, ordinarily

so acute in its nature, rapid in its progress, and fatal in its effects; still this ought not to encourage individuals destitute of medical education to attempt it, when a competent practitioner can be found. It is true that the remedies we have mentioned are those which both would most probably equally use; but to apply each medicine at the proper moment, not, on the one hand, to repeat too frequently, nor, on the other, to allow valuable time to be lost, and to meet every unexpected contingency that may occur, are gifts only to be acquired by practice and professional experience.

Children who show a marked predisposition to returns of this complaint, should take every precaution against exposure to any of the exciting causes before mentioned, and also regulate their diet so as to exclude every article of an improper or indigestible nature. A judicious employment of the following medicines, say, from time to time, and at long intervals, will generally eradicate this tendency.

HEPAR SULPHURIS, PHOSPHORUS, then BELLADONNA; sometimes also, particularly in fair-haired or scrofulous children, SULPHUR, CALCAREA CARBONICA, and MERCURY; and in any injurious effects that the disease may have left upon the respiratory organs, particularly hoarseness,

DROSERA, followed, if some relief is not evident in from twelve to twenty-four hours, by BELLADONNA.

QUINSY, OR SORE THROAT.

This disease is, from the variations of our temperature, very common in this climate; and unless promptly and properly treated, is exceedingly dangerous, particularly in those constitutions that have any scrofulous taint; such individuals should place themselves under homœopathic treatment, even when in comparative health; by this prudent precaution they will either remove this predisposition or so far modify it as greatly to diminish the frequency and danger of the attack.

Sore throat is excited by most of the same causes as common cold, and must be looked upon, in its most ordinary form, as an inflammatory disorder; it is often brought on by hastily discarding some part of the covering of the neck, or by sudden check of perspiration; for example, in females coming out of the heated atmosphere of a theatre or ball-room into the raw cold air of the night, without that part of the frame being sufficiently protected; sitting in a draught, or being exposed to a wetting are also frequent causes.

In almost all cases the great point is to avoid allowing the disease to gain head through a neglect of taking proper measures for subduing it at the outset.

In treating this malady we must, as in most others, bear in mind its cause, character, and symptoms, and prescribe accordingly.

As regards the first mentioned, we might with advantage refer to the preventive treatment of Common Colds, page 30. The medicines there mentioned, namely, Dulcamara, Bryonia, and Chamomilla will generally be found sufficient, if given in time, to ward off an attack; to these, in some cases, we may add a medicine there also noted, Arsenicum.

DULCAMARA will generally remove sore throat contracted from a wetting or in damp weather, if taken when the affection first manifests itself; in general cases it is however advisable to give a dose of Belladonna the next day, unless, of course, the symptoms should be of such a nature as to clearly point out some other remedy; to avoid recurring to this medicine, it may also be observed that in many cases when Mercurius has seemed indicated, but has only partially relieved, or when the patient, from a former abuse of that mineral, appears insensible to the beneficial action of small doses, or

when the disease is complicated with mercurial symptoms, (for example, secretion of much mucus,) Dulcamara may be made available.

BELLADONNA is a medicine suitable to a great number of cases of sore throat, particularly those of a marked inflammatory character at the commencement; and from the rapidity with which it acts, when well chosen, greatly shortens the sufferings of the patient; in many cases it cures of itself, but in the greater number requires the assistance of some other medicines to remove all traces of the malady. In the first place, the bright redness of the throat is the characteristic sign for its employment; the pains are principally felt during deglutition; they are attended with a sensation of enlargement, dryness, scraping, burning, or shooting, and sometimes extend to the ears, with constant desire to swallow, and difficult deglutition; the tonsils or uvula, or both, may be swollen: and even in worse cases, where we find spasmodic contraction and constriction of the throat, swallowing becomes impracticable, there may either be want of, or violent, thirst, while all drink returns by the nostrils. Also in cases where there is accumulation of slimy whitish mucus in the throat and at the base of the tongue, and inflammation of the tonsils, &c., has gone on to suppuration, and where there is swelling of the

muscles and glands of the neck, violent headache, often from determination of blood to the head. (See HEADACHE, Belladonna, page 2.)

ACONITE may, in cases attended with violent general fever, dry heat, restlessness, tossing, and impatience, burning, pricking, and constriction in the throat, precede Belladonna a few hours; and even in cases where the fever exists but in a modified degree, this remedy has proved a useful auxiliary; in instances, however, where some fever exists, and our next remedy is one not possessing that marked control over inflammatory action that Belladonna clearly displays, it may be given with still greater advantage.

CHAMOMILLA we have already alluded to as serviceable in checking a sore throat: it is also useful when the attack has been established, particularly in the catarrhal quinsy of children, attended with cough, hoarseness, and roughness of the voice, with swelling of the parotids and tonsils, but particularly of the submaxillary glands, and a sensation of enlargement in the throat; thirst, dryness of throat; feverishness towards evening, or alternate heats and chills; restlessness, ill-humour, or crying.

MERCURIUS is of great service in catarrhal and other sore throats; most frequently after Aconite or Belladonna; and often also of itself when the

symptoms from the first indicate its use, such as shooting pains in the throat and tonsils, extending to the submaxillary and parotid glands; inflammation of the mouth, throat, and tongue; painful dryness in the throat, with smarting and rawness, and sensation of something therein, or of heat ascending into the gullet, with painful and even spasmodic swallowing; but what marks Mercurius particularly in practice is the profuse accumulation of saliva (sometimes fetid) in the mouth with aphthæ, and ulcers forming in the throat and on the tonsils, either indolent or running on to suppuration.

Lachesis has been found very serviceable after Mercurius in completing a cure; and in all cases where there is painful excoriation and inflammatory swelling of the throat; constant desire to swallow, and a feeling, when swallowing, as if there were a plug or some tumour in the throat; aggravation of the pains in the throat by the slightest pressure on the neck; as well as after sleeping, (both marked symptoms for this medicine, particularly the latter,) the swallowing of solids is less painful than that of liquids; copious accumulation of tenacious mucus in the throat.

It may here be remarked that in many cases where, after Belladonna or Mercurius, the sore throat, although greatly relieved and free from danger, is

not yet perfectly cured, a dose of Lachesis will remove every remaining symptom. We in fact daily meet with a great number of cases of this affection in which these three medicines, thus given, are found all-sufficient.

Hepar Sulphuris, when the quinsy has come to such a head that no other resource is left but to forward its bursting, and so relieve the patient as quickly as possible. This medicine should be employed in repeated doses. See, upon this point, remarks in the Introduction, under "The Medicines and their Antidotes." Inhaling the steam of warm water may be allowed, to assist the bursting of the tumour.

Sore throat, it may also be remarked, seems very frequently to arise from a deranged state of the stomach, or dyspepsia; or, at least, we often find both these complaints together without any marked catarrhal symptoms; sometimes the latter stands most prominently forth. We have, however, medicines that severally embrace both varieties; the best mode will therefore be to give under each the symptoms most closely appertaining to the throat, and to refer for the catarrhal and dyspeptic signs to the different heads, namely, "Preventive Treatment of Common Colds," "Cold in the Head," "Hoarseness," "Catarrhal Cough," and "Indigestion."

The medicines we allude to are Pulsatilla, Nux Vomica, Ignatia, Bryonia.

PULSATILLA is best resorted to in the sore throat of individuals of a lymphatic temperament, with bluish redness (not the bright scarlet of Belladonna) of the throat, tonsils, and uvula, with sensation of swelling, rawness, burning, scraping, or smarting, and accumulation of tenacious mucus covering the parts affected. The tendency of affections suitable to Pulsatilla to become worse towards evening has already been remarked upon.

NUX VOMICA. When a feeling of scraping, rawness, and soreness in the throat is experienced, with pain during empty deglutition, as if there were a tumour or plug in the throat, or as if the top of the gullet were contracted; swelling of the uvula; pimples and blisters, or small fetid ulcers in the mouth.

IGNATIA. Constant secretion of mucus; shooting in the throat, particularly when not swallowing; impeded deglutition of liquids.

BRYONIA. Sore throat, with hoarseness and difficult deglutition; sensation of great dryness, with shootings in it on being touched, swallowing, or turning the head.

The feeling of a plug or lump in the throat, noticed under Nux Vomica and Lachesis is most marked in cases suiting Belladonna, Lachesis,

Mercurius, Nux Vomica, and Sulphur; but it is indicative also of Chamomilla, Hepar Sulphuris, Ignatia, and Calcarea Carbonica.

ARSENICUM. We have not entered upon the treatment of malignant sore throat, as this ought to be taken in hand by a medical man; it may, however, be mentioned that in ulcers with raised, hard edges, and shining red areolæ, and burning and shooting pains, that this is the remedy; it may also, throughout the course of the disease, be used to rally the patient's strength, when much reduced, and in sore throat with symptoms of "Influenza." (See ARSENICUM in next article.)

The patient should generally be kept upon a spare diet, and, as soon as he can swallow with any comfort, be confined for a time to barley-water and other diluents; even in less severe attacks his regimen should be restricted, particularly in the articles of animal food and anything of the least heating or stimulating nature; and the throat should be carefully defended from cold air. From the rapidity with which ordinary cases yield to homœopathic means, many individuals needlessly expose themselves immediately after recovering from an attack; such rash and ill-judged conduct is much to be deprecated, since it is far better to employ the ordinary precautions against danger of

this nature than to have occasion to resort to medicines for relief from the consequences of our own imprudence.

INFLUENZA.

Influenza is a term applied to a general catarrhal epidemic, caused by a peculiar constitution of the atmosphere, and which frequently rages in this climate during spring and autumn. The characteristic difference between this complaint and common catarrh is the great prostration of strength and general lassitude which always attends it, and which completely overpowers the patient during the attack, and causes the convalescent stage of the disease to be of longer duration.

ARSENICUM is the medicine most to be depended on in the treatment of this affection, and will often of itself be sufficient to remove the complaint, covering, as it does, the principal symptoms, and attacking at once the root of the disease. The following are the indications for its use: Rapid and general prostration of strength, attended with excessive lassitude, and fear of all exertion; fluent watery discharge from the nose, frequent sneezing, and sometimes ulceration of the nostrils; burning and painful sensation in the eyes, increased by

light, and inflammation and redness of the eyelids; weakness of the sight, extreme heaviness and pain in the head, excessive thirst, great pain in the stomach, nausea, and frequent vomitings; severe pains in the chest, difficult and short respiration, and a feeling as though a great weight were in the thorax, which is increased by lying down; dry fatiguing cough, great hoarseness, and sore throat; acute pains in the legs and hips, with a sensation of general weariness and fatigue in them. If this medicine is not of itself sufficient to establish a cure, we must have recourse to VERATRUM, which may with advantage be alternated with it. The latter is particularly well indicated when there is a sensation in the limbs as though they had been beaten or bruised, which is increased by heat, and when there is a feeling of great coldness over the whole body, and cold clammy perspiration, particularly on the forehead, or a sensation of internal cold with external heat, and extreme weakness and general emaciation.

IPECACUANHA will be found very beneficial when there is great nausea, violent vomiting, and dislike to all kinds of food; attacks of shivering, with cold perspiration in the limbs, vertigo, great oppression on the chest, and a constitutional tendency to diarrhœa.

NUX VOMICA should be taken when the other

symptoms are accompanied by constipation, with severe pain in the back, particularly in the lower part; loss of appetite, dry, hollow, barking cough, and pain as if from excoriation in the larynx and chest. The two last-mentioned medicines may often be alternated with great effect at intervals of twelve hours.

MERCURIUS, when the pains are of a rheumatic character, with copious perspiration, which does not relieve, and when there is thick yellowish discharge from the nose, and frequent bleeding, violent headache, and the characteristic depression of spirits.

BELLADONNA will be found of great service in the sore throat, which frequently attends this affection; internally the throat appears of a bright red colour, and sometimes the tonsils and palate are swollen; excessive thirst exists, but the patient is unable to swallow any kind of drink, from the severe pain it causes him. This medicine is particularly appropriate, when the pains extend to the ears and forehead, and where there is a constitutional tendency to determination of blood to the head. (See also SORE THROAT — Belladonna.)

ACONITE should be given if the disease assumes an inflammatory character, which is frequently the case in persons of a plethoric habit; the indica-

tions for its employment are full strong pulse, skin dry and hot, and a feeling of general burning heat throughout the body. (See FEVER—Aconite.)

CINCHONA is of great benefit in bringing up the strength and restoring the natural tone of the constitution, which is frequently much injured by this trying complaint. In some instances influenza is attended with severe bleeding from the nose; in such cases this remedy will be found most efficacious. We must ever bear in mind that the consequences of influenza are frequently more serious than the complaint itself. Whenever, therefore, a person has suffered from an attack of this malady of particular severity, he should, if possible, consult some medical practitioner, who will ascertain if his health has been seriously affected, and prescribe accordingly. When, however, this course is impracticable, a dose of PHOSPHORUS, followed in about ten days by SULPHUR, will be found a useful precaution.

INFLAMMATION OF THE CHEST.

This affection is generally named from the part attacked.

Pleurisy, when the membrane covering the in-

ner surface of the ribs is principally affected; in which case generally the costal muscles and the surface of the lungs participate; and we find shooting pains and stitches in the chest and sides.

Pneumonia, or inflammation of the lungs, when the substance of the lungs is the seat of the disease; in which case, although there is no pain, or if any, of a dull obtuse character; there is difficulty of breathing, and oppression at the chest, and cough.

Bronchitis, when the mucous membrane lining the air-passage is most affected, being characterized by a constant cough and hoarse voice, arising from a continual and severe irritation there set up.

Although we have given each variety distinctively, yet they are seldom found so in practice. Pleurisy, indeed, sometimes presents itself in its individual form, but we rarely find pneumonia unattended with pleurisy, and also with bronchitic symptoms. Accordingly, in some authors we find the pains characteristic of pleurisy given under their description of pneumonia. In fact, the disease thus treated is evidently pleuro-pneumonia.

Homœopathy has proved that there are some remedies more peculiary suitable to pleurisy, others to pneumonia, others to bronchitis, and again others to the several complications of these affections. How much, therefore, depends upon a judicious

selection, and how necessary it is to look carefully into the disease, and, in fact, to have before our eyes as accurate a picture as possible of what we are attempting to treat. Now the power of forming what in medical parlance is denominated a correct diagnosis is only to be acquired by education and experience. This must always be an insuperable bar to the treatment of such serious maladies by those not thus qualified. But although we would earnestly dissuade non-medical individuals from incurring so momentous aresponsibility, yet we would at the same time strongly impress upon their minds that they are generally the result of a neglected cold, and one which, if the precaution and treatment we have insisted upon, article PREVENTIVE TREATMENT OF COMMON COLDS, has been attended to, will rarely occur. We say rarely, since there are some constitutions in which the chest is the weak point; but these cases are not within the scope of a work like the present.

Inflammation of the chest may attain a considerable height without presenting to an inexperienced eye any very marked sign of danger.

The pulse is mostly hard and full, or that which is commonly considered that of inflammation; or soft and small, unequal and remittent, resembling the pulse of weakness. And yet the last mentioned

is produced by the most severe internal inflammation; and for the following reasons: in pleurisy, the pain felt in drawing in his breath prevents the sufferer distending his chest; in pneumonia, the blood does not pass freely into the substance of the lungs; hence its course through the heart and general circulation is impeded, and the pulse is small and oppressed, or low and remittent. If, however, the patient is made to draw a full breath, or cough, it will immediately resume its inflammatory character, and become full and hard.

We will now point out the course best to be pursued in such cases; it is evident, in the first place, that it is safer to err on the side of caution than of neglect or over confidence in our own judgment. When, therefore, in consequence of a cold, or any other reason, we find shiverings or chills, followed by fever, or oppression at the chest,—or a fixed severe pain, or stitch, in the side, increased by respiration and interfering with the breathing,—or a short, dry, continuous, and distressing cough, with scanty expectoration of adhesive mucus, we should immediately call for professional assistance. If, however, all the signs of inflammatory fever have set in, with strong full pulse, or even that pulse we have already spoken of, we should have immediate recourse to ACONITE, which will generally afford relief in whatever form the disease may

have shown itself at the commencement. When the pain in the side is very severe, and there is no doubt about pleurisy being present, BELLADONNA will generally be found most efficient; beyond these means, justified by the exigency of the occasion, no unprofessional person is warranted in confiding to their own skill. We know it may be said that Aconite given in time often assists the fever, and BRYONIA completes a cure; that PHOSPHORUS has shown itself all-efficient in pneunomia; that SULPHUR has saved when hope seemed almost extinct. Most homœopathists' experience has amply verified the power of the medicines in such diseases; but we would earnestly recommend every one, even when a timely dose of Aconite has apparently removed every symptom of danger, to obtain professional advice, in order to ascertain that no lurking mischief yet remains; that the fire is extinguished, not merely smothered.

HYSTERICAL AFFECTIONS.

We generally find persons of a highly sensitive, nervous, and delicate constitution subject to hysterical attacks; they may be excited by moral emotions, such as sorrow, grief, anger, joy, or by mental exertion; great weakness and sensibility

of the nervous system, suppression of the hemorrhoidal discharge, disorder of the digestive economy, or, in fact, anything which disturbs the natural order of a weak and delicate frame.

In the treatment of this malady our chief aim must be to diminish the morbidly increased sensibility of the whole system, and restore its natural tone. Such being the case, we would strongly recommend gymnastic and equestrian exercises, constant change of scene, and daily excursions in the open air; and in such constitutions as it is found to agree with, the cold bath. Occasional application of cold water to the spine has also been found serviceable in such cases.

The medicines found most useful in the treatment of those affections are Opium, Belladonna, Nux Vomica, Chamomilla, Sepia, Pulsatilla, Sulphur, Moschus, Coffea, and Ignatia.

Opium should be given in all cases where the hysterical fit has been brought on by any moral affection, such as fright, grief, joy, &c. particularly when the symptoms are attended with suspension of consciousness, or slight delirium caused by fright, and general weakness of the whole nervous system.

Belladonna will be found most useful when the attack comes on at night, and the symptoms are preceded by a feeling of general coldness over

the entire body, great lassitude and depression of spirits, sometimes melancholy even to tears, and great anxiety; and when the fits are accompanied by convulsions and loss of consciousness, nausea, and sometimes even vomiting, cramps in the stomach, and a pressive sensation in the epigastrium after having partaken of food, or during a meal, as though one had eaten too much. In highly sensitive minds hysterical attacks frequently arise from sympathy or contradiction; in such cases this remedy is particularly well indicated.

Nux Vomica. In many delicate and fragile constitutions, the injuries caused by over-studious habits are more severe than people generally are aware of; amongst those may be named hysterical affections, which, although at first apparently of little consequence, yet by frequent recurrence promote so great a relaxation of the whole internal economy as to cause great difficulty in removing them. In all such cases this medicine is particularly well adapted; its leading symptoms are excessive sensibility of the nervous system, induced by too great mental exertion; anxiety, hypochondriacal and sad humour, extreme excitability and sensitiveness, great exhaustion, and prostration of strength; it will also be found of great benefit when the attacks are caused by derangement of the digestive organs.

CHAMOMILLA is particularly useful in cases of hysteria in pregnant women, where there is general weakness; nervous excitement, and disposition to be easily frightened; attacks of pain in the stomach, and inclination to vomit what is eaten, especially in the morning; sometimes the symptoms are attended with convulsions, redness of the face, heat of the head, and hot clammy perspiration of the forehead.

SEPIA is of most essential service in hysteria, properly so-called when arising from any derangement of the female health, as we shall point out in the proper place; it is, moreover, especially suited for females of a weak constitution, with a delicate and tender skin, or sallow complexion, with dark coloured spots; it is indicated also by general lassitude, attacks of uneasiness, and hysterical spasms or paroxyms of weakness; general want of vital heat, a feeling of indifference to everything and everybody, or susceptibility and peevishness, with despondency and hypochondriacal uneasiness respecting one's own health, and nervous headache, particularly in females.

PULSATILLA will also be often found of great service, if we do not obtain all the good results we might expect from Sepia; indeed this medicine (Pulsatilla) is often found more suitable than Sepia in young girls at the age of puberty, and may in some

cases be judiciously followed up by SULPHUR. We will not here enter into the symptoms that should induce us to give a preference to any of the three medicines in such instances, but simply remark, that when it is perfectly evident the cause of the hysterical attack is that which we have already alluded to under SEPIA, and that we derive no benefit whatever from these three medicines, we should at once seek more experienced advice, the case is then beyond simple domestic management.

MOSCHUS is especially adapted to persons of a highly nervous and extremely excitable temperament; and being a medicine of very short action, may with great benefit be administered before or after any of the preceding. It is particularly well indicated in all spasmodic affections of the chest, and where there is difficult and short respiration.

COFFEA will also be found very efficacious in allaying the excitability present.

IGNATIA is a remedy greatly to be depended on where the hysterical attack is brought on by evil news, or any great affliction, and is attended with vertigo, great weakness, and sometimes even fainting fits. The symptoms generally declare themselves in the morning or evening after eating, or on rising from a recumbent posture; a sad and melancholy disposition are also indications for this

medicine; it will be found particularly beneficial in the sufferings caused by the abuse of coffee.

It has frequently been remarked that hysterical affections have been caught by imitation. In all such cases change of scene and place are imperatively called for, and a careful guard should be kept over the patient, that she comes not in contact with persons similarly afflicted, as each return of the attack gives strength to the complaint, and thus causes still greater difficulty in its removal.

FAINTING.

Fainting is one of the numerous affections which persons of a nervous constitution are subject to. Females of a delicate habit, whose nervous system is sensible of the slightest change, are most prone to its attacks. They are not dangerous if duly attended to, particularly hysterical faintings; but if they are badly treated or entirely neglected, they may prove of serious consequence. In cases of fever, or preceding it, attacks of fainting augur ill; in such instances the advice of a medical man should be immediately sought; for if prompt measures are not had recourse to, the most fatal results may ensue. The principal medicines found useful in

its treatment are Aconite, Moschus, Opium, Nux Vomica, Veratrum, Arnica, and Cinchona.

The frequency of fainting fits in all crowded assemblies or places of public resort is well known. It is obvious, then, that persons of hysterical or delicate constitutions should not frequent such places, especially in warm seasons. To the weak and fragile they have sometimes proved fatal; too much care, therefore, cannot be taken to guard against them. In cases of fainting, under such circumstances, we would recommend that the patient be immediately taken into purer air, laid horizontally, with the head low, the clothes loosened, and cold water dashed upon the face and neck. Aconite, on the recovery of the patient, will prevent the recurrence of the attack.

In all cases of fainting, the means of restoration given above should be had recourse to; but the medicine must be prescribed according to the cause of the affection.

Moschus in attacks of hysterical fainting; especially when the fits come on at night.

Opium, in fainting caused by affections of the mind, such as fright, grief, joy, &c. attended with vertigo, general coldness, and great weakness.

Nux Vomica, when great exertion or too long exercise in the open air, brings on fainting: to follow with

VERATRUM, when Nux Vomica does not succeed, and there is great prostration and chronic weakness.

ARNICA, in all cases of fainting from mechanical injuries, internally and externally.

CINCHONA, where fainting proceeds from weakness caused by loss of blood or other humours, and there is great general debility and prostration of strength.

FATIGUE.

The most efficacious remedy against over-exertion or fatigue is ARNICA, especially if there are pains in the limbs, as though from contusion or walking too far. Immersion of the feet and legs in tepid arnicated water will also tend to afford relief.

ACONITE, if fatigue proceeds from having been overheated from exertion, with pain in the sides and head, and heavy weight and great fullness in the forehead. To follow with MERCURIUS if Aconite does not relieve.

NUX VOMICA, when fatigue arises from sitting up late at night and mental exertion; particularly when stimulants have been taken to sustain the strength.

COFFEA, if over-exertion and hunger are the exciting causes, and there is great nervous excitability and sleeplessness, or, as the expression is, being too tired to sleep.

RHUS TOXICODENDRON, when tired from lifting or carrying weights; especially if the joints are affected.

VERATRUM, if there is great prostration of strength and fainting fits.

BOILS.

These troublesome tumours are too well known to need any particular description. They generally argue a peculiar tendency of constitution, and are also often critical in acute diseases; even in chronic cases, under a judicious treatment, they form an indication of returning health.

In the greater number of cases Arnica and Belladonna have been found the most useful remedies; and in addition Mercurius, Hepar Sulphuris, and Sulphur.

ARNICA is generally found the best remedy in ordinary cases of boils. If, however, the inflammation should run high, and the tumours become a bright red colour, BELLADONNA should be administered; but when the inflammatory symptoms

are subdued we may return to the first-named remedy.

MERCURIUS may be used if Arnica and Belladonna have not completely succeeded, particularly if after bursting they threaten to be long in healing.

HEPAR SULPHURIS is frequently found to be of great assistance in bringing the boil to a head.

SULPHUR is one of the principal remedies when we find these affections return frequently. Such cases may require a course of treatment; but this medicine will generally be found the first prescribed; and, in fact, in all cases after the affection has been removed it is advisable to give a couple of doses at long intervals.

CHILBLAINS.

This cutaneous inflammatory affection generally attacks the toes and fingers, and is frequently brought on by sudden transitions of temperature, and by the practice of holding those parts to the fire when chilled. It is not unfrequently a sign of a constitutional taint which requires a regular course of treatment to completely eradicate.

The principal remedies are Pulsatilla, Belladonna, Chamomilla, Nux Vomica, Arsenicum, Phosphorus, Sulphur, and Arnica.

PULSATILLA when the chilblains are of a bluish red colour, the fingers much swollen, and a hot burning sensation in them, or pricking sensation, as if from the sting of an insect. If this medicine does not remove the symptoms BELLADONNA should be given; particularly if the parts affected are much inflamed, and of a bright red colour.

CHAMOMILLA is useful when there is much itching in the chilblains. It is particularly suitable to young persons.

NUX VOMICA, if the affected part is of a pale red colour, and there is a sensation of numbness and torpor on its being touched, great itching and burning, and a predisposition to bleed, which relieves for a short time.

ARSENICUM in painful inflammatory chilblains where the skin is hot, dry, and inclined to crack.

PHOSPHORUS, in painful chilblains which are disposed to ulceration; particularly if the affection is periodical and of long standing.

SULPHUR is our most valuable remedy, when the symptoms refuse to yield to other medicaments. Its salutary effects in cutaneous diseases are well known, particularly when they arise from a psoric taint, as it assists in purging the constitution of that virus, and consequently greatly forwarding a cure. This medicine will be found of great benefit when the chilblains are red, inflamed, swollen,

and ulcerated, and when the itching is increased by heat; also where there is a tendency to suppuration.

ARNICA, after the chilblains have burst, will greatly forward their healing; they should be bathed in a weak lotion composed of five drops of the mother tincture to a hundred of water.

WHITLOW.

Whitlow is an inflammatory abscess formed at the top of the finger, under the nail, and attended with severe pain and swelling; it almost always ends in suppuration, and frequently reappears in individuals once subject to its attacks.

The most useful medicines in this troublesome affection are Mercurius, Hepar Sulphuris, Aconite, Lachesis, Sulphur, and Silicea.

MERCURIUS, if taken on the first appearance of the whitlow, will be found very efficacious in resolving it.

HEPAR SULPHURIS should be taken as soon as any matter can be detected, or the whitlow puts on a yellowish appearance; it is a most valuable medicine in forwarding the suppuration.

ACONITE will be of great benefit when febrile

symptoms are present, brought on by the irritation and inflammation of the affected part.

LACHESIS, where there is erysipelatous inflammation with shooting pain and swelling, and the whitlow becomes hard and hot.

SULPHUR is our best remedy, where there is a constitutional tendency to this affection; it may be given with great benefit after any of the above-mentioned medicines.

CORNS AND BUNIONS.

We are induced to enter upon these common and annoying affections, more for the sake of pointing out the most useful means of affording relief, than with any idea of giving a method by which their removal might be effected; since even when any constitutional tendency to them may be suspected, there are but few persons would have patience to follow out a tedious course of treatment, in which the object to be attained was comparatively trifling, and the result doubtful. It is certain, however, that the homœopathic remedies, judiciously selected, rarely fail to render them less painful.

When corns or bunions, from the pressure of the boot or shoe, become irritated, inflamed, and

painful, the feet should be bathed in hot water, and afterwards with a lotion, in the proportion of one drop of the mother tincture of ARNICA to twenty of water. This will not only afford great relief, but render the part somewhat less liable to be affected by the same cause.

The corn should also be reduced with the knife, care being taken, at the same time, not to draw blood. Should this, however, unfortunately happen, the lotion above named should be first used, and a piece of ARNICA PLASTER be afterwards applied.

The Arnica Plaster may also be placed on corns after paring them and bathing them, as above noticed. Its constant use has in many instances served to reduce them considerably.

RHUS, taken internally, has been found to relieve the shooting pains felt by some people in their corns at every change of weather.

MECHANICAL INJURIES.

BRUISES are generally thought so lightly of that they are frequently neglected till bad consequences follow; whereas if they were attended to immediately every fear of evil effects would be removed, and very possibly all inconvenience from

the hurt would cease a few hours after the accident.

In bruises of a slight nature it will be found sufficient to bathe the wounded part with ARNICATED water, and keep cloths steeped in the lotion constantly applied to it. A dose of ARNICA should be taken, and repeated if necessary.

If the bruise is very serious, and a sensation in the diseased part as though it were burning, accompanied with fever, ACONITE should precede the administration of Arnica. If the latter medicine is not sufficient we must have recourse to RHUS.

When the affection is attended with fright or any sudden emotion, OPIUM should be given immediately.

WOUNDS. In the treatment of wounds, our first thought ought to be to examine carefully whether any foreign body, such as glass, stone, gravel, dirt, &c. has lodged in them, and if so remove it as expeditiously as the patient's strength will admit; then draw the sides of the wound together in such a manner as will assist nature in her operation of joining the parts; bathing them with a lotion of ARNICA, in the proportion of one drop of the mother tincture to twenty of water, to soften and cleanse them. A dose of that medicine should also be administered. Great care

ought to be taken to keep the air as much as possible from the injured part; and if the slightest appearance of inflammation is present a dose of ACONITE should be given.

Wounds are frequently the consequence of neglecting BRUISES. When such is the case, we refer the reader to the treatment given under that head.

If the wound penetrates any vital part or presents a serious appearance, we would recommend that the immediate advice of a medical man be sought, for none other is justified in treating so dangerous a case; otherwise much valuable time may be lost, and the most fatal consequences ensue.

SPRAINS and STRAINS are also often attended with very serious results, in consequence of their being neglected. If the accident was of a more dangerous nature, fear would oblige the patient to take all proper precaution; but looking on a strain or sprain as a very trifling injury, he thinks it needless to attach importance to it. In acting thus people are frequently very wrong, for by so doing they often convert a slight ailment into a serious malady.

Our chief remedy in the treatment of this affection is ARNICA. The part strained should immediately be immersed in a lotion composed of one

drop of the mother tincture of ARNICA to twelve of cold water, and kept in it for a short time. This tends to brace the part, and the cold application relieves the pain. A dose of the medicine should also be administered, and the patient kept very quiet.

When the ankle or leg is the part injured, the patient should not be allowed to use the limb for a few days, during which time he should remain in a reclining posture.

As in the case of wounds, bruises, &c., if an inflammatory action sets up, a dose of ACONITE should immediately be given: farther than this any non-medical person is incompetent to treat the affection.

BURNS AND SCALDS.

The homœopathic treatment in these casualties is exceedingly prompt and successful in its results, and furnishes no bad illustration of the guiding law. (See 'Concise Exposition of Homœopathy, its Principles and Practice,' page 12; by the author of this work.)

The best applications in cases of burns or scalds are decidedly those which produce similar effects to these injuries, although in a modified degree:

for example, HEATED ALCOHOL and OIL OF TURPENTINE. The part, when possible, should be immersed in the former; or, if that is impracticable, covered with pledgets of lint or linen saturated with the liquid. When OIL OF TURPENTINE is used, it is sufficient to cover the part with it, and repeat its application occasionally.

There is scarcely any treatment, however, can compete with the use of RAW COTTON in recent burns, in allaying pain, preventing or lessening inflammation and blistering, and the formation of disfiguring scars. It should be applied layer after layer. If raw cotton be unattainable immediately, wadding may be used split in two; the unstarched surface being placed in contact with the injury. If any blisters have arisen before the cotton has been applied, they should be opened, unless we have the power of obtaining a uniform pressure on the part, by bandaging, which will always be found a great assistance in stimulating absorption. When, from a profuse discharge, it is found requisite to change the dressing, the layers in immediate contact with the burn should not be disturbed. When the true skin has not been destroyed, the cure rarely takes more than five or six days.

Internally a dose of ACONITE will often be found of assistance in allaying the pain and inflammation

at first present and modifying general constitutional disturbance.

There is but little doubt that the great benefit arising from the employment of cotton in this case results from its homœopathicity of action to the affection. It is at present, however, the principal treatment in the old school, and has long been a popular remedy; it is certainly the one we should use ourselves in cases of this nature, and would only have recourse to heated Alcohol or Turpentine if Cotton could not be immediately procured.

The employment of soap has been recommended. It is, no doubt, homœopathic in its action, but sometimes acts too severely, and gives considerable unnecessary pain; it would be, however, an excellent remedy did we possess none infinitely better,—those already mentioned. In very slight burns, holding the part affected near the fire for a short time, although somewhat painful, will generally cure.

TOOTHACHE.

One of the most painful and troublesome disorders we have is toothache; its exciting causes are so numerous and variable, that its treatment is sometimes very perplexing and difficult, and fre-

quently even attended with no beneficial result. Amongst the most common causes are carious teeth, rheumatic affections, dyspepsia, sanguineous congestion, nervousness, sitting in a draught of cold air, or anything that obstructs the perspiration. It is sometimes also very troublesome to women in a state of pregnancy, or to persons of a plethoric habit.

We must be guided in our treatment by the *cause* of the affection, and prescribe remedies accordingly. Amongst the most efficacious we may name Mercurius, Belladonna, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Hepar Sulphuris, Chamomilla, Dulcamara, Calcarea Carbonica, Ignatia, Aconite, Sulphur, and Arnica.

MERCURIUS should be given when the pains are of a shooting character, sometimes extending to the ears; the submaxillary glands and face swollen and painful, with a discharge of watery saliva from the mouth, and a sensation as though the gums were excoriated. The pains are increased by the heat of the bed, and the teeth feel loose and as if they were out of place. This remedy is particularly appropriate when the pains are of a rheumatic description, or if the patient has a constitutional tendency to rheumatic affections.

BELLADONNA is of great service when the tooth-

ache proceeds from determination of blood to the part affected, and there is a discharge of blood on pressing or sucking the teeth. When the pains are increased by mental labour, or on going into the open air, or when they are aggravated at night, or by the teeth coming in contact with food; an additional reason for the employment of this remedy is the gums being swollen and red, and frequently, their having small white blisters upon them.

Nux Vomica is indicated in toothache, proceeding from dyspepsia, caused by over-indulgence in any article of food or drink, especially coffee or spirituous liquors. The pain spreads over the whole head, face and ears, and the gums become swollen and ulcerated. The symptoms are sometimes increased by heat, and mitigated by anything cold. This medicine, like Belladonna, is especially appropriate in cases where the toothache is increased by intellectual labour, and will often in such instances be found of much benefit where Belladonna has failed to relieve.

Pulsatilla should be given when the pains are not confined to the carious teeth, but extend through all, and sometimes even to the head, ears, and eyes, with a burning sensation in the gums, and a feeling as though they were excoriated; the attack comes on principally in the evening or at night, and is increased by partaking of anything

hot. This remedy is peculiarly adapted to persons of a mild, gentle, and timid disposition.

HEPAR SULPHURIS, where the swelling and inflammation of the gums is very great, and there is erysipelatous inflammation of the face, with jerking drawing pains in the teeth, increased by compression. This medicine is frequently beneficial after either Mercurius or Belladonna, or when we can trace the affection to an abuse of mercury in any form.

CHAMOMILLA. When the pain is confined to one side of the jaw, with swelling and redness of the cheek and gums, and enlargement of the submaxillary glands. The pains, which are aggravated by partaking of anything hot or cold, are of a drawing, jerking, or pulsative character, sometimes so violent as to drive one to desperation, and cause complete prostration.

DULCAMARA, if toothache is the consequence of a cold, particularly if it is attended with diarrhœa. This medicine may relieve where Chamomilla, Belladonna, or Mercurius are insufficient.

CALCAREA CARBONICA is particularly adapted to the toothache caused by sitting in a draught of air, or a chill during the period of the catamenia. The pains are of a digging boring description, and the gums are much swollen, and bleed on the slightest pressure.

IGNATIA is our best remedy where persons of a nervous or hysterical disposition are subject to attacks of toothache. It will frequently be found of great benefit where Pulsatilla is insufficient, particularly where there are sudden alternations of high or low spirits, or a constant disposition to shed tears. The teeth feel as though they were broken or loosened, and the pains increase after eating or drinking anything, particularly of an exciting character.

ACONITE, where there is any tendency to determination of blood to the head, and the face has a flushed and heated appearance, the pains are difficult of description, but sometimes of a lancinating pulsative character.

SULPHUR, when there is a constitutional tendency to toothache, the pains extend through all the teeth, sound as well as carious, and are of a tearing, jerking, pulsative description, aggravated by the heat of the bed, or on going into cool air. It is particularly efficacious where constipation is present, and will frequently be found of great benefit after Aconite.

ARNICA. A few drops of the tincture of this remedy put into a teaspoonful of water, and held in the mouth for a little time, will often relieve the very worst description of toothache. It is also of great benefit when teeth have been

extracted; the gums should be bathed with arnicated water.

We have already mentioned that females during pregnancy are very subject to toothache, especially in the first three or four months; in such cases Belladonna, Mercurius, and Arnica are among the best remedies.

WANT OF APPETITE.

Want of appetite is more frequently a sign of some disease latent in the constitution than a disease in itself; in such instances we must remove the cause of the complaint; among others we may mention are dyspepsia or indigestion, irregular diet, fasting too long, the abuse of stimulants, want of sufficient air or exercise, severe study, grief, anxiety, or any mental excitement, ere we can expect the effect to cease. It may, however, spring from some nervous affection of the stomach, without any apparent malady.

Amongst the medicines we have found most beneficial in the removal of this affection are Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Chamomilla, Arsenicum, Ipecacuanha, Bryonia, Hepar Sulphuris, Ignatia, and Cinchona.

Nux Vomica, when want of appetite proceeds

from dyspeptic symptoms, produced by over-indulgence in rich or exciting articles of food, such as wine, coffee, pastry, &c., or from over-studious habits, or keeping late hours. The principal indications are great thirst, bitter or acid taste in the mouth, which is quite parched, dislike to food, or hunger with satiety after the first few mouthfuls; the least nutriment causes nausea, and sometimes vomiting, attended with giddiness in the head, and flushing of the face. Another symptom for the employment of this medicine is mental or corporeal fatigue.

PULSATILLA, when there is dislike to everything of a greasy or fat nature, particularly pork, butter, or rich pastry, excessive thirst, and strong desire for beer, wine, spirits, or any acid drink; insipidity of or disgust for food, nausea after eating, attended with diarrhœa and headache. The temperament should guide us in the selection of this remedy, a melancholy placid disposition being an indication for its employment.

CHAMOMILLA is particularly suitable to children or young persons when they are troubled with this affection, especially if it is accompanied by nervousness or great prostration of strength.

ARSENICUM should be given when food leaves a bitter taste in the mouth, and there is burning unquenchable thirst, with constant desire for drink,

great dislike to all kinds of food, and after eating a sensation of pressure in the chest, as though the food had lodged there; nausea and pain in the stomach, particularly after a meal. This medicine, like Pulsatilla, is also indicated when diarrhœa is present.

IPECACUANHA, when there is great sickness of the stomach, attended with vomiting, excessive uneasiness, and a sensation as if the stomach were empty; heaviness and pain in the head, sweetish taste in the mouth, and desire for delicacies, which are not relished when procured; colic, and a feeling of general coldness over the whole body, especially in the extremities.

BRYONIA, where the affection is recent, and attended with excessive hunger, yet inability to eat, and dislike to food; great dryness of the throat, burning thirst with great desire for exciting drinks, pressive sensation in the stomach and chest, nausea principally in the morning, and vomiting after partaking of food or drink. Another indication for the employment of this remedy is constipation.

HEPAR SULPHURIS is of great benefit where the affection is of long standing, or there is a constitutional tendency to dyspepsia, one of the symptoms of which is want of appetite; the indications are attacks of nausea, sometimes with acid or bilious vomitings, bitter taste of all food, violent thirst,

great desire for wine, and dislike to rich food, headache, and a drowsy or lethargic feeling even in the daytime.

IGNATIA should be administered where the affection is caused by grief, anxiety, or any mental emotion, particularly if there is a predisposition to lowness of spirits, or where there is a weakness or difficulty of digestion; the appetite is generally vitiated, and there is frequently a desire for many things which, when obtained, are disregarded; there is also sometimes a sensation of emptiness and weakness of the stomach. This medicine may be given in many cases with advantage after Ipecacuanha, if that remedy has not proved sufficient of itself to remove the affection.

CINCHONA is indicated when there is a sensation of fulness or inflation in the stomach after a meal, although one has eaten but a few mouthfuls; sometimes attended with painful colic and cramp-like pains in the abdomen; when there is great repugnance to food, and everything tastes insipid or too salt, but there is a longing for wine; also when a feeling of general weakness, lassitude and indolence is present.

HEARTBURN.

The most common cause of this well-known and annoying affection is partaking of too fat or rich articles of food; but many individuals seem to be particularly predisposed to it, which tendency arising from a deranged digestion, and being almost always attended with other symptoms consequent thereupon, is generally best treated in conjunction with them. As, however, it frequently forms a most prominent symptom, we feel that in a work of this nature it is deserving of a separate consideration.

Under the old system, the use of absorbents, such as chalk and magnesia, certainly palliated the evil, and afforded relief, but only for a time, and without having the slightest efficacy in eradicating it.

The most useful medicines in ordinary cases are Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Sulphur, Calcarea Carbonica, and Hepar Sulphuris; and as we shall in a succeeding article upon Derangement of the Stomach, enter more into detail upon the curative properties of these substances, as well as of some others, we shall in the present place confine our attention to the affection now more immediately under consideration.

NUX VOMICA relieves the sensation in individuals of the temperament suited to this medicine, already noticed in several parts of this work, and more particularly in the Introduction-Article, THE MEDICINES AND THEIR ANTIDOTES, when it appears, in the morning, in consequence of indulgence in stimulating beverages, such as alcoholic, vinous or malt drinks, or coffee, or from having partaken of rich or greasy food, though this is, more generally speaking, an indication for Pulsatilla; it is good, also, if provoked by having taken anything acid.

PULSATILLA is serviceable when heartburn is caused by rich or greasy food, pork or pastry; or if it is attended with taste of the food last partaken of, or with acidity and bitterness; most of the sufferings declare themselves after a meal, or come on in the evening.

SULPHUR will often be found required in individuals who continually suffer from this complaint, and may be given to counteract this tendency even when no present suffering is existent.

CALCAREA CARBONICA is serviceable when heartburn follows every meal, with sour regurgitations, particularly in individuals of a weak sickly constitution, or flabby unhealthy-looking flesh, and sallow complexion.

HEPAR SULPHURIS, in obstinate cases of long

standing, when, upon the slightest derangements, we find rising in the throat, attended with a burning sensation.

In conclusion, it may be remarked, that individuals who are subject to this unpleasant affection should abstain from fat substances, and partake sparingly, if at all, of wine or fermented liquors, take plenty of exercise in the open air, and avoid any violent exertion after a hearty meal.

HICCOUGH.

This unpleasant sensation arises from a spasmodic contraction of the stomach and diaphragm or midriff, and generally occurs from some trifling cause, such as excess in eating or drinking, or taking cold, the latter especially in very young children; in such cases it passes away with the cause which produced it; it may also arise from a blow upon the region of the stomach, or be the result of poisonous substances, or, in fact, of anything causing irritation of the nervous fibre. A permanent hiccough is mostly a sign of danger and of some serious internal mischief; in malignant fevers and inflammation of the stomach, it is generally the precursor of a fatal termination.

We shall here confine ourselves to the treatment

of ordinary hiccough, and perhaps there is no better remedy than the popular one of slowly sucking a piece of white sugar. Sometimes even strongly engaging the attention is well known will remove it.

It must of course, when accompanied by other perceptible stomachic derangements, be taken in connexion with them. When, however, it shows itself in an isolated form, or as the most prominent symptom of disorder, and the simple means we have noticed have not removed it, we would recommend the employment of the following remedies:

Nux Vomica. In individuals of irritable temper or dark complexion, particularly if from excess in the pleasures of the table; and when taken at night it is almost specific in preventing the hiccough, from which many suffer in the morning after an indulgence in stimulating beverages the previous evening. General character of the hiccough, frequent and violent.

Pulsatilla is more suited for people of mild and cheerful disposition, females or persons of fair complexion. When also the hiccough has arisen from overloading the stomach, particularly with rich or pinguid food or pastry, or when it comes on after drinking, or at night.

Ignatia. When the nerves of the stomach are in that irritable state that hiccough comes on every

time that the least food or liquid is swallowed. This fully agrees with the general character of this medicine, which is found to be most suitable to individuals of a highly sensitive fibre, with spirits liable to be extremely depressed or capable of being excited to the highest degree of joyous hilarity.

BELLADONNA may be mentioned as a remedy that has been found serviceable when hiccough assumes a serious character; but such cases are evidently beyond domestic practice, as the aid of other remedies may be here required.

If it has arisen from cold, the treatment given for colds will, by removing the cause, afford the most effectual relief.

When from a contusion of the stomach, ARNICA should be at once resorted to (see Mechanical Injuries.)

FLATULENCE.

The generation of wind in the stomach and intestines is most frequently a sign of want of tone in these viscera, and of slow and weak digestion; some individuals thus afflicted cannot take the most simple food without severe suffering; while, on the other hand, persons of good digestive powers escape perfectly free, even after indulging in most flatulent articles of diet.

There are many modifications of this derangement, from an annoying and slightly painful affection to a most serious complaint; hence, habitual flatulency neglected, may give rise to Tympanitis, which may run on to inflammation or even rupture.

When a marked tendency to this complaint exists, the patient will save himself much present annoyance and after-suffering, by at once placing himself under judicious medical advice. It may also be remarked in this place that nervous individuals and hysterical females are rarely, if ever, found free from this derangement.

Among the well-known excitants of flatulency are vegetables (some of which, such as cabbages, turnips, and green peas, possess this property in a very marked degree,) and fruits; also malt liquors, tea, and other warm beverages, and drinking much during meals, all these should therefore be avoided by individuals liable to this disorder.

We shall now say a few words upon the treatment.

CINCHONA is the best remedy in most cases that arise simply from having partaken of flatulent food or tea; when the wind becoming incarcerated, occasions by its pressure considerable uneasiness both in the stomach and other intestines.

COCCULUS affords immediate relief when the sufferings assume a colic-like character. In other

cases we may give COLOCYNTHIS a preference. For both these medicines the reader is referred to the article COLIC.

NUX VOMICA. When flatulence has arisen from fermented liquors, and in many cases when it is the most marked symptom of deranged digestion, in quick and irritable people; when we find pressive fulness and distention of the abdomen, particularly over the stomach, and principally after a meal.

PULSATILLA. In females, or persons of fair complexion and mild disposition, when flatulency comes on in the evening, or after a meal, with pressive pains, and rattling, and rumbling in the abdomen, and when we can trace it to over rich or greasy food.

IGNATIA is an excellent remedy in hysterical individuals, when we find painful inflation of the abdomen after a meal, with a feeling of emptiness and weakness at the stomach, and fulness under the ribs, with difficulty of respiration, and also flatulent colic, especially at night.

We shall again have occasion to allude to this subject under colic, and also as an accompaniment of other stomach derangements.

DERANGEMENT OF THE STOMACH.

It is our object here merely to mention a few remedies for an affection generally to be referred rather to some imprudence in diet, or in some other respect, than to any peculiar predisposition to that hydra-headed malady, Dyspepsia. These derangements are deserving of attention, not only for the annoyance they so often occasion, but because, if neglected, they may lay the foundation of future ill health; and Homœopathy offers us sure and simple means of affording relief without having recourse to the use of purgative medicine, or the other resources of the old school, which, while they certainly appeared to benefit for the time, still, when frequently applied to, rarely failed to injure permanently.

Under this head, we wish it to be understood that we comprehend a general derangement of the whole intestinal canal, as it is for the most part more or less affected throughout its whole extent; it may not, however, be uninteresting to note some few of the symptoms which enable us to form some idea of the true seat of the disorder. When in the stomach, we find the tongue foul, coated with yellow, white, or brown, a bad taste in

mouth, pressure, tension, or pain in the region of the stomach, want of appetite, risings, nausea, or even vomiting, and we rarely find headache absent. When principally in the intestines, the abdomen is swollen and tense, with a feeling of heaviness, with flatulence or colic, rumblings or escape of wind, and not unfrequently looseness, or a confined state of the bowels, in both cases other parts of the system seem to participate in the disorder, which diminish with the decline of the gastric symptoms; and there is generally a great degree of lassitude.

Disordered stomach may arise from indigestible or improper articles of diet, whether solid or liquid, or from excess even of wholesome food; and moreover from anything interfering with the process of digestion, for example, over-exertion of mind or body, violent exercise after a full meal, eating heartily after having fasted an unusual time, want of sleep, or mental emotions, such as giving way to bad temper shortly after a meal; all or any of these will bring on an attack of this nature, even in individuals in whom no peculiar tendency to indigestion exists. Where such is the case, it will be considered under the article DYSPEPSIA.

The following medicines will be found to meet most of the ordinary cases of this nature, namely,

NUX VOMICA. When derangement follows an evening's excess either in stimulants or overloading

the stomach; in this case, however, it is usually found most serviceable as a preventive, when taken the night before; also when it arises from the use of coffee, or from anger, passion, or irritability, late hours, excessive study, sedentary occupation, or from almost any cause, when the following symptoms are present, particularly in individuals of the temperament suited to this medicine, which we have noted in so many different parts of this work.

Headache, with a sensation of giddiness or confusion as though it were caused by intoxication, sometimes with heaviness or pressure as if the forehead would burst; the pain seems often very deeply seated.

Headache of the description already noted (page 4), tongue white coated (sometimes thickly so), or yellow, or dry and parched, great dryness, especially of the front part of the mouth and tongue, extremely unpleasant odour of the breath after a meal, or in the morning fasting, often combined with an acid, or putrid, or bitter taste in the mouth, want of appetite, and dislike to food, or thirst, with dislike to liquids or desire for beer, filling of the mouth with water, bitter or acid risings, nausea, or even vomiting of mucous or sour matter, or of food, or bile, heartburn, flatulence, hiccough, pressure or weight at the sto-

mach, with drowsiness and lassitude, heat in the head and face, and redness of the cheeks, with a feeling of general uneasiness and uncontrollable irritability, and lassitude, constipation or costiveness, and looseness alternately, or thin watery evacuations.

ARNICA is often found to relieve when we trace the derangement to want of sleep, fatigue, or overtasking the intellectual faculties, and the patient complains of pressive pains in the forehead, or heat and burning in the head, or giddiness on rising up; tongue dry, or loaded with white coating, with offensive odour of the breath in the morning, putrid and bitter taste and eructations, disgust for food, nausea and flatulence. If this medicine only partially relieves, it may be followed in from twelve to twenty-four hours by Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Chamomilla, or Bryonia, according as circumstances may require.

PULSATILLA is one of the best medicines when derangement has been caused by partaking of rich greasy food or pastry. Among the symptoms, many closely resemble Nux Vomica, and others Arnica, particularly those of the mouth and tongue, which are indeed common to most of their affections; but a flow of sweetish or watery saliva may be generally considered among the indications for this medicine, particularly when we also find a

sweet taste in the mouth, and of food during deglutition; though a bitter, sour, or putrid taste is by no means a contra indication for its employment. There is often also a complete want of thirst; sometimes, however, thirst, risings, with taste of food, or acid or bitter; soon after a meal, nausea, and desire to vomit, or vomiting, hiccough, heartburn, fulness of the stomach, loss of appetite, flatulence, constipation, but still oftener diarrhœa, shivering, and paleness of the face, headache, with a feeling of emptiness and giddiness in the head, and a sensation as though the brain were compressed, which is sometimes relieved by motion, or increased by keeping quiet. Though generally suited for individuals of the lymphatic temperament, it is often found serviceable after the other medicines mentioned, when merely a sensation of uneasiness of the stomach is left, with unclean tongue, nausea, loss of appetite, want of inclination for liquids, and a feeling of languor.

CHAMOMILLA, when derangement of the stomach has arisen from a fit of anger or passion, and when there is an evident disturbance of the biliary secretion, with bilious headache and vertigo, dryness of the mouth and tongue, putrid odour of the breath, bitter taste in the mouth, sometimes communicating itself to everything eaten; loss of appetite, dislike to food, excessive

thirst and wish for cold drinks, bitter eructation, desire to vomit after eating, or bitter bilious vomiting, yellow colour of the eyes and face, burning heat in the throat, inflammation of the abdomen, diarrhœa, with colic; evacuations yellowish, greenish, or watery, or slimy, or resembling beaten-up eggs; general dry heat of the body and irritability of temper.

We often find the above symptoms in the derangements of this nature with children, in which cases this medicine acts specifically.

BRYONIA may be selected in most instances when derangement of the stomach has arisen from anger or rage in adults, and also when it is associated with disturbance of the biliary secretion, or appears in warm weather. It is most suited for individuals of quick temper and dark features, with a well-marked outline; it is also indicated when this affection arises from being overheated, or (after ARNICA) when brought on by a blow in the stomach, or, after that medicine and RHUS, if caused by a strain in the loins. Among the symptoms may be enumerated dry and foul tongue, continual bitter or unpleasant taste in the mouth, particularly after sleeping, bitter risings, burning thirst, feeling of pressure, tension or fulness at the stomach, especially after a meal, repugnance to solid food, desire to vomit or bilious vomiting,

coming on after eating or drinking, but particularly the latter; frequent attacks of cold and shivering, sometimes with a most distressing headache, (as if the whole head were one mass of pain, and the brain too large for the skull, which feels as though it would burst,) and constipation.

IPECACUANHA may follow Pulsatilla when nausea and vomiting are very marked symptoms or when looseness of the bowels is present; the temperament indicating those two medicines closely correspond; it frequently relieves the sensation of excessive uneasiness often felt about the region of the stomach from derangement of that organ.

ARSENICUM taken in time will often check the evil consequences arising from a sudden chill of the stomach, either from drinking cold water or taking ice when heated, and is also of great service when this disturbance has been caused by unripe fruits, or fruits or vegetables of a cold nature, such as melons or cucumbers. If any unpleasant sensations remain after the more severe symptoms have been relieved by this medicine, a dose of Pulsatilla will generally remove them.

OPIUM should be given immediately, when this derangement arises from sudden fright, or any mental emotion.

NAUSEA AND VOMITING.

This has already been treated of under several heads, particularly under DERANGED STOMACH, to which, in cases directly arising from that cause, reference is requested: the vomiting accompanying CHOLERA is also there so fully noted that it is scarcely necessary to make any comment upon it here. It is, as is well known, a convulsive affection of the stomach, excited either by something acting upon that organ or by sympathetic irritation. After a salutary effort of nature to relieve it when overloaded, &c., in which case it should too be promoted by drinking plentifully of warm water, after which, if the vomiting has arisen from excess in the use of stimulants, NUX VOMICA will generally, in a few hours, remove any unpleasant symptoms. PULSATILLA may deserve a preference if from fat meats or pork. CHAMOMILLA best meets the vomiting of children brought on by passion; BRYONIA the bilious vomiting of adults, attended with a sensation of coldness and shivering. IPECACUANHA is valuable in most cases of vomiting. ARSENICUM if the nausea and vomiting have been very severe and frequent, with great weakness; and if this medicine does not speedily relieve im-

mediate recourse should be had to VERATRUM, to which we should, however, in many cases, give the priority, particularly if there is excessive nausea, violent vomiting, general coldness of the body, and cold clammy perspiration, particularly on the forehead, and when every attack is preceded by coldness, followed by ebullition of blood and heat in the hands.

There are many forms of this disorder which demand prompt medical aid: for example, when it arises from a spasmodically increased irritability of the stomach, or from inflammation of that organ, (in which case food or drink are immediately returned;) concussion of the brain; or organic derangement of the stomach or other viscera.

As a sign of pregnancy it shall be separately noticed in the proper place.

DYSPEPSIA.

There is scarcely any term in medicine the meaning of which has been left so extremely indefinite as this, or one which embraces a wider range of disease. Some have used it to express simple temporary derangement of the stomach, arising from some irregularity in diet or other cause, and

either quickly ceasing of itself or being easily removed: this has been already treated of in a previous article; and what is now wished to be understood by the term DYSPEPSIA is a certain weakness or debility of the stomach, a tendency to indigestion, and all the sufferings both mental and physical that arise from this tendency. And in speaking of the causes of this complaint those are more immediately referred to which have laid the foundation of this state of the digestive organs.

To effect a cure often requires time, patience, and medical skill; in many, alas, the disease has been of such long standing or so injudiciously treated for a considerable period, that all the best selected means can effect is a certain degree of improvement, or, in other words, a state of comparative health. The vast number of individuals who have benefited from the simple means that Homœopathy points out, after all the resources of medicine and regimen have utterly failed, afford the best proof of the real excellence of this system.

Some few of the most leading causes of this complaint may be here mentioned. Anything tending to interfere with the digestion, so as to prevent the proper assimilation of food; for example, a long-continued use of any indigestible or unwholesome diet, stimulants, long fasting be-

tween meals, constantly overloading the stomach, a constrained position of the body, hence the dyspeptic sufferings of some trades, such as tailors, &c. in their case aggravated by breathing an impure air, and in some instances by dissipated habits; loss of humours from venesection or other cause; the abuse of medicinal agents; a metastasis of some chronic or cutaneous affection, sedentary employments, or overtasking the brain, anxiety, grief, or any depressing passion of the mind, &c.

Some of the symptoms found accompanying this disorder have been already treated of in this work. They shall now be considered under some few medicines which have been found serviceable in the cases most likely, from the frequency of their occurrence, to fall under domestic superintendence. The medicines which we would lay most stress upon, and which in fact are those which we have most occasion to apply in practice, are,—Hepar Sulphuris, Lachesis, Mercurius, Nux Vomica, Arnica, Bryonia, Pulsatilla, Cinchona, Ignatia, Rhus Toxicodendron, Sulphur, Calcarea Carbonica, and Natrum Muriaticum.

Hepar Sulphuris will be found to meet many of those cases of long-standing indigestion, which, although perhaps originally of a slight description, and which if left to the salutary power of nature

would have passed off of themselves, have been rendered permanent by the injudicious use of blue pill and other mercurial preparations; and when indigestion is easily provoked, notwithstanding the utmost caution being used in regimen. When we find nausea, often accompanied with headache and dizziness, especially in the morning, bitter taste of the mouth or on all food taken, dislike to fat substances, risings in the throat, desire to vomit, sour, bitter, or mucous vomiting; pressive distension, or heaviness at the stomach; thirst, desire for acids, wine, or stimulants; hard, difficult, and dry evacuations.

LACHESIS will often be found serviceable after the above, even when produced by the cause there alluded to: it deserves, in addition, a peculiar preference if the malady assume the character pourtrayed in the following symptoms:—marked irregularity of appetite; desire for milk and stimulants, which, however, disagree with the stomach—acids also disagree; sufferings after a meal—for example, heaviness, drowsiness, pain in the stomach, or fulness and uneasiness, with giddiness, nausea, and eructations or even vomiting of food, headache, or vertigo; and moreover oppression at the chest; sleep disturbed by dreams; fulness under the false ribs; tenderness to the slightest pressure; flatulence; hard difficult eva-

cuations or costiveness; extremely sallow complexion.

MERCURIUS. The abuse only of this remedy is blameable: there are numerous cases of this malady in which it is most valuable; for example, when marked by fulness, pressure, or tension of the stomach, or painful sensibility of that part; with eructation, waterbrash, nausea or desire to vomit, particularly after a meal; variable appetite; satiety after eating; putrid, sweet or bitter taste in the mouth, particularly in the morning: repugnance to solid food and meat, or anything hot, with a wish for cold drinks and sometimes for stimulants; general irascibility of temper, or uncontrollably low spirits; constipation, with hard motions, or constant but ineffectual desire to relieve the bowels, particularly at night, and tenesmus or diarrhœa, with the same unpleasant sensation.

NUX VOMICA. In dyspepsia the foundation of which has been laid by irregularities of life and diet of the following description: too close an application to study; a sedentary and confined employment; habits of sitting up late at night; abuse of the pleasures of the table, or of wine, malt, or spirituous liquors, or of coffee. This medicine will, in such cases, be generally required at the commencement of treatment, though others

may be needful to promote the cure; a tendency to hemorrhoids and the characteristic temperament are additional reasons for employing it. (See MEDICINES AND THEIR ANTIDOTES.) Among the symptoms calling for its use may be enumerated—headache, mostly in the morning upon first awaking, or after a meal, with a feeling of confusion, giddiness, or bewilderment, as if from intoxication; sometimes with pressure or heaviness, as if the forehead would burst; frequent heat and flushing of the face; risings of a sour nature, or of mucosities from the stomach; waterbrash, sour or bitter taste in the mouth, or of food; repugnance to food, with desire for beer or stimulants, or unnatural hunger with speedy satiety; nausea, eructation, desire to vomit or vomiting of food; fulness, tension, and distension of the stomach, with tenderness to the touch, and a feeling under the false ribs as if the clothes pressed too tightly; flatulence; constipation, or hard and difficult motions; general uneasiness, bad humour, restlessness, lassitude, and drowsiness, with disinclination for mental exertion; yellowish or dark sallow complexion.

ARNICA. This remedy resembles the above in many of the exciting causes, and in not a few of the symptoms, as will be found upon comparison and in many cases of practice we find that NUX

Vomica follows it with considerable advantage; it is, however, principally when the nervous system has been unduly excited by overtasking both the mental energies and physical powers by intense study and nightly watchings, or even by great bodily fatigue. Among the symptoms most deserving of note are extreme nervous excitement and sensibility; heaviness in the limbs; vertigo; bewilderment of the head, especially just over the eyes, with giddiness and heat in the head; tongue dry, or covered with a thick yellowish coating; putrid, or bitter or sour taste in the mouth; offensive odour of the breath; frequent eructations, sometimes resembling rotten eggs; frequent nausea, with desire to vomit, especially in the morning, or the same feeling with fulness in the stomach; distension of the abdomen and flatulence after a meal; increase of most or all of the sufferings on partaking of wine; tendency to hypochondriacism: yellow and sallow complexion; broken sleep; anxious and unpleasant dreams. It may be remarked that this medicine has also been found to display a very salutary action after Cinchona.

Bryonia, when indigestion manifests itself, particularly in warm and damp weather, or in summer; or, on the contrary, in individuals who suffer severely when the wind is easterly. The following are some of its symptoms: headache,

generally coming on after a meal, more particularly if of the severe description we have already noticed, (see HEADACHE ;) want of appetite, alternately with dislike to food or satiety after the first mouthful ; so strong an aversion to food that the very smell of it disgusts ; insipid or clammy taste in the mouth ; frequent empty, sour, or bitter eructations, especially after a meal ; waterbrash ; pressure and distension of the stomach ; flatulence ; and vomiting after eating ; or nausea or vomiting after partaking of food with enjoyment ; desire for wine, coffee, or acids. Bread and milk both disagree ; painful sensibility of the stomach to the touch, and inability to bear the slightest pressure ; constipation ; and general irascibility of temper. It is also suitable for individuals of the bilious temperament, and features with strongly marked outline.

PULSATILLA shows its best action in those cases which seem to depend upon that kind of indigestion termed by some mucosity of the stomach, to which individuals of a phlegmatic temperament characterized by a laxity of fibre, a deficiency of warmth, and a slow and weak reaction, are peculiarly subject ; such as headache, tongue covered with a white or yellowish mucous fur ; with an insipid sweetish or bitter taste on the mouth, often imparting itself to everything eaten or drunk, but

particularly to beer, milk, butter, bread, and meat; want of appetite and dislike to food, but particularly to anything hot or cooked, to fat or pastry; risings of mucosities from the stomach, or bitter or sour risings or eructations with taste of what has been recently eaten; frequent hiccough; desire for acids and stimulants; want of natural thirst; after a meal especially; nausea, desire to vomit or vomiting; eructations; pressure on the breathing; languor, lowness, and melancholy; the least quantity of fat or pastry, and sometimes even bread, causes suffering. We find, moreover, flatulence, with rumbling of wind in the intestines; frequent and loose or difficult and slow evacuations; and that the symptoms often grow worse towards evening.

It may be also remarked that in addition to the lymphatic temperament, overloading the stomach with rich or farinaceous food, and sedentary or indolent habits most frequently originate the state above described; and consequently these evils are best relieved by this medicine, and a change of diet, and taking sufficient exercise.

CINCHONA is among the best remedies for dyspepsia when we can trace its origin to debilitating losses of blood or any of the other fluids of the body. And it also is applicable to the variety arising from unhealthy exhalations from stagnant

waters or marshy grounds, whether complicated with symptoms of ague, or the result of that disorder. Among the phenomena indicating its use we may notice—shivering, and great sensibility to the slightest draught of air; satiety and indifference to food; indigestion, produced by the slightest cause, especially by supping late; and often even the lightest meal causes fulness and distension of the stomach, eructation, vomiting of food, with uneasiness, bad humour or hypochondriacism, drowsiness, weakness, and desire to lie down. Moreover, acid bitter taste of food; retarded and broken sleep; a tendency to looseness of the bowels; and portions of the food passing through the intestinal canal without having been assimilated by digestion.

IGNATIA. Dyspepsia is often traceable to some deep grief, or allowing the mind morbidly to dwell upon some cause of sorrow: in such cases this medicine is very valuable; so much so, that we should always bear it in mind whenever we have to treat affections springing from such a source. When delicate hysterical females, or individuals of extremelyvariable spirits suffer from this complaint, it is also serviceable; and has, moreover, frequently been found of great benefit after Pulsatilla.

RHUS TOXICODENDRON has sometimes proved serviceable when Bryonia has seemed indicated,

without, however, fully arresting the case. Among the symptoms also indicating its employment are confusion of the head and vertigo, insipid, clammy taste of the mouth, mucosities from the stomach, frequent, violent, and painful, but empty eructations, putrid or bitter taste of food, want of appetite, with satiety and strong aversion to bread and animal food. After eating, drowsiness, fulness in the stomach and abdomen, or pains in the stomach as if there were a stone in it, gastric sufferings, principally at night, thirst from a feeling of dryness in the mouth, often, also, at night, a tendency to looseness of the bowels, sometimes alternately with constipation; it may also be borne in mind that it is generally found more suitable for individuals of a lymphatic temperament, who are subject to lowness of spirits, than Bryonia.

Sulphur. There is scarcely any form of Dyspepsia, properly so called, in which we will not find this medicine useful. In cases of long standing it is often necessary to commence treatment with it, particularly in scrofulous habits, or individuals subject to eruption; and in other cases, where Pulsatilla or Nux Vomica have been prescribed with marked benefit, it either removes some lingering symptoms, or renders the patient more susceptible to the salutary influence of any other remedies which the nature of the malady may

seem to call for. From the above the reader will perceive in what cases its employment is most likely to be useful, without our entering into a long detail of the symptoms.

CALCAREA CARBONICA. This is another medicament from which great benefit has been derived in obstinate cases of this disease, particularly when employed after the above mentioned. It is serviceable when we find a sour taste of the mouth or of food, great weakness of digestion, waterbrash, heartburn, sourness and risings of mucosities from the stomach, nausea after drinking milk, vomiting of food with sour taste, painful tenderness at the pit of the stomach and inability to bear even the pressure of the clothes round the waist, a tendency to chronic looseness of the bowels, but sometimes, also, to constipation.

We find this remedy indicated in scrofulous habits, in individuals of soft, flabby flesh, light hair, eyes, and complexion, and subject to papular eruptions or glandular swellings, or those, in fact, in whom this affection is traceable to an inherent weakness of constitution.

NATRUM MURIATICUM may also be mentioned as not only of great service in relieving the obstinate constipation often present in this complaint when Nux Vomica or some other medicine may have appeared more suitable, but also as applicable

to some cases of extremely irregular appetite; at one time voracious, at another completely absent, with frequent risings of thick phlegm from the stomach and vomiting of food; and also when bread, rich food, milks, or acids disagree with the stomach.

Cases often arise during the course of this disorder, in which the derangement assumes a more individual form, or in which some symptom becomes peculiarly prominent; these cases, however, will be found met in different parts of this work. We particularly recommend a reference to DERANGEMENT OF THE STOMACH, for some medicines omitted in this article, to which a preference may be given should they appear to meet the case better than those here mentioned.

In conclusion, peoplewho suffer from this complaint should be most careful in their diet; they should not fast long nor eat much at a time; their food should be wholesome and nourishing, but easy of digestion. Any article they find to disagree with them should be carefully avoided; tea, coffee, and all other stimulants, if taken at all, should be in extreme moderation, and desisted from entirely if the slightest injurious effects follow their use, or they appear to interfere with the progress of the cure; spirits should be wholly prohibited, warm beverages only be allowed with great limita-

tions. For further directions on Diet the article Regimen, in the Introduction, may be referred to. Change of scene and air, and plenty of exercise in the open air, are also great assistants in furthering a cure; and it is almost useless to observe that those around the sufferer should do everything to keep his mind from dwelling on his malady or unpleasant subjects; he should himself also recollect that the success which Homœopathy has met with fully justifies him in looking forward to relief, and this hope of itself should inspire him with firmness to bear his present sufferings, and with cheerfulness to anticipate a future, gladdened by a prospect of returning health.

CRAMP OF THE STOMACH.

Individuals who are subject to attacks of this painful disorder should place themselves under proper treatment, since it presents many complications, and is mostly dependent upon some other derangement, of which the medical man only, from his experience, is able to take proper cognizance. It is more frequent in the decline than in the early period of life, particularly with persons of a nervous, hysterical, gouty, or hypochondriacal habit. It may also be brought on by the sudden

stoppage of any accustomed discharge, for which reason females are peculiarly subject to it; the continued use of strong coffee also causes it with some individuals.

The medicines which will be most frequently required in this disorder are Nux Vomica, Cocculus, Natrum Muriaticum, Chamomilla, Coffea Cruda, Ignatia, Pulsatilla, Ipecacuanha, Belladonna, Bryonia, Cinchona, and Sepia. In giving their indications, we will confine ourselves as closely as possible to the symptoms most strongly characteristic of the malady now under consideration; remarking that for any other dyspeptic symptoms present, the reader may consult the different articles DYSPEPSIA, DERANGEMENT OF THE STOMACH, NAUSEA AND VOMITING, &c.

NUX VOMICA. This remedy is needful in almost all cases, although in a great majority it requires to be followed up by some other to effect a cure. It rarely, however, fails to give great immediate relief, particularly from the more painful symptoms; it is well suited to hypochondriacal and even gouty habits, more especially when the latter have been induced by good living or the long use of wine or spirits; it is also one of the best antidotes to the abuse of Coffee, the patient having been subject to hemorrhoids is also a symptom that may be taken into account, more

especially if cramps in the stomach follow their disappearance ; among the symptoms may be enumerated contractive, or spasmodic, or cramp-like pains or pressure on the stomach, as from a stone, with a feeling of rawness or burning in that region, painful sensibility of the stomach to pressure, tension and fulness ; all these pains come on or become worse after eating or drinking, or after partaking of Coffee, and also in the morning, at night, or in the open air, and are accompanied with oppression and constriction of the chest, risings, inclination to vomit or vomiting, palpitation of the heart, constipation, headache, and bad humour. It may be remarked that there are some few cases in which this medicine only gives a temporary relief, and all the symptoms reappear in undiminished intensity ; here we must immediately exhibit either Pulsatilla, Chamomilla, or Ignatia. If, however, Nux Vomica produces a certain degree of improvement, which, on repeating the medicine after allowing a sufficient time to elapse, makes no further progress, we ought to resort to Cocculus, unless from some decided characteristics Chamomilla seems to deserve a preference.

Cocculus. This remedy is that which, in a very great number of instances, we should select to follow Nux Vomica, if the disease is accompanied with flatulent, cramp-like colic, especially at night,

or there remain risings, with desire to vomit, attacks of nausea almost to fainting; or if a short time after eating, violent cramp in the stomach comes on, with squeezing as if from a claw, when constipation still continues, and there is a tendency to sad and melancholy thoughts, unpleasant self-reflection and morbid anxiety.

NATRUM MURIATICUM. This remedy has proved especially useful as an intermediate medicine when obstinate constipation is present; its curative action in such cases, as elsewhere remarked, rarely failing to develop itself in from twelve to twenty-four hours, and when that symptom is relieved, we may return to Nux Vomica or Cocculus, or to any other medicine which we may judge more appropriate to the disease. Natrum Muriaticum also, however, embraces the following symptoms of the complaint: heartburn, waterbrash, flow of water-like phlegm from the stomach, sometimes followed by sour vomiting of food, contractive cramp in the stomach, with pressure on that region, as if from some body in the stomach, and tenderness when touched, also inflation of the abdomen, with cuttings, and pinchings, and rumbling of wind in the bowels.

CHAMOMILLA is very useful in severe cases of this malady, when there is excessively painful pressure in the stomach, with extreme anguish,

shortness of breath, and oppression at the chest; the pains become worse after a meal, or at night, with great suffering and tossing; they are relieved by bending forward, and sometimes by partaking of coffee. These symptoms are also often accompanied by painful colic, and headache at the vertex, with throbbing; it is also well indicated when there is extreme excitability and increased sensibility of the nervous system; it is (in common with Nux Vomica and others) useful in counteracting or modifying effects resulting from the use of coffee.

Coffea Cruda, when this substance has not been made use of as a beverage; it is often useful in allaying the excitability of the patient, which sometimes causes a morbid susceptibility of sufferings; it is also useful when the cramps are attended with shooting pressive pain, and is often found of benefit in alternation with Chamomilla.

Ignatia, when this complaint may be dated from some severe affliction upon which the mind has allowed itself to dwell, or when it occurs in highly-nervous or hysterical females, with a sensation of weakness or emptiness in the stomach, and flatulent colic, especially at night.

Pulsatilla, when the pains are of a shooting character or of a spasmodic nature, even when the stomach is empty, but after a meal, with tendency to vomiting or vomiting beating in the stomach,

with tension and squeezing, absence of thirst; increase of pain in the evening, with shiverings attended with exacerbation of suffering and low spirits; it is best adapted to females and individuals of the lymphatic temperament and mild disposition.

IPECACUANHA will often be found to afford relief in the nausea and vomiting present in this affection, and when there are darting pains at the pit of the stomach.

BELLADONNA in some cases where Chamomilla has appeared indicated, but has not afforded any marked or permanent benefit; and in addition, when the pain is so extremely violent as to deprive the sufferer of consciousness and to prostrate his strength; moreover we may find pressive, cramp-like, and contractive pains, with a sense of fulness and inflation in the stomach either after or while eating, with pressure or constrictive pains in the abdomen, resembling those given under Colic, for this medicine. The pains of the stomach are often relieved by forcibly bending the body backwards; thirst, increase of the pains after drinking, and scanty evacuations; it is principally serviceable in females, of people of delicate constitution endowed with great sensitiveness.

BRYONIA, when there is a sensation of swelling in the region of the stomach, with pressure as of

a stone at the pit of the stomach; cutting or pinching pains at the stomach, mitigated by pressure or by eructation; increase of the pains from movement, with shootings in the stomach, constipation and headache, sometimes of a very severe character. (See BRYONIA, under HEADACHE, page 5.) It suits individuals of a temperament resembling Nux Vomica, but is more properly adapted to that designated the bilious.

CINCHONA should be had recourse to when this malady has been brought on by great loss of any of the fluids of the body from bleeding, &c., and when, from weakness of digestion, painful distension and pressure of the stomach comes on after eating ever so little, with general gastric derangement, the pains are relieved by moving about, and worse during repose—these are want of appetite and distaste for food, bad humour, disinclination for exertion and drowsiness, especially after a meal, with tardy evacuations or motions, containing portions of food undigested.

SEPIA is often required in cramps in the stomach from derangements or obstruction of the female health.

When the suffering is severe it may be relieved by fomenting the stomach with cloths dipped in warm water; but at the same time the medicine that seems most suited to the case should be given.

NIGHTMARE.

This affection is generally closely connected either with indigestion or a determination of blood to the stomach; individuals of weak nerves who follow sedentary occupations and live highly are those generally most subject to its attacks; it is also a very frequent result of heavy suppers and going to rest shortly after; accumulations of wind will also cause it, and it is often brought on by lying on the back; some persons suffer from it almost every night, in which cases, unless proper means are taken, the general health inevitably suffers.

During the time of sleep the patient feels a heavy pressure upon the chest or stomach, which he vainly tries to shake off, and which impedes his breathing, and causes a feeling of suffocation. He imagines himself engaged with some enemy, or involved in some danger, from which all his attempts to extricate himself are futile; the most strange phantasms are present to his imagination; he endeavours to cry out, but his voice fails him, or he only finds utterance in smothered groans, until at last a cry of anguish bursts from him, and he awakes, often very much exhausted, and with many the shock the nervous system has received affects them the whole of the following day.

The first point for those who are subject to attacks of nightmare is to avoid all things which have been found to bring them on, and to regulate their habits and meals accordingly.

Among the best medicines in ordinary cases are Nux Vomica, Opium, and Aconite.

Nux Vomica, when the attacks have been brought on by overloading the stomach, by sedentary habits, or by indulgence in stimulants, and when, from the digestive function having been impaired by the frequent repetition of any of the above mentioned, an individual frequently suffers from it.

Opium, in severe cases, respiration almost suspended or stertorous, eyes and mouth half open; face expressive of suffering and anxiety, covered with cold perspiration, with shocks and convulsive movements in the limbs.

Aconite, when the attacks are accompanied with hot dry skin, thirst, accelerated pulse, palpitation of the heart, great anxiety and inquietude; it is particularly suitable in the cases of women or children.

It is needless to remark, moreover, that when a tendency to attacks of this complaint arises from deranged digestion, the patient should be treated for that disorder; for information whereupon the reader is referred to Dyspepsia.

WAKEFULNESS.

Wakefulness is often present without any other affection or any apparent cause to induce it. It sometimes, by lasting for months, becomes very troublesome, and may tend to injure the health considerably, by producing debility, excoriation, derangement of the internal economy, &c.

The causes are, generally, increased excitability of the nervous system, or mental or corporeal nervous irritation.

The treatment must be guided by the cause of the affection; if it is combined with, or a symptom of, some other disease, we must refer the reader to the different medicines prescribed in such cases; but if it is simply disturbed rest, the following remedies will generally afford relief: Coffea, Moschus, Aconite, Arnica, Pulsatilla, Nux Vomica, Opium, and Sulphur.

Coffea, if wakefulness is caused by over-excitement produced by excessive joy or learning agreeable tidings, or in children, or in consequence of prolonged watching.

Moschus, where sleeplessness is caused by nervous excitement, particularly in hysterical or hypochondriacal persons.

ACONITE, when agitation and great anxiety prevent sleep, especially if heat or feverishness is present, or if Coffea has not given speedy relief.

ARNICA, in sleeplessness caused by over-exertion or fatigue.

PULSATILLA, when the exciting cause is overloading the stomach, or where sleep is disturbed by a great flow of ideas, and there is continual tossing, inquietude, or frequent waking.

NUX VOMICA also when sleeplessness is produced by eating too heartily, or by that irritability often caused by over-indulgence in ardent spirits, or taking stimulants, particularly if one wakes in the middle of the night and cannot go to sleep again, is hot and feverish.

OPIUM is indicated where there is great desire to sleep, and total inability to do so; or where sleeplessness is caused by emotions such as fright, fear, anxiety, or there are visions of horrible phantoms, frightful dreams, nightmare, &c., particularly in old men.

SULPHUR in cases where the sleep is too light, and disturbed by frequent starts, cries, or moanings, also in unrefreshing sleep.

CONSTIPATION.

There are many individuals in whom, from some peculiarity of constitution, the bowels only act every two or three days, and who nevertheless enjoy excellent health; this must always be taken into account, but in most cases we find the bowels require to be relieved every day. It is a most frequent accompaniment of other affections, and has been noticed under them already in several parts of this work; it is often, moreover, sympathetic, as in fever, which, being subdued by means of the appropriate remedy, ceases; the bowels resume their natural functions.

Among the many causes that lay the foundation of a costive habit are a sedentary life, intense study, anything that promotes an over secretion of the perspiration, such as lying too long in bed, or keeping the person too warmly clothed, a continual use of food of too dry a nature, and not drinking sufficiently, over exercise, particularly on horseback, tight lacing, a deficiency of bile, or that secretion being diverted from its natural course, as in jaundice, and, above all, the injurious practice of not obeying the calls of nature, in fact, endeavouring to acquire a habit of relieving the bowels every morning is the best safe-guard against constipation.

Another cause is the habit of taking aperients on the slightest derangement, and often for no reason in the world, except the idea that they require a little medicine; many, in fact, in this country take physic as a matter of habit, and thus, by unnecessarily calling the bowels continually into action, at length unfit them for discharging their natural functions.

For this reason many, when first placing themselves under homœopathic treatment, complain of suffering from constipation, often merely the result of a practice persevered in from infancy; fortunately, however, the improvement that takes place in a short time amply compensates them for the temporary inconvenience. A well-regulated diet, taking moderate but sufficient exercise in the open air, and cheerfulness of mind, are great assistants in promoting a cure. When of long continuance, it is apt to cause headache, accumulation of wind, colic, and other complaints of the bowels and stomach.

Among the medicines most useful in every day cases of this complaint are Opium, Natrum Muriaticum, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Bryonia, Lachesis, Veratrum, and Sulphur. The first three remedies are those that embrace the greatest number of individuals, but to effect permanent benefit an occasional dose of the last mentioned (Sulphur) is

generally required, particularly when the complaint has been of long standing, or is of an obstinate character.

Opium will generally cure within a few hours cases of simple constipation, particularly when a desire is felt to relieve the bowels; but at the same time there is a want of power to effect it, and sometimes without any desire of this nature, more especially if the costiveness is accompanied with want of appetite, pressive pain at the stomach, pressure and pulsation at the abdomen, dryness of the mouth, tendency of blood to the head, and headache, with redness of the face. As far as causes are concerned, it, in common with some others, is useful when constipation is the result of a sedentary life. When it takes place from the reaction consequent upon diarrhœa or purging, it is one of the best remedies; when caused by lead, as in that of painters, and as relates to persons, in the constipation of aged individuals, of females, and of children at the breast.

Natrum Muriaticum. This remedy has been found serviceable in most obstinate cases, and in many when *Opium* has appeared indicated, but, notwithstanding, has not produced the expected relief. Where it is most called for is in those instances when a complete inaction of the intestines exists; it is occasionally requisite to repeat the medicines in twelve hours.

NUX VOMICA. This medicine well merits the high character it has obtained in the homœopathic treatment of this complaint, more especially when an accompaniment of dyspepsia, or present in individuals who are troubled with hemorrhoids, and of that irritable temperament upon which so much stress has been already laid in speaking of this medicine in different parts of this work. The instances in which it displays the best results are those of a long standing tendency to this complaint; a few doses of it at long intervals gradually but effectually restore the natural action of the bowels, and the other consensual symptoms bearing a homœopathic relation to this remedy generally disappear with the constipation, and any that remain are more easily removed by some other appropriate medicine, frequently by one or two small doses of Sulphur. Among the symptoms calling for its employment, a sensation as if the passage was closed, with frequent but ineffectual efforts to relieve the bowels, may be noticed, or obstinate constipation with hard and difficult motion; also determination of blood to the head, redness of the face, headache, (see HEADACHE) and unfitness for mental exertion; want of appetite, nausea, distension and tension of the abdomen, pressure and heaviness, and disturbed sleep. It possesses many points in common with Opium,

but is of slower action; it is useful when following costiveness, diarrhœa, or purging; in persons of sedentary life, or who have indulged in stimulants, among others wine; in old persons, in females during pregnancy or confinement, and in young infants. It may be noticed that it has been found of great service in constipation, alternately with loose evacuations.

PULSATILLA. When *Nux Vomica* appears indicated, but the individuals who suffer from the complaint are of a mild phlegmatic disposition, or if it comes on when the stomach has been deranged from partaking of very fat or rich food, and is accompanied by a general feeling of ill-humour, and a tendency to shivering: a tendency to hemorrhoids should also be taken into account.

BRYONIA is very serviceable in constipation coming on in warm weather, and if it is the result of a deranged stomach, and when accompanied with severe headache and determination of blood to the head, with general chilliness, it is, as elsewhere remarked, particularly suited to the temperament generally understood by the term bilious. It is also suited to persons who follow sedentary pursuits, old people, pregnant women, individuals subject to rheumatism, and in some instances for infants.

LACHESIS has been found effectual in obstinate

constipation with hard and difficult motions, with pressure at the stomach, and the abdomen distended with flatulent colic; and in constipation, the results of the habit of taking stimulants, of diarrhœa or purgation, and in the costiveness of old people.

VERATRUM, in constipation of a similar unyielding character, as if from inactivity of the rectum, and often accompanied by heat and headaches, and often in the costiveness of infants at the breast. Sepia has been found effectual in many cases where Nux Vomica has appeared indicated, but has not proved sufficient, particularly in females or individuals subject to rheumatic attacks, or where we find ineffectual desire to relieve the bowels, or merely an escape of slime and wind.

SULPHUR can rarely be dispensed with in long-standing cases of this complaint, and should generally follow Nux Vomica at a long interval, particularly when there is a hemorrhoidal tendency, frequent and ineffectual desire, with wind in the stomach and bowels, distension of the abdomen, and general uneasiness.

To effect a perfect cure of a tendency to this state of the bowels, one or two of the above-named remedies may not be found sufficient, the administrator will choose from time to time such as appear best to meet the case; if of long standing,

or obstinate, proper medical aid should be sought; but failing this, he may refer for further guidance to the different articles in this work upon other phenomena of deranged health which often accompany this complaint.

PILES OR HEMORRHOIDS.

These must in most cases be looked upon as signs or the local external phenomena of an internal morbid state, requiring a specific and judicious treatment to eradicate. It must be recollected that the disease is of a peculiarly chronic nature, often accompanying a man throughout his whole life. Although not fatal of itself, it may become so by a sudden suppression, and the blood being determined to some of the more vital organs. It is always extremely troublesome and painful, and besides, if neglected, may gain such a head as to prove very difficult to remove, forming hemorrhoidal sacs, which, by continual bleeding, weaken the constitution, interfering with nutrition, digestion, and other functions essential to health.

The application of cold water to the rectum, although it in many cases promptly removes piles, is both irrational and dangerous; the custom of removing them by surgical operation is also fraught

with peril, as it is evidently contrary to the dictates of common sense, since it can in no possible manner tend to eradicate the inherent constitutional predisposition upon which they depend.

It may be as well here to notice some few of the symptoms that denote a tendency to this complaint even before the excrescences, its external signs, declare themselves, in order that, by timely prevention, and obtaining proper advice, the evil may be crushed in the germ; since it is at this period of the disease that it is most capable of a cure. These signs are determination of blood to the head, lungs, or stomach, and flushes of heat, pains in the back and sacral region, sensation of fulness, and sharp shooting pains like stiches in the abdomen; feeling of fulness, pressing, burning, or boring in the rectum; itching and perspiration in that part and those adjacent, often with derangements of the urinary function; if, in addition, we can trace an hereditary predisposition, or the individuals in whom these signs present themselves have been accustomed to high living, the use of stimulants, and purgative medicines, have led a sedentary inactive life, or are either of a costive or what is generally denominated a plethoric habit.

Men are more subject to piles than women; they are, however, not unfrequently accompaniments of pregnancy; sitting on the damp ground

or a cold seat will often bring them on; violent mental emotions, such as grief, anger, or rage, will also occasion them. There are two more points to which the homœopathic treatment should be directed in this affection to relieve the intolerable suffering often present and to eradicate the constitutional disposition. It will here be attempted to give a treatment that will be found serviceable in many cases to promote these objects; but those who wish to have them effected at the least possible expense of time and suffering will place themselves under judicious medical superintendence, since there are but too many instances in which individuals, having failed to obtain relief, from a want both of that just appreciation of their complaint and of the remedies suitable for it, which is to be acquired only by study and experience, have blamed the system instead of themselves.

Among the medicines hitherto employed with most success are Aconite, Belladonna, Arsenicum, Ignatia, Pulsatilla, Lachesis, Mercurius, Nux Vomica, and Sulphur. The last two are those that embrace the greater number of cases, particularly when there is a very marked constitutional predisposition; in many such instances also Calcarea Carbonica has been found very effective. To consider them more in detail:

Aconite will often be found very prompt in relieving the pains in the rectum, and the pressure, pricking, or itching about that part, and if a boring pain in the back and loins is present; it has also been found useful in some cases of bleeding piles; it generally requires to be followed, in six, twelve, or twenty-four hours, according to circumstances, by some other medicine having an influence more directly specific in the complaint.

Belladonna relieves in bleeding piles with a feeling in the loins as if they were forcibly broken asunder.

Arsenicum, when itching, shootings, or pain as if from excoriation and burning in the rectum and parts contiguous, and in the hemorrhoidal swellings are felt, particularly at night.

Pulsatilla is mostly serviceable in the kind called mucous piles, with discharge of blood and mucus; it has also, however, been found efficacious in the other varieties, when attended with itching, smarting, and pain as if from excoriation, and in the lymphatic temperament it often proves more serviceable than Nux Vomica, although from other symptoms we might consider that medicine as more particularly called for.

Nux Vomica. This medicine, as has been already remarked, is one of the very best remedies in this complaint; it embraces its most frequently exciting causes, such as sedentary life, high living,

the abuse of stimulants, constipation, &c. Among other symptoms may be enumerated shooting, burning, or itching pains at the extremity of the rectum, discharge of blood or mucus, feeling of strangulation or constriction in that part, with frequent constipation, and ineffectual desire to relieve the bowels; shootings and shocks in the loins, and bruising pains, preventing a person's rising up; determination of blood to the abdomen, with distension of the pit of the stomach, and under the ribs; determination of blood to the head, headache, heaviness, unfitness for mental exertion, and giddiness; the urinary function affected.

SULPHUR. There is scarcely any case of long standing, or when a hemorrhoidal predisposition exists, in which this medicine is not called for; we shall therefore not enter into detail upon the symptoms; it should generally follow Nux Vomica at from ten days to a fortnight, and we frequently meet cases in which these two medicines judiciously alternated effect a cure.

CALCAREA CARBONICA is, however, sometimes required in similar cases, and in those in which Sulphur has been used to excess; it is a good medicine when the hemorrhoids are the consequence of the suppression of some accustomed discharge in plethoric habits, and when they bleed frequently.

CINCHONA, it may be remarked, should be given when there has been a severe or a continual loss of blood from hemorrhoids; during treatment a spare diet, avoiding stimulants, wet feet, and sedentary occupations, and taking sufficient exercise in the open air, will greatly assist the cure.

COLIC.

This complaint has been divided into several varieties, both as regards the form in which it presents itself, and the causes from which it arises. In some instances it is occasioned by a determination of blood to the abdomen, from a suppression or insufficiency of some accustomed discharge, such as the menstrual or hemorrhoidal; it is also frequently an accompaniment of the latter affection. Flatulent colic may be brought on by partaking of indigestible food, of unripe flatulent vegetables, from fermented liquors, and other articles noticed under FLATULENCE, or from obstructed perspiration from taking cold. It is most common in individuals of weak digestive powers; it may affect either the stomach or bowels, and is attended with painful shifting from one part to another, distension of the part affected, and rumbling in the intestines, the pain general, and the sufferer is mostly relieved by an escape of wind.

Gastric or bilious colic is generally provoked by excess in eating or drinking, and is accompanied by bilious vomiting, foul tongue, thirst, bitter taste in the mouth, severe pains about the region of the navel, and costiveness, but sometimes diarrhœa.

Worms also frequently give rise to colic, but here other constitutional signs mark the origin sufficiently clearly. In hysterical or highly nervous individuals the complaint frequently assumes a spasmodic character; repressed gout, rheumatism, or eruption may also cause it; in such cases, unless proper means are taken, it will become chronic, and often lay the foundation of even more serious disorders.

Colic may also (as in the well-known PAINTERS' COLIC) be generated by metallic poisoning from lead, the fumes of arsenic, or the injudicious use of mercury. Colic may be distinguished from inflammation of the bowels by pressure, generally somewhat relieving the pain, whereas in the latter it increases it; it must, however, be borne in mind that severe colic may bring on inflammation of the intestines, and often after an attack of that nature a degree of soreness remains; which, however, if the affection has been properly treated, generally soon disappears. Colic is sometimes, moreover, the result of an inflammatory state of the intestines (inflammatory colic).

To enter into all the details of the treatment of the different varieties alluded to would scarcely be within the scope of this work; it will be sufficient to allude to them under the several medicines about to be pointed out as most serviceable in this affection. The colic accompanying the existence of worms in the intestines will be taken into consideration among the symptoms of that complaint.

The remedies to which the attention of the reader is more particularly directed are Colocynth, Cocculus, Belladonna, Chamomilla, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Coffea Cruda, Cinchona, Moschus, and Sulphur.

COLOCYNTH will often be found to afford very prompt relief in most kinds of colic, particularly when excessively violent, of a constrictive and spasmodic nature, with shootings or cuttings about the navel as if from knives, or attended with a sensation of clawing or pinching; the abdomen inflated and tight, like a bladder blown to its utmost extent; distension, with a feeling of emptiness in the same part, attended with restlessness of the whole body, and with a feeling of shuddering in the face, which seems to mount from the abdomen; the violence of the pain causes excessive inquietude, agitation and tossing, bending forward and twisting of the body, and profuse perspiration; the above symptoms are often attended with cramps

in the calves of the legs or shivering. The colic is brought on by eating the smallest quantity of food, and is accompanied with bilious vomiting and diarrhœa, or even dysenteric evaçuations. After the more severe pains have ceased, a sensation as if of being internally bruised is experienced in the lower part of the abdomen, and sometimes a feeling as if the intestines were only held together by threads which the slightest motion would break. The pains are mitigated by the use of tobacco-smoke or coffee; hence in some cases, where, notwithstanding the precaution of giving a very small dose of colocynth, a temporary aggravation takes place, a few teaspoonfuls of black coffee will relieve it, after which another dose of the medicines may be given. This alternation of the remedy and its antidote, when judiciously employed, is frequently found most effective in very severe cases. Among the varieties of the complaint to which the above mentioned is most applicable, are flatulent, hemorrhoidal, bilious, and spasmodic colic; that resulting from a cold, or chill, or rage and passion, and colic accompanying dysentery. It has also been highly lauded in the DRY COLIC of the West Indies.

COCCULUS, when much wind is generated in the intestines, with constrictive and spasmodic pains in the lower part of the abdomen, with ful-

ness and distension of the stomach, nausea, desire to vomit, and oppressed breathing, or cutting or constriction in the abdomen on movement and inspiration, or a sensation of emptiness in that part; squeezing and clawing in the stomach, with tearing and burning in the intestines, great nervous excitability, and tendency to be easily frightened, and constipation. This medicine will be found particularly serviceable in colic during the female period, when it comes on too early, and in hysterical women; and in flatulent and spasmodic colic.

BELLADONNA is required when we find pressure in the abdomen as from a stone. Cramp-like, contractive, or constrictive pains and pinching, especially round the navel and lower part of the abdomen, with a sensation as if some of the parts were squeezed or seized by nails, which obliges a person to bend himself forward; pinching and dragging as if the whole of the intestines were about to escape downwards, aggravated by movement or walking; pressure, sensation of fulness, and inflation in the stomach and region adjacent, principally after having eaten or when eating. Cramp-like and contractive pains in the same part; the above being accompanied by a liquid puriform diarrhœa, determination of blood to the head, with redness of the face and swelling

of the veins of the head, and extremely violent headache, forms an additional reason for its em-employment. This remedy is useful in almost all the varieties of this complaint.

CHAMOMILLA, when there is a sensation as if the intestines were gathered into a ball, or as if the abdomen were empty, with tearing, drawing pains, which cause great agitation and restlessness, and oblige the sufferer to run about; or pulling, and cuttings in the abdomen, accumulation of wind which cannot escape, with severe suffering; tension, pressure, and fulness at the pit of the stomach and under the false ribs, and a bearing down towards the lower part of the abdomen and the groin. Also, when the above are accompanied by nausea, bitter vomiting, and bilious diarrhœa, alternate paleness and redness of the face, livid circle around the eyes, and when the pains come on particularly at night, very early in the morning, or after a meal; and there is general irritability and restlessness, and especially in children, or highly nervous excitability in females; it is one of our best remedies for this complaint in children, or in pregnant or lying-in women, or when occurring from derangements of the female health, unless the complaint has arisen from an abuse of this article. It is also called for in colic occasioned by having taken cold, or by a fit of passion; it is

also well indicated in the flatulent, spasmodic, bilious, and inflammatory forms of this affection. It is also deserving of notice, that coffee generally mitigates the symptoms which call for the employment of this medicine, while it aggravates those suited to some of the other medicines. For example, the following:

NUX VOMICA. There are few forms of the malady in which this medicine will not be found useful, if chosen according to the cause of the derangement, the disposition of the patient, and the symptoms that present themselves, of which a few of the most striking are about to be enumerated. Among the cases may be included those mentioned when speaking of this remedy under DYSPEPSIA, DERANGEMENT OF THE STOMACH, FLATULENCE, &c.; and, moreover, a hemorrhoidal tendency or taking cold; it is serviceable too for females when the periods are irregular, particularly when they come on at too short intervals; it is generally in this complaint, as in others which we have mentioned, most suited to individuals of irritable temperament. Among the symptoms are pressure at the pit of the stomach, tension, and fulness, especially at the waist, as if the clothes were too tight; pressure in the abdomen, as if from a stone, with rumbling of wind and internal heat, or cuttings as from wind deeply seated

in the abdomen; pinching, drawing, contractive, or compressive pains: pressure on the bladder and rectum, as if from wind endeavouring to escape, so severe sometimes as to compel the sufferer to bend double; coldness or extreme numbness in the hands and feet during the attack; obstinate constipation, or hard and difficult motions, violent pains in the loins, and headache. Repose, sitting and lying down, mitigates the pain, while, on the contrary, motion, particularly walking, increases it; it often comes on after eating or drinking, but more particularly the latter.

PULSATILLA also embraces almost every variety of colic, with the distinction of being more suited to females and to mild dispositions, and the lymphatic treatment, than the medicine immediately preceding; it is also the remedy that will be found most frequently called for in colic, occasioned by cold damp weather. Among the symptoms deserving attention are shooting pain, beating at the pit of the stomach, disagreeable distension of the abdomen, with uneasiness, fulness, and heaviness; rumbling of wind retained in the abdomen, with a feeling of pressure from the clothes round the waist; general heat, with swelling of the veins in the hands and forehead, and headache; paleness of the face, desire to vomit, and diarrhœa. The sufferings increase when lying down or sitting,

and in the evenings, and are sometimes attended with shiverings, which increase as the pains become more severe.

Coffea Cruda, in violent cutting pains, like incisions into the abdomen, almost driving the patient to despair, or forcing him to cry out, attended with spasms often extending to the chest, great agitation and tossing, grinding of the teeth, coldness of the limbs, and sometimes even convulsions. While upon this medicine, it may be remarked that a cup of strong coffee, without milk or sugar, will often disperse the symptoms of colic attendant upon indigestion, from overloading the stomach or improper food; and if after this any trifling inconvenience still remains, *Pulsatilla* will remove it.

Cinchona will be found called for in cases depending upon deranged digestion, particularly when either it or the colic seems to be the result of debilitating losses of the fluids of the body from venesection or otherwise.

Moschus is often found very useful in the colic of hysterical females, particularly when the complaint seems connected with this tendency.

Both of the last-mentioned remedies often require to be followed up with some other of those already mentioned, to remove all traces of the complaint; but when well chosen, according to

the directions above given, they very rarely fail to afford very marked immediate relief.

In cases where a chronic disposition to this complaint exists, and where the remedies mentioned have only partially relieved or merely warded off an attack for a time, SULPHUR will be found among the medicines most effective in promoting a cure; it is often of itself sufficient; there are, however, some others highly valuable, which have not been mentioned in this work, but such cases naturally fall without the range of domestic practice; it is, moreover, scarcely needful to remark that colics, depending upon organic disorder of any of the more important viscera, or upon any peculiar virus lurking in the system, are not here treated of, except thus far, that some of their symptoms may correspond with those detailed under the different medicines alluded to in this article.

LOOSENESS OF THE BOWELS OR DIARRHŒA.

This is a very common affection, frequently very trivial, and going off again of itself, or forming a salutary crisis in some other complaint, but it is sometimes severe, debilitating, and even dangerous.

Besides the generally exciting causes of the complaint, which are perhaps best considered under the different medicines to which they respectively belong, there exists in many individuals a predisposition to relaxation of the bowels on the slightest possible excitement; there is also frequently a peculiar constitution of the atmosphere which renders every one subject to it, particularly in summer and towards the commencement of autumn.

DERANGEMENT OF THE STOMACH, to which looseness of the bowels is often attributable, may be advantageously considered in connexion with this article; Colic may be also referred to.

One of the most common causes of diarrhœa is taking cold; for the result of a chill in summer, autumn, or spring, DULCAMARA is among the best remedies; *Arsenicum*, *Bryonia*, and *Mercurius* are also serviceable in such cases, but when those medicines are treated of, the distinctions for their employment will be endeavoured to be pointed out. *Dulcamara*, however, seems to possess a certain specific influence when it has arisen from cold, in wet damp weather, or from a wetting. The following symptoms accompanying the attack are an additional reason for the employment of this medicine: Want of appetite, with violent thirst; greenish, yellowish, slimy, or bilious evacuations;

particularly at night, accompanied with cuttings, especially about the navel; great lassitude, inquietude, and paleness of the face.

CHAMOMILLA, when the disease has been produced by a sudden check of perspiration, or brought on by a fit of passion, particularly in children, with many of the symptoms of what is commonly called a bilious attack, such as bilious vomiting, bitter taste in the mouth, foul tongue, &c.; moreover, flatulency, colic, watery, slimy, or bilious motions of a yellowish or greenish colour, resembling beat up eggs, sometimes containing portions of undigested food, although this last symptom is generally more marked in the diarrhœa requiring *Cinchona*.

MERCURIUS is also serviceable when diarrhœa arises from taking cold, particularly from exposure to night air, and in most cases when we remark the following symptoms: Watery, slimy, frothy, or bilious motions of a greenish or yellowish colour, sometimes with blood; accompanied with cuttings at the lower part of the abdomen and coldness thereat, and painful straining before relieving the bowels or during evacuation and after, with a pinching pain at the hollow of the stomach, nausea, eructations, shivering and shuddering.

ARSENICUM in diarrhœa arising from having taken ices or cold drinks, unripe or cold fruits, or

vegetables, or even cooked fruits of an acid nature, such as gooseberries or currants, with individuals who have a tendency to relaxation of the bowels. When the evacuations are watery or slimy, or of a colour inclining to brown coming on, especially at night, or provoked by either eating or drinking, with cutting, burning, or tearing pains in the abdomen, with great thirst and weakness, and when the attack assumes an appearance of cholera; in which cases also Veratrum is required. As we shall have to return to these medicines under Cholera, it is unnecessary to go further into them in this place.

PULSATILLA is useful in this affection arising from errors in diet or taking cold, with very frequent evacuations, preceded by urgent desire, of a bilious, mucous, or watery character, sometimes with bloody mucus, with burning and sweating, or from excoriation; one motion differing from another in colour is another indication for this remedy. Other symptoms have been elsewhere noticed under the heads DYSPEPSIA, DERANGEMENT OF THE STOMACH, and COLIC.

NUX VOMICA also, when arising from errors in diet, and even from taking cold, with frequent but scanty evacuations, sometimes followed by or alternated with constipation; it is particularly of value when the bowels have been disordered by indulgence in spirits, fermented liquors, or wine,

and when the relaxation is accompanied by general irritability of temper and derangement of the nervous system. For other symptoms, the articles noticed under the medicine immediately preceding are again referred to.

CINCHONA is an excellent remedy in restoring the strength of the patient and tone of the system when much exhausted by a severe attack of this complaint; also if the constitution, having been debilitated by venesection or other loss of humours, has produced a tendency to looseness, in conjunction with general weakness of the digestive function; and when relaxation of the bowels come on from partaking of the smallest quantity of food, or at night; it approaches the character of a specific when produced by being exposed to the influence of marshy exhalations, or by drinking the impure water common in such localities. Among the symptoms calling for its employment may be enumerated frequent profuse liquid evacuations, watery or brownish, sometimes without admixture of fæcal matter, or containing portions of food unassimilated by digestion, either passing without pain or attended with spasmodic colicy pains in the intestines, a feeling of weakness in the abdomen, rumbling of wind, burning pain in the passage, and symptoms of deranged digestion.

BRYONIA will be found applicable to the diar-

rhœa that frequently occurs in summer, particularly if caused by the imprudence of taking cold drinks; it is likewise serviceable if arising from passion in adults, and in cases of nature when *Chamomilla* has been apparently indicated, without proving sufficient.

COLOCYNTH is also useful in the affection, from the last-mentioned cause, more peculiarly so when the diarrhœa is slimy or watery, and attended with violent spasmodic cholera. (See this medicine, article COLIC.)

In individuals subject to eruptions of the skin, or when diarrhœa appears to be the consequence of some long-standing cutaneous affection having been suddenly driven in, SULPHUR is almost always called for, especially at the commencement. However, as these cases sometimes become very serious, they should be placed in medical hands.

For diarrhœa arising from sudden emotions of the mind, some of which have been glanced at in this article, the reader is referred to MORAL EMOTIONS, where these points will be entered into more in detail.

In people subject to this complaint, any unusual exertion after eating will bring it on; this therefore should be avoided; and in diet, crude fruits, and all things of difficult digestion; they should also guard against taking cold, getting wet feet,

or anything likely to obstruct the natural cutaneous secretion, and all violent or depressing passions. Water-gruel and weak broths, and light simple puddings from semolino, sago, &c. are the best articles of diet while the attack continues, and for a few days after its disappearance.

DYSENTERY.

Spring and autumn are the periods of the year in which this disease is most prevalent; and in marshy places it is found to rage as an epidemic. It proves very fatal in localities where the air is unwholesome or confined, or where, from a number of individuals being crowded together, it is rendered unfit for respiration:—as in jails or transport ships. In tropical climates, great numbers fall victims to it.

It may be worth while to remark that when epidemical and severe, and particularly when the disease has assumed a putrid character, that a contagious property is sometimes developed; but which seems more particularly to emanate from the evacuations of the patients.

This disease is known by a frequent anxiety to relieve the bowels, with great straining, violent pains in the abdomen and griping, and a discharge

first of a frothy or mucous nature, afterwards mixed with blood, and sometimes pure blood. There is also severe bearing down, as if the intestines would escape. Sometimes, from the violence of the straining, part of the intestine protrudes. Like most fevers, it generally commences with shivering and chillness, followed by heat, thirst, nausea, inclination to vomit, and accelerated pulse; but sometimes it is preceded by diarrhœa, which, after continuing for some days, suddenly assumes the dysenteric character; hence the value of prompt homœopathic treatment, which in many such cases cuts short the disease at its outset.

It may be distinguished from cholera by the absence of frequent and violent fits of vomiting; and from diarrhœa by the excessive pain in the bowels, the severity of the tenesmus, and generally by the appearance of blood.

In the diarrhœal stage, if it commences in that manner, the treatment given under the article diarrhœa, should be followed; when, however, the real dysenteric character appears, and the stools are first of slimy matter and afterwards of mucus mixed with blood, IPECACUANHA should be given: it is peculiarly serviceable against this affection occurring in autumn.

When it sets in with the febrile symptoms

already noticed, ACONITE should be our first remedy, after which IPECACUANHA may follow; but in true dysentery or bloody flux, with the characteristics already noted, MERCURIUS is the principal remedy; and when it turns to a putrid type, with great prostration of strength, ARSENICUM will be found required. But even before it assume this dangerous form it is beyond the range of domestic treatment; and other medicines may be found necessary, which the medical practitioner will employ according to the exigences of the case.

It may be noticed that with individuals recovering from an attack of this complaint, the appetite frequently returns before the digestive organs have so far recovered their tone as to be able to bear any increased calls upon them; here great care is requisite, since the slightest imprudence in this respect may bring on a relapse. A milk diet is the best for a short time; ripe fruits and good vegetables are also allowable; but animal food and fish, and all fermented liquors should be carefully abstained from. Gentle exercise should also be taken in the open air.

INFLAMMATION OF THE STOMACH.

This complaint is always attended with the greatest danger, and from the rapidity of its course, and the great fear there is of its ending in suppuration, or even mortification of the stomach, requires the most prompt assistance. The symptoms of an approaching attack are a continual violent burning pain and sensation of heat in the stomach, which is swollen and tense, and often feels hard on pressing it; excessive nausea, and vomiting of all that is swallowed; difficulty of breathing, which generally increases the pain in the stomach; small quick pulse, sobbing, great restlessness and anxiety, coldness of the extremities, and cold clammy perspiration; violent nervous attacks, and prostration of strength, sometimes even to fainting. The danger becomes very great when the pains suddenly cease; or when the pulse is small and almost imperceptible, the vomiting frequent, and constant fainting fits and great debility are present.

The exciting causes of this malady are numerous; amongst them we may name cholera, dysentery, bilious diarrhœa suddenly stopped, improper use of remedial agents, vomits, stimulating, acrid, or poisonous substances taken into the stomach, suppression of any of the natural discharges,

a sudden striking in of any eruption, or gout flying upwards from the extremities, may occasion inflammation of the stomach.

The medicines principally found useful in the treatment of this affection are Arsenicum, Aconite, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Ipecacuanha, Bryonia, and Veratrum.

ARSENICUM is our chief remedial agent in the treatment of this affection, since it possesses a direct specific action upon the stomach. Amongst the indications for its employment we may mention perpetual pain and burning heat in the region of the stomach, which is increased by inspiration, pressure, or partaking of any kind of food or drink; swelling, tension, and bloatedness of that part; nausea and vomiting, great thirst, difficulty of breathing, small quick and hard pulse, coldness of the extremities, and complete and rapid prostration of strength. This medicine is also particularly useful in cases where the existence of scirrhus is suspected, and also when the attack has been brought on by taking ices, or drinking anything cold when heated.

ACONITE almost always at the commencement of the disease, to subdue the inflammatory fever present; and where the patient vomits everything he partakes of, and experiences a sensation of pain upon taking any kind of food. This medicine is

often called for if the affection arises from a chill or taking cold drinks when the system is overheated, or from a sudden check of diarrhœa or dysentery.

NUX VOMICA, when the disease is caused by indulging in exciting or stimulating liquids, or heating irritating food. When there is burning pain and pulsation in the stomach, which is painfully sensible to the touch, and a feeling of oppression after having eaten. This remedy is also particularly useful when the malady is brought on by DYSENTERY or CHOLERA. For its indications see those ARTICLES; or where inflammation of the stomach is caused by gout flying from the extremities to that organ.

PULSATILLA, where suppression of any of the natural discharges is the exciting cause, and gastric derangements are present; it is also, like the last-named medicine, extremely valuable when the disease arises from gout flying from the extremities to the stomach.

IPECACUANHA, if violent vomiting is present, or the complaint is caused by indigestion, and there is great pain and swelling of the stomach, attended with a sensation of excessive uneasiness. This remedy is called for if the complaint is occasioned by a chill, and Aconite is insufficient.

BRYONIA is most serviceable when a sudden

striking in of an eruption brings on this malady, and there is a painful burning sensation in the stomach, which is swollen, extremely sensible to the touch, and cannot bear the least pressure; also where the breathing is oppressed and difficult, and there is nausea, hiccough, and vomiting of food. It will often be found of service after Aconite or Ipecacuanha, or where the disease is caused by taking cold drinks when heated.

Veratrum. This remedy is especially called for in the cold clammy perspirations which attend this complaint, especially where it is characterized by excessive coldness of the extremities and great prostration of strength, and Arsenicum is insufficient; it is also valuable where frequent fainting fits are present.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BOWELS.

This complaint is characterized by a permanent acute and pungent pain in one spot of the abdomen, which is extremely sensible to the touch, and the whole of the abdomen is swollen, hot, and painful, and cannot bear the least pressure; these symptoms are attended with obstinate constipation, and vomiting of slimy bilious mucus, and sometimes even of excrements, great anxiety, small quick

pulse, violent thirst, and all the other types of an inflammatory fever.

When there is a sudden cessation of pain, which was previously violent and acute, and the pulse sinks and becomes almost imperceptible, and there are involuntary evacuations, the danger is very great, and may end in death by mortification. It is scarcely necessary to say that so rapid and fatal a disease requires the most prompt assistance, and ought immediately to be placed in the hands of an experienced practitioner.

The exciting causes are generally suppression of the menstrual discharge and hemorrhoids, taking cold in the feet and abdomen, worms, powerful purgatives, and parturition. Besides these, the common causes of inflammation may bring on an attack.

ARSENICUM and ACONITE are our best remedies in the treatment of this affection; for their indications see article on INFLAMMATION OF THE STOMACH. Should they, however, not suffice, and the pains are of a violent cutting character, we must have recourse to BELLADONNA, and if the constipation continues, to BRYONIA, alternated with ACONITE. If the vomiting is very violent, or the excrements are thrown up, OPIUM is our specific remedy, and in cases where a suppression of the menses or hemorrhoids cause the complaint

PULSATILLA or NUX VOMICA are called for. Where the existence of WORMS is suspected, we must have recourse to the treatment given under that head.

INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.

This complaint is not so frequent as inflammation of other parts of the organism, but when it does occur it is removed with difficulty, or may terminate with suppuration, scirrhus, or combine with inflammation of the lungs. Its symptoms differ according to the seat of the attack. When it is in the upper or convex part of the liver, there is acute pain in the right side, sometimes stitches, and a burning sensation, the pain extends to the shoulders, and is increased by inspiration, with troublesome cough, nausea, and often, also, vomiting, hiccough, difficulty of breathing, and impossibility of lying on the right side. When it is in the concave part of the liver, the pain is inconsiderable, and rather of a pressive character, and there is a sensation of fulness or weight in the part, difficult respiration, yellow colour of the skin and eyes, loathing of food, bitter taste in the mouth, vomiting, great thirst, and lying on the

left side impossible. In either instance the right side is hot, swelled, and painful, and the general signs of an inflammatory fever are present.

Besides the general causes of inflammation, the following may bring on an attack: excessive fatness, suppressed menstruation and hemorrhoids, concussion of the brain, shocks from strong vomits when the liver is unsound, living in a tropical climate, and using hot, spiced food, &c.

The following are the remedies generally found most useful in the treatment of this complaint: Aconite, Belladonna, Bryonia, Mercurius, Lachesis, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Chamomilla, and Sulphur.

ACONITE is called for at the commencement of the disease, when there is inflammatory fever, attended with burning shooting pains in the region of the liver, and painful sensibility to the touch, impossibility of lying on the right side, violent pain in the right side increased by inspiration, with excessive anxiety, moaning, restlessness, and sleeplessness.

BELLADONNA, when the pains are pressive, and extend to the shoulders, and are accompanied by inflation and tension of the abdomen, difficulty of breathing, burning thirst, dry cough, headache, tossing and restlessness. This medicine is especially called for where there is a predisposition to determination of the blood to the head, and will

also be found useful after Aconite, Mercurius, or Lachesis.

Bryonia, when there are shooting, burning, tensive pains in the liver, increased by breathing, coughing, or being touched, and extending to the chest and shoulders, with oppression at the chest, short difficult respiration, foul yellowish tongue, and constipation.

Mercurius will often be found serviceable after Belladonna, if that medicine is insufficient; its indications are severe, pressive, or shooting pains in the liver, increased by movement, and which prevent one from lying on the right side, great thirst, bitter taste in the mouth, want of appetite, yellow colour of the skin and eyes, and continual shivering. This medicine will also be found most useful when there is swelling or hardness of the liver, and where there is a tendency to suppuration.

Lachesis will often prove of great benefit in cases where Mercurius or Belladonna have been insufficient, though apparently indicated, and where the pains are drawing or incisive, and, combined with the inflammation, there is a softening of the liver, and reason to fear the formation of an abscess in it. It is especially called for in persons who have a propensity to indulge in exciting or spirituous liquors.

Nux Vomica is useful when the pains are pul-

sative, and there is great tenderness to the touch in the region of the liver, attended with bitter and sour taste in the mouth, nausea and vomiting, a sensation of pressure, fulness, and distension of the abdomen, with shortness of breath, thirst, headache, vertigo, and indigestion; it is also beneficial when great anguish is present, and induration and enlargement of the liver take place.

PULSATILLA is indicated when a stoppage of any of the usual evacuations, such as suppressed menstruation, &c., causes this complaint, or where diarrhœa is present, accompanied by sickness of the stomach, vomiting, yellowness of the tongue, bitter taste in the mouth, and oppression at the chest, with tension and sensation of fulness in the abdomen.

CHAMOMILLA is called for when the affection is caused by a violent fit of passion, and when the pains are dull and pressive and not aggravated by motion or pressure, and attended with oppression at the chest, weight in the stomach, a feeling of tension under the ribs, bad taste in the mouth, yellow coated tongue, and yellow colour of the skin and eyes, and frequent paroxysms of excessive anguish.

SULPHUR may be given most advantageously after any of the preceding medicines, especially if the shooting pains continue, or there is enlarge-

ment and hardness of the liver, and fulness, heaviness, and pressure in the stomach and abdomen. It is particularly useful where the complaint threatens to become chronic, or in chronic affections of the liver, with Nux Vomica.

BILIOUSNESS.

This is only noticed to remark that it is a term generally used to express a tendency to derangement of the stomach and bowels, and has been already treated of under DYSPEPSIA, in the form most generally met with under this name with CHAMOMILLA, BRYONIA, and NUX VOMICA are the principal remedies. Cases will, however, arise when the other medicines there mentioned may be consulted.

What is commonly called a BILIOUS ATTACK bears the same relation to biliousness as DERANGEMENT OF THE STOMACH does to Dyspepsia. That article is accordingly referred to for the treatment.

FEVERS IN GENERAL.

The only acute disease we have is fever, and as a great majority of the human race perish from its attacks, it is of the greatest consequence to be acquainted with the general causes which produce it; and thus, by avoiding them, render ourselves less liable to become victims to its fatality. It is not our purport here to enter fully into the various and complicated forms of this disease, for it would not suit a work of this nature to do so, but merely to give such a cursory view of the complaint in general as will enable persons to guard as much as possible against its attacks, and use such remedies in cases of emergency as will tend to render the disease less violent, and help to relieve the sufferings of the patient in the absence of the practitioner.

The most frequent causes of fever are contagion, gastric accumulations, violent emotions of the mind, or anything that can disturb or greatly derange the general harmony of the system; bad air, unwholesome food, suppression of any of the usual discharges or excess of them; severe injuries, sudden alternations from heat to cold, or vice versâ; and in plethoric individuals a certain predisposition to its attacks.

The general symptoms are increased heat alternated with cold, accelerated pulse, headache, loss of appetite, debility, general lassitude and want of energy; afterwards nausea, vomiting, great thirst, sleeplessness and restlessness, delirium, anxiety, and general emaciation.

The selection of the remedy must be determined by the kind and character of the fever; but in almost all cases ACONITE must in the first instance be given, to subdue the inflammatory symptoms present.

When no particular part of the system is affected, or we can trace no distinct form of the disease, but merely general feverishness, alternate shivering and heat, quick pulse, great thirst, lassitude, and restlessness, it is denominated SIMPLE FEVER, and is only dangerous from its liability to become inflammatory, nervous, gastric, &c. or to assume some specific character; for example, Scarlet Fever or Measles. ACONITE, our specific medicine in general inflammation, will generally remove all the symptoms, and restore the organism to its natural tone.

It frequently occurs that this form of the malady puts on a clearly defined inflammatory type, and all the symptoms, such as hard, strong, quick pulse, burning heat, hot dry skin, excessive thirst and dryness of the mouth, difficult and anxious

respiration are present. In such cases, if ACONITE is not sufficient, we may follow it up with BELLADONNA, particularly if the head is much affected, or there is a constitutional tendency to determination of blood to that organ. MERCURIUS, BRYONIA, and NUX VOMICA, amongst other medicines, are in many instances called for, but their selection must be determined by a skilful practitioner; for in such cases no unprofessional person is competent to decide.

NERVOUS FEVER is sometimes occasioned by violent fright. For information on this subject we must refer the reader to the article on MORAL EMOTIONS; but we may, however, here add, that a dose of OPIUM should precede the administration of ACONITE; and if these medicines do not quickly subdue the febrile symptoms, medical aid must immediately be sought; for the transposition from such a state to that of malignant typhus is not uncommon, and the greatest care and circumspection is necessary to avoid it.

In like manner it not unfrequently occurs that a BILIOUS FEVER is brought on by a violent fit of anger. ACONITE is here again our chief remedy, after the administration of which we may resort to CHAMOMILLA, BRYONIA, NUX VOMICA, and other medicines mentioned under "DERANGE-

MENT OF THE STOMACH" and "DYSPEPSIA," as circumstances may direct.

For the treatment of RHEUMATIC and CATARRHAL FEVERS, if ACONITE is insufficient, see articles "RHEUMATISM" and "CATARRH;" and let the symptoms there given serve for a guide in the selection of the remedy.

The following are the great essentials in the treatment of fever; as

Cool and pure air; the temperature of the sick room should not exceed 55^0 Fahrenheit.

Light but sufficient covering; mattresses should be used, and feather-beds discarded; rest, a horizontal position, and perfect tranquillity.

The absence of strong light or odours; a free allowance of liquids,—water is the best; and abstinence from food.

We shall proceed to treat of some fevers presenting a certain defined specific character.

SCARLET FEVER.

This fever takes its name from the scarlet redness of the eruption, which appears a day or two after the commencement of the attack in large spots all through the body, becoming paler as

they approach their margins, but often extending over whole limbs with equal redness; after four or five days they disappear, and the outer or scarf skin falls off in large pieces.

It begins with coldness and shivering, sore throat, and extremely accelerated pulse; so quick a pulse is not met with in any other disease; and this must be regarded as one of the most marked signs of true scarlet fever. It has been confounded with measles, from the similarity of the two eruptions; but the absence of all catarrhal symptoms in an approaching attack of scarlatina declares its character. The fever and sore throat increase with the eruption, and in some cases delirium and spasms are present.

Sometimes there is merely internal scarlatina, which declares itself principally in the throat and tongue, which appears of a bright red colour, while externally there is no appearance of the attack; but in the malignant form of the malady during the eruptive stage the fever becomes very violent, the throat inflamed and ulcerated, the breathing laborious, and the whole system affected with languor, sickness, and oppression. This stage lasts five or six days, when desquamation commences, the skin comes off in large patches, and sometimes retains the form of the part from which it scales off.

Scarlatina, which is one of the most malignant and deceitful diseases, may be complicated with any species of fever; it is often associated with miliary eruption, and there is a little roughness, like grains of sand or millet seeds, through the skin; it is also often found complicated with purples, in which case it is characterized by extreme debility, high fever, ulcerated sore throat, and livid colour of the eruption; or it may in some instances be so slight and benign, that scarcely any danger need be apprehended.

The treatment must vary according to the species of the malady. If it is the simple form of the disease, BELLADONNA alone is sufficient to effect a cure; its indications are feverishness, with very high pulse, sore throat, thirst, headache, pains in the limbs, and the characteristic redness of the skin. If the fever becomes high, and there is restlessness, we must give ACONITE, and return again to BELLADONNA when the fever is lowered.

In the malignant scarlatina, when the fever is very violent, and there is swelling of the arms and hands, nausea and vomiting, inflammatory sore throat, and oppressed respiration, foul tongue, extremely quick but depressed pulse, hot dry skin, and sometimes diarrhœa and delirium, BELLADONNA is still our specific remedy. Where the

throat is ulcerated, and there is inflammatory swelling and redness of the mouth and tongue, with great accumulation of saliva, and inability to swallow the least liquid, MERCURIUS is called for. If the ulcers in the throat have hard edges, and are accompanied by a sensation of painful burning and great dryness of the throat, with offensive breath and difficult deglutition, and there are gastric derangements present, attended with extreme prostration of strength, we must give ARSENICUM.

When scarlatina is complicated with miliary eruption, which can be easily detected by the roughness of the skin, we must have recourse to ACONITE and COFFEA. For their indications see article "MILIARY FEVER."

When both purples and miliary fever are complicated with scarlatina, ACONITE and COFFEA are generally the best medicines; but in such cases also DULCAMARA has been found very effective, particularly when the miliary eruption has the appearance of a rash. IPECACUANHA has also proved useful in cases of nausea and vomiting, with gastric derangements and diarrhœa, spasms of the chest, drowsiness, moaning and weeping, and increase of the fever towards evening; and in conjunction with CHAMOMILLA when the eruption has continued an unusual time. The last-mentioned medicine is often required against the

tenderness of the face and swelling of the glands remaining after scarlatina, followed in some instances by MERCURIUS, should these symptoms not yield to it.

The striking in of the eruption is often attended with the most dangerous consequences, and a transference of the virus of the disease to some vital organ, as the brain or lungs. As, however, no individual who has not made medicine a profession would think of undertaking so serious a responsibility, it is unnecessary here to enter upon such cases.

When scarlatina has been well treated upon homœopathic principles from the commencement, it is seldom that we find any unpleasant consequences remain. When, however, such threaten, from a peculiar scrofulous tendency of constitution, an occasional dose of Sulphur will be found highly beneficial. One among other reasons for the exemption from dropsical swellings, &c. after scarlatina homœopathically treated, is, that the medicines used during the course of the disease are the best preventives against the ulterior consequences ordinarily connected with it.

Every precaution against the patient's taking cold during the desquamatory process should be carefully observed. An attention to the rules given under the article "REGIMEN" is also de-

sirable, in order to avoid incurring unnecessary risk of derangement of the digestive function. Individuals of a plethoric habit should be kept rather low; during the course of the disease the diet should be regulated according to the strength of the fever, the tendency to gastric complications, and the general constitution of the patient.

For the preventive treatment, when this disease is prevalent, see article "PROPHYLACTICS OR PREVENTIVES."

MEASLES.

Measles is always preceded by catarrhal fever, which appears three or four days previous to the disease declaring itself. Its symptoms are alternate fits of cold and heat, nausea, want of appetite, dry cough, hoarseness, and a tickling sensation in the larynx, or soreness of the throat, cold in the head, frequent fits of sneezing and sometimes, bleeding at the nose, redness, inflammation, and lacrymation of the eyes, which are very sensible to the light. These symptoms increase till a small red eruption breaks out; it appears first on the face and arms, and then on the chest, abdomen, and lower extremities, and is frequently accompanied or preceded by vomiting or diarrhœa, and in

infants by spasms. After three or four days, the eruption begins to grow pale, the catarrhal and ophthalmic symptoms gradually disappear, and the outer skin falls off in a number of minute scales, like meal or bran.

Measles is rarely a dangerous disease; it may prove fatal in cases of adults being attacked, but it generally confines itself to children or young persons, and seldom assumes a serious character. It is the consequence, or what is commonly called the "dregs," of the measles which are most to be feared. In phthisical constitutions, or those labouring under any affection of the lungs it is especially dangerous, and requires the most judicious and careful treatment; for if in consequence of neglect or mismanagement the patient takes cold, or the eruption suddenly disappears, inflammation of the lungs is very apt to set in, and the complication of diseases proves fatal. It is scarcely necessary to add that in such instances the immediate advice of a skilful practitioner should be sought.

The medicines found most useful in the treatment of this disease are Aconite, Pulsatilla, Bryonia, Belladonna, Phosphorus, Pulsatilla, Sulphur, Mercurius, Cinchona, Ignatia, Nux Vomica, Chamomilla, Ipecacuanha, Dulcamara, and Calcarea Carbonica.

Aconite is often found of itself sufficient in the mild form of measles; it is, however, also in-

dicated in the more violent cases where the fever runs high, with hot and dry skin, thirst, hard, full, and accelerated pulse, with sensibility of the eyes to light, and redness and lacrymation of those organs.

PULSATILLA, from its specific character, is, with the preceding, our best remedy in the treatment of measles; it has frequently been found useful as a preservative against its attacks when the disease is prevalent, and in many cases is sufficient of itself to effect a cure. Its indications are moist white tongue, short cough, with hoarseness and a tickling sensation in the larynx, coryza, and continual sneezing, heaviness and heat of the head and eyes, with profuse lacrymation and excessive sensibility to light, nausea, thirst, and want of appetite. The diarrhœa and vomiting often present are also cured by this medicine, and when the eruption is slow in declaring itself, it will be found of great service.

BRYONIA should be administered if the eruption being driven in threatens the lungs, or the air passages, when a sensation of dryness and pressure in the pharynx is experienced, and there is great difficulty in swallowing. It has also been found useful in developing the eruption, and may be required if Pulsatilla does not speedily declare its action; it will also in certain cases bring it to the surface when driven in by exposure to cold or draught.

BELLADONNA. When continual thirst is present, with swelling of the throat and glands, deep, dry, spasmodic cough, which appears to affect the chest, inflammation of the eyes, great flow of tears and weakness of the sight, violent headache and sometimes delirium, and general feeling of irritability and over-excitement of the system. The above not unfrequently declare themselves in their worst form when the eruption has either been driven in or not come out sufficiently. If the brain is affected this medicine should immediately be given, and medical assistance at once sought.

PHOSPHORUS should be administered when a dry, hollow cough remains after the measles, accompanied by extreme hoarseness and sometimes loss of voice, difficult respiration, with a feeling of oppression at the chest, and other symptoms of inherent consumption. Such symptoms should not be neglected, particularly in phthisical constitutions, as they indicate a lurking virus in the mucous membrane of the lungs, which, if not speedily removed, may lead to the formation of tubercles, and finally to tuberculous consumption.

SULPHUR has been found in practice our main hope when the measles, being driven in, has fixed upon the lungs, and respiration threatens every moment to become extinct. Even in those apparently desperate cases it has restored the eruption

to the skin, and the life of the patient has been saved.

Pulsatilla, Mercurius, and in some cases Cinchona will most generally meet the diarrhœa present in or following this disease. Belladonna and Mercurius the sore throat; but we would refer to the separate articles upon these affections for guidance in the selection of these or other remedies. Pulsatilla, Ignatia, Nux Vomica, Chamomilla, and Ipecacuanha have been found required in the cough left after it. Upon this we will refer also to the different articles on cough, in which the characteristics of these medicines have been detailed. In a severe shaking cough, attended with vomiting, we would direct particular attention to Ipecacuanha, which, by relieving it, may prevent cerebral symptoms or convulsions setting in; if the bleeding from the nose becomes severe, Arnica will afford relief. The glandular swellings sometimes left in scrofulous subjects after measles often yield to Belladonna, Dulcamara, Mercurius, Sulphur, and Calcarea Carbonica administered at intervals of a week to ten days, and in the order above noted; of course the medical adviser may find occasion to select other remedies, according to circumstances; but these directions are only general, and to be used where such advice is not attainable.

The patient should in this disease be kept moderately warm, so as to prevent any risk of the eruption being driven in, or of interference with the crisis. If, however, the room is at too high a temperature, it may give the disease a malignant character.

The patient should also drink plentifully of water-gruel or barley-water; and as children are too apt to expose themselves, they ought, as a measure of precaution, to be kept in bed for a few days after the desquamatory process has terminated, and for some weeks after, to take all possible care against taking cold.

SMALLPOX.

The smallpox is a disease of so dangerous a nature, that its treatment, properly speaking, ought not to find a place in a work of this description. As we cannot, however, pass it over entirely unnoticed, we shall, after saying a few words as to the character of the disease, point out such remedies as may tend to soften its malignity, and mitigate the sufferings of the patient.

Smallpox is an eruptive fever, which generally makes its appearance in the spring; it is one of the most dangerous, painful, loathsome, and in-

fectious diseases which we have, and from its tendency to reproduce itself requires the most skilful, cautious, and judicious treatment. We distinguish two varieties: the simple or mild, which generally appears in persons who have been vaccinated, and each pustule is distinct in itself, and runs its separate course; the malignant or confluent, when it attacks individuals who have not taken this precautionary measure, or when it has proved unsuccessful, and the pustules run into each other, and become one mass of hideous sore.

The disease commences generally with a drowsy, listless, weary feeling, great thirst, loss of appetite, and an inclination to perspire on taking exercise. As the time for the appearance of the eruption approaches these symptoms increase, and are attended with alternate fits of cold and heat, pains in the head, back, and loins, nausea, and vomiting; the pulse becomes accelerated and the skin hot, and the patient starts in his sleep, which is restless and uneasy. On the third or fourth day from the beginning of the attack the smallpox generally appears first on the face, then on the hands, arms, and neck, and so on, till it covers the entire body; the pustules keep coming out gradually for three days, and as each pock runs its distinct course, the eruptive stage of the disease lasts seven or eight days. The most dan-

gerous period of the disorder now approaches; it is that when the pustules on the face begin to blacken or turn their colour, and in medical phraseology is called the secondary or suppurative fever, caused by the absorption of the virulent matter. It claims the especial attention of the medical man on account of its fatality, as most of those who die of the smallpox are carried off during this stage. Here the distinguishing characteristics of this disease, putrid odour of the breath, and salivation are present.

All through the course of this terrible disorder cleanliness and cold air are especially called for; the patient's linen and bedclothes should be changed every day, care being taken that they are thoroughly aired, and put on when he is cool; it is also desirable that a constant supply of fresh air be kept up in the apartment of the patient, without at the same time exposing him to the risk of a cold draught; thus removing from him the atmosphere which is poisoned by his presence, and which tends to reproduce the disease. The room which he occupies should be kept as dark as possible, as both light and warmth promote the excessive formation of matter, and consequently increase the number of pustules.

The treatment of so terrible a malady as this should never be confided to the ignorant; it is

only in cases of extreme emergency that they are at all warranted in prescribing, and even then only when medical aid cannot be procured.

We will now point out a few of the remedies which, under such circumstances, may be had recourse to: Aconite, Belladonna, Bryonia, Mercurius, Sulphur, Ipecacuanha, Arsenicum.

ACONITE should be given in all the inflammatory stages of the disease; where there is violent fever present, with quick, hard, and strong pulse, laborious breathing, excessive thirst, pain in the head, with nausea and vomiting, drowsiness, restless and uneasy sleep.

BELLADONNA, when there is great heat and inflammation of the face, head and chest, acceleration of the pulse, inflammatory swelling of the inside of the throat and suppuration of the tonsils, difficult deglutition, great thirst, putrid smell of the breath, and bad taste of all food; loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting of bilious mucus, attended with diarrhœa, violent pain in the head and sensation of fulness in it, sometimes delirium, painful swelling of the eyelids, which are edged with adhesive matter and glued together, severe pain in the back and loins, very great eruption of pustules with red bases, and filled with thick matter of a whitish or yellowish colour; and disturbed sleep, from which the patient wakes with a start of

horror and fright. This medicine is especially called for when inflammatory irritation of the brain exists, or where there is a constitutional tendency to cerebral affections.

BRYONIA should be given to forward the metastatic crisis when there is difficult respiration, attended with weight on the chest, or when inflammation threatens the respiratory organs. This medicine is well indicated when the exsiccation is sudden or premature, and congestion of blood to the lungs takes place. Such a state is recognized by the soporous suffocating feeling present.

MERCURIUS, when there is inflammatory swelling of the inside of the throat, and suppuration of the tonsils, putrid smell of the mouth, salivation, inflammation of the eyes, and diarrhœa; moreover, if the pustules threaten to become confluent, or present the appearance of one mass of sores.

SULPHUR may be given with benefit after Mercurius or alternated with it, both medicines having the power of promoting the desiccation, or it will be of use at the end of the disease in removing the redness of the skin, which always remains for some time, particularly on the face and neck.

IPECACUANHA, where there is great sickness of the stomach, attended with violent vomiting, diarrhœa, fetid breath, thirst, disturbed and agitated sleep, and great weakness.

ARSENICUM is especially called for after the secondary fever, which attends the period of desiccation, has subsided; it acts almost specifically in raising the sinking vital power and restoring the prostrated strength of the patient to its natural tone. It is also indicated when Ipecacuanha has proved insufficient, and gastric symptoms are present.

COFFEA has been found useful in mild cases in allaying the irritability and excitability of the nervous symptoms sometimes present during the coming out of the eruption.

The great point, as is already remarked, is to keep the patient cool; he should be confined as little as possible to bed, and kept upon a light regimen; the eruption should be left to take its own natural course, and should not be prematurely forwarded.

The convulsions that appear in children previous to the appearance of the eruption are rather a favorable sign than otherwise; exposure to cold air will immediately remove them.

CHICKENPOX.

Chickenpox, which bears a great resemblance in its eruptive character to smallpox, is preceded by slight fever for twenty-four hours previous to the

appearance of the pustules, which are very similar to those in the general smallpox, except that they are of a much milder description, and a little more elevated and pointed; some of the spots form during the first symptoms of the disease, and dry up the second day; others continue to suppurate for a longer period. Sometimes the fever is violent, and the patient even becomes delirious; but this disorder is generally very mild in its attacks, and rarely of a dangerous or fatal character.

From its similitude to smallpox it is by the ignorant frequently mistaken for that disorder when it is prevalent; but the rapidity of its course, which is generally completed within four or five days from the commencement of the attack, and its comparatively mild character, soon convinces them of their error.

A strict regard to regimen, and care to keep the patient cool, without incurring the risk of taking cold, is generally all that is required; but in some cases we may have occasion to assist nature; and amongst the principal medicines we may then have recourse to are Aconite, Coffea, Chamomilla, Mercurius, and Sulphur.

Aconite, to subdue the feverish symptoms and calm the accelerated circulation, particularly when there is full, quick, hard pulse, and general restlessness and anxiety.

COFFEA may, however, be preferable to Aconite in many cases, where there only exists a general excitability and nervousness, and if all the pustules do not come out within the first twenty-four hours.

CHAMOMILLA will also be found useful in children if convulsions attack or threaten. BELLADONNA, however, may deserve a preference, if they present themselves with a tendency to cerebral affections.

MERCURIUS will generally be found useful when the pustules are drying up, or if any strangury be present, or if some pustules continue to suppurate; after which we may with great benefit, in most cases, give a dose of SULPHUR, under which we will often find many symptoms disappear, which, although perhaps trifling, but at the same time annoying, have resisted other remedies, well selected, as regarded the disease, but not possessing the same specific property of controlling some latent constitutional taint which has become complicated with it.

MILIARY FEVER.

This is sometimes a primary disease, but more frequently only a complication with some other. It derives its name from the small elevations which appear in great numbers over the whole body, re-

sembling millet seeds; they are sometimes white, like little bladders filled with transparent fluid; and sometimes of a purplish red colour, which are scarcely perceptible to the sight, but easily felt on passing the hand over the skin. Both kinds may appear on the patient at the same time. The exciting causes of this malady are generally weakness of the cutaneous system; violent passions, such as anger, grief, joy; damp seasons, increase of the customary evacuations or stoppage of them, poor or weak food, partaking too freely of crude unripe fruits, too hot treatment in fevers, and a disposition to rheumatism and taking cold. It is frequently caused in lying-in women by leading too sedentary a life during the time of pregnancy, and living highly, or by costiveness at that period, or eating too freely of unwholesome food.

The symptoms of an attack are alternate fits of shivering and heat, attended with profuse perspiration of a sour putrid smell, weak quick pulse, weight on the chest and difficulty of breathing, short dry cough, prostration of strength, oppression of spirits, anxiety, moaning and sighing, constant pricking and itching of the skin, restlessness, and sometimes delirium. On the appearance of the eruption, if the disease is primary, these symptoms diminish; but if it is complicated with other diseases, which is more frequently the case,

the eruption must be considered as an additional symptom. It generally comes out on the fifth or sixth day from the commencement of the attack.

The remedies found most beneficial in the treatment of this affection are Aconite, Coffea, Bryonia, Belladonna, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Sepia, Ignatia, Arsenicum, Dulcamara, Ipecacuanha, and Chamomilla.

ACONITE is our best remedy in this disease; it covers all the leading symptoms, and may almost be termed specific; the indications for its use are shivering, succeeded by heat, low quick pulse, white tongue, oppressed and difficult respiration, short dry cough, low spirits with moaning and sighing, and a general feeling of restlessness and anxiety.

COFFEA should follow the administration of Aconite when there is sleeplessness and great excitability of the nervous system, attended with a feeling of anxiety, inquietude, and restlessness.

BRYONIA is particularly indicated when this disease attacks females during parturition, or when it is complicated with puerperal fever; also when constipation is present, or a retrocession of the eruption, which is very dangerous, threatens.

BELLADONNA may follow Aconite with benefit where there is a constitutional tendency to determination of blood to the head, and delirium is

present; it is also called for when the eruption declares itself, or where it is complicated with, or a symptom of smallpox, or scarlatina.

NUX VOMICA should be had recourse to if biliary eruption follows, or is one of the bad consequences of measles, which is sometimes the case when that disease has been neglected or badly treated; it is also useful when excessive watching and anxiety has occasioned the affection, and there is great excitability of the whole nervous system and profuse perspiration of a fetid sour smell, with burning itching of the skin.

PULSATILLA will be found of great benefit if a stoppage of any of the natural discharges, or eating too freely of cold unripe fruits, such as cherries, melons, cucumbers, &c. or any unwholesome food has caused this disease. If not sufficient of itself to remove the symptoms, it may be advantageously alternated with SEPIA.

IGNATIA is called for if vexation or affliction has brought on the complaint.

ARSENICUM when there is great prostration of strength, anxiety, and gastric derangements, particularly if both white and red miliaria are present.

DULCAMARA if cold is the exciting cause of damp rainy seasons, especially where there is a constitutional tendency to rheumatism or catarrhal affections, or where the disease is complicated with scarlatina.

IPECACUANHA may be given in cases where Bryonia does not succeed, or where there are injurious effects from the repercussion of the eruption; also when there is great sighing and moaning, irritability, anxiety, restlessness, and violent itching of the skin.

CHAMOMILLA, after Aconite, when children are attacked by miliaria, and there is inquietude, agitation, and a disposition to be cross, angry, or fretful.

Chronic miliaria may come out without any fever, and continue an indefinite time; and even when it disappears of itself is apt to return. As this is a sign of constitutional taint of some kind, proper medical advice should be sought; should this not be attainable, an occasional dose of Sulphur may be given with essential benefit.

It may be remarked, in conclusion, that this affection is now of comparatively rare occurrence, since a more rational mode of treatment and regimen in fevers has been adopted, the patients kept cool, and feather beds discarded.

NETTLERASH.

Spots or patches of a red colour, having a white centre, and attended with itching or burning; appearing suddenly, and constantly shifting from

one part of the body to another, most visible in cold, but disappearing in warmth.

The exciting cause is general derangement of the system, or taking cold; but when it has become chronic, it is apt to appear on the slightest occasion, and to be exceedingly troublesome, by continual recurrence.

The remedies found most useful in the treatment of this affection are Aconite, Dulcamara, Bryonia, Rhus Toxicodendron, Pulsatilla, Nux Vomica, Arsenicum, and Sulphur.

ACONITE, if there are febrile symptoms present; hot dry skin, acceleration of the pulse, and a general feeling of restlessness and agitation.

DULCAMARA is our best remedy in the treatment of this affection; it covers all the symptoms when they arise from taking cold, or appear in damp wet weather, or in constitutions where there is a tendency to catarrh. The leading indications for its use are a sensation of dry heat in the skin attended with burning itching, bad taste in the mouth, pains in the stomach and limbs, and vomiting attended with diarrhœa.

BRYONIA should be given in severe cases, if a retrocession of the eruption takes place, and the chest seems affected.

RHUS TOXICODENDRON may be taken when the affection is casual, or appears after partaking

of some particular kind of food, such as crabs, muscles, crawfish, &c. PULSATILLA may follow this medicine if it is insufficient, or diarrhœa is present, attended with loss of appetite and a sensation of fulness in the stomach.

NUX VOMICA, if the disease owes its origin to the abuse of spirituous liquors, and there is general derangement of the system.

ARSENICUM, when the disease becomes chronic, and also when gastric derangements are present. SULPHUR may advantageously follow this medicine, particularly where there is any constitutional taint, or a tendency to cutaneous affections; but in all such instances the patient will save himself much painful annoyance by placing his case under a well-directed course of medical treatment.

ERYSIPELAS.

This is a cutaneous disease, of a shining, red inflammatory character, which disappears when the finger is pressed upon the affected part, and returns immediately on the pressure being removed. It more frequently attacks individuals of a sanguine or plethoric temperament than others; and persons once affected by it, are very subject to it again. The seat of the inflammation is in the cuticle or

scarf skin, but in more severe attacks it also affects the adjacent parts. It is always attended with gastric derangements, and, in dangerous cases, with violent fever, characterized by continual desire to sleep. All parts of the body are liable to its attacks, but when it affects the face, it assumes a very serious character, from the liability of the brain to become attacked.

Erysipelas may be caused by mental emotions, such as fear, fright, anger, &c., or by bilious affections, or derangements of the digestive organs; also by sudden exposure to cold from a warm temperature, thereby checking the perspiration. It may be occasioned by over-indulgence in spirituous liquors, by obstruction of any of the natural discharges, or by mechanical injuries.

The symptoms of its attack are shivering, prostration of strength, pains in the head and back, thirst, heat, acceleration of the pulse, nausea and vomiting, with a tendency to drowsiness, which increases in proportion as the fever runs high. About the third or fourth day, the affected part swells, becomes red, and small pustules appear sometimes filled with water, and the fever increases. In a day or two the symptoms abate, and the skin assumes a yellow appearance; but if it turns bluish or black, a fatal issue may be apprehended. In the convalescent stage of the disease, the greatest

care should be taken that the patient do not take cold or be in any way exposed to a draught of air; as in such a case, by throwing the eruption in, a retrocession to internal organs may take place, and so endanger his life.

Amongst the best remedies in the treatment of this affection we may name Aconite, Belladonna, Rhus Toxicodendron, Arnica, Hepar Sulphuris, Arsenicum, Lachesis, and Opium.

ACONITE should be administered in the febrile stage of the disease, when the pulse becomes accelerated, the parts affected red and swollen, and the respiration difficult.

BELLADONNA is our best remedy in most cases of erysipelas, covering as it does all the symptoms; it is applicable to every stage of the complaint, and in many instances is specific. It is especially called for when the face or head is attacked, or there is a tendency to communicate the disease to the brain. Its principal indications are inflammatory red swelling, eruption of vesicles and blisters filled with transparent serum, tenderness of the skin of the head, constant desire to sleep, pulse strong, hard, and quick, general agitation and restlessness, violent pain and heaviness in the head and sometimes delirium, excessive thirst, pain in the back, and a general feeling of weakness and lassitude. It is also required when this affection

has fixed upon any other part of the frame, with shining diffused redness, whether with or without fever,

RHUS TOXICODENDRON should be given when the erysipelas is vesicular, or when the eruption is red and shining, or has a bluish or black appearance; it is particularly applicable when the feet are attacked, and the swelling extends up the leg, and is hard, tense, and very painful to the touch. It may also be remarked that this medicine is our best remedy when the disease threatens to assume a typhoid character, or where there is a constitutional tendency to erysipelas, and it appears after the use of ARNICA.

ARNICA is called for in the treatment of that erysipelatous inflammation which is frequently associated with wounds or other external injuries. It is also indicated where the disease attacks the breasts, which become hard, swollen, and very painful; these symptoms extend to the arms, and sometimes even to the arm-pit, where an abscess forms, in which case a dose of HEPAR SULPHURIS is necessary to forward the suppuration, and we may return to Arnica to complete the cure.

ARSENICUM should be administered when erysipelas presents a disposition to gangrene, which is known by the bluish redness of the spots, and the putrid inflammatory character of the disease;

it is also called for when there is great prostration of strength, and general weakness and want of energy.

Lachesis should be taken when, combined with the indications given under Arsenicum, there is a constitutional tendency to cerebral affections, and the disease attacks the face. It will, in many cases, forward a cure where Arsenicum has not been sufficient.

Opium is indicated when the affection has been brought on by fright, anger, or any mental emotion; also when the characteristic drowsiness is present, and constipation in plethoric habits.

Individuals subject to attacks of this disease, should be very careful in their diet, avoid rich food, and partake exceedingly sparingly, if at all, of strong malt or spirituous liquors, and take sufficient exercise in the open air, avoiding at the same time any risk or unnecessary exposure to cold or damp.

APOPLEXY.

This is a disease of so very serious and dangerous a description, that a work like the present is not the place to treat it. We cannot, however, pass it over in silence, but shall content ourselves with giving a superficial idea of its nature, and at the

same time warning all those who have not received a medical education to be cautious in undertaking the treatment of a malady which frequently proves fatal even in the most experienced hands, and under the most judicious treatment.

Having premised thus far, we shall proceed to give a description of the disease.

Apoplexy is a paralysis of the brain or sudden loss of consciousness and the power of motion, whilst the vital functions—the heart and lungs—remains in their natural state, or are even increased.

Compression of the brain, occasioned by too great a flow of blood or water to that organ, is the most common exciting cause. Anything which tends to increase the circulation towards or disturbs the action of the brain may occasion this state. For example, pressure on the cerebral vessels from wearing too tight a cravat, determination of blood to the head, inflammation of the brain, pressure caused by overloading the stomach, which is the reason why apoplexy occurs so frequently after a hearty meal; moreover, drunkenness, violent passions, cold, suppression of any of the natural discharges, &c. may cause apoplexy.

The symptoms the forerunners of apoplexy are, drowsiness, involuntary lacrymation, nightmare, vertigo with nausea, and sometimes vomiting, dif-

ficulty of swallowing and swelling of the throat, laborious respiration, loss of memory, obscuration of sight, noise in the ears and deafness, pulsation of the carotid and temporal arteries, with redness or florid appearance of the face, and swelling of the blood-vessels of the neck and head; distortion of the features, particularly of the mouth, masticatory movement of the jaws, salivation during sleep, with discharge of water from the mouth, and a feeling of general lassitude and fatigue, and great disinclination to exertion.

There are many varieties of this distressing malady; sometimes an apoplectic fit will strike the sufferer dead instantaneously, at others he will retain his consciousness, and only parts of his body will be paralysed. Again, in many cases only sensation and motion become paralysed, or (which is the mildest degree of apoplexy) only single muscles are attacked; but the worst form of this terrible disease is paralysis of the gullet, in which case the patient is unable to swallow any nourishment, and often lives five or six weeks before death terminates his sufferings.

Although homœopathy possesses remedies well calculated to prevent the symptoms running on to a fit of apoplexy, if administered judiciously and in time, yet we would feel ourselves culpable in doing more than merely naming the medicines,

and saying when a few of the most efficacious may be employed with impunity in cases of emergency, as we might by so doing be the means of inducing persons to undertake the treatment of a malady in every stage dangerous, and requiring the prompt advice and superintendence of the accomplished medical practitioner.

It is as well here to remark that individuals of a plethoric habit are more predisposed to sanguineous apoplexy than others, and this predisposition deserves the greatest consideration; for what will cause a fit of apoplexy in some constitutions will not have the slightest effect upon others. Thus we see persons of a stout make and short stature, with thick fat neck sunk between the shoulders, more subject to its attacks than those of a spare thin structure. Such people should be most cautious in their diet and general habits; they should be careful never to overload the stomach, or in any way induce a pressure upon the organs connected with the brain, and never neglect to take a due portion of air and exercise.

Confining ourselves to the treatment of the premonitory symptoms, (and those only should be treated in domestic practice,) among the medicines we have hitherto found most efficacious in warding off the attack are, Lachesis, Cocculus,

Aconite, Belladonna, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, and Opium.

LACHESIS, when there is great drowsiness, extraordinary loss of memory, with rapid flow of ideas and language, paralytic weakness of the left side and trembling of the limbs, constitutional tendency to determination of blood to the head, violent headache, pain deeply seated in the brain and in or above the eyes, with swelling and redness, and a feeling as if they were going to start from their sockets; involuntary weeping, weak and confused sight, with appearance about the eyelids as though they were paralysed, and a bluish circuit round the candle or any bright object viewed. This medicine is particularly well indicated when the symptoms occur on every change of weather.

COCCULUS, when the paralysis is semi-lateral, and the parts affected insensible to the touch; and also when there is vertigo, with convulsions, shaking of the head and loss of consciousness, swelling of the parotid glands and deafness, short difficult respiration, or sometimes total suspension of breathing for a short time, nausea and vomiting, numbness of the lower extremities, and general paralytic debility.

ACONITE is indicated should inflammatory symptoms present themselves, with quick full

pulse, swelling of the temporal arteries, and congestion of blood in the head, with intolerable pain and a sensation of fulness and heaviness in the forehead, inflammation of the eyes and sometimes obscuration of sight, redness and bloatedness of the face, and general fever through the system.

BELLADONNA is indicated when the attack threatens the right side especially, and when the following symptoms are present: great weakness and paralysis of the limbs, loss of motion and consciousness, drowsiness and a kind of lethargic feeling even during the day, coldness over the whole body, particularly in the extremities, headache and giddiness, with nausea and violent vomiting, confused sight and pressive pains in the eyes, paralysis of the tongue and great difficulty of swallowing, a sensation of weight in the chest, and irregular and impeded respiration.

NUX VOMICA should be given to all persons of a sanguine temperament who suffer from dyspeptic symptoms in consequence of high living; it is well indicated in cases where apoplexy is apprehended from excess in the use of highly-seasoned food or exciting drinks, or indeed anything which, by overloading the stomach, will cause a pressure on the vessels of that organ, and impede the general circulation; also when there is paralytic weakness of the arms, hands and legs, great drow-

siness, vertigo, headache, nausea, vomiting, acute pain and buzzing noise in the ears, redness of the eyes, which are full of tears, and very sensible to light; attacks of fever, a sensation of weight in the chest, with slow and difficult respiration, and a general feeling of lassitude, weariness, and dislike to all labour, mental or bodily.

PULSATILLA is particularly adapted to persons of a lymphatic temperament, especially females; it will be found most beneficial when the symptoms are increased towards evening, or caused by partaking too plentifully of rich fat food, which causes nausea and vomiting; also when there is violent pressive pain in the head, and fatigue from intellectual employments or long watching, anxiety, loss of memory, great disinclination to motion of any kind, and paralytic weakness of the bones and muscles of the limbs.

OPIUM when there is oppressed and intermittent respiration as though the lungs were paralysed, pain and pressure in the chest and about the heart, hoarseness, cough when endeavouring to swallow, which suspends the breath and causes the face to swell and assume a bluish appearance, great pain, heaviness, and congestion in the head, with vertigo, and sometimes loss of consciousness and stupor; excessive desire, but inability, to sleep, and hanging down of the eyelids as if they were para-

lysed, swelling and pulsation of the arteries of the head and neck, and a feeling of general torpor, weakness, and paralysis of the limbs.

Thus far we have pointed out the medicines which, in case of necessity, may be used; but in their employment, even when the right remedy has been selected, extreme precaution is requisite, since their imprudent or too frequent use is liable to be attended with exceedingly unpleasant consequences. These are the points which call for and demonstrate the skill of the medical practitioner.

JAUNDICE.

This complaint is known by a yellow hue, first apparent in the white part of the eyes, and then diffused all over the body, it arises from a derangement of the biliary secretion, which, instead of being poured into the intestines, is carried into the circulation: it may arise from a variety of causes, such as gall-stones and certain poisonous substances; but among the most ordinary excitants may be named strong mental affections, indigestion, taking cold, strong emetics or purgatives, and the sudden stoppage of some long-continued discharge; it is also a frequent accompaniment of

chronic and acute disorders of the liver; if an inflammatory state of the liver is present it may generally be recognized by a greater or less degree of fever, and moreover by the pain in the region of the liver, and other symptoms already brought under notice in INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.

Infants, children, and pregnant women are more peculiarly subject to this disease; and it also forms a complication in certain fevers, but such cases should be placed under medical supervision.

Considered by itself it is not a dangerous affection, but becomes so when complicated with others, or from the disease that produced it: for example, disorganization of some important viscus, and when of long standing or obstinate degenerates into dropsy or a complete wasting away of the patient, or turns into what is called the black jaundice, when the skin becomes dark brown and almost black, a most dangerous variety. Among the symptoms that usher in and accompany an attack of jaundice, the following are the most common:—a feeling of great weariness, lassitude, and aversion to the slightest exertion; dryness of the skin and itching, or pricking over the whole body; difficulty of breathing and a feeling of weight, or oppression at the chest; heat in the nose, nausea or vomiting, a bitter taste in the mouth,

aversion to food, flatulence and other symptoms of derangement of the digestive function; the motions are of a whiteish or clay colour, from the absence of bile, and the urine of a saffron colour, staining any linen, &c. that it may come in contact with yellow; in severe cases, even the perspiration will produce the same effect.

MERCURIUS is the best remedy in ordinary instances, unless this medicine, as is too often the case, has been employed to an injurious extent, in which case we might give a preference to CINCHONA, which may also often follow *Mercurius* with advantage; when, although benefit has been derived from the administration of that medicine, it has not been found sufficient to effect a cure; these two medicaments are often found serviceable in this complaint in children, and in obstinate cases when judiciously given in alternation at intervals of from five days to a week, will often suffice to restore the biliary secretion to its natural course. Cinchona is one of the very best remedies when the motions are white.

CHAMOMILLA will often remove jaundice arising from a fit of passion or great irritation; if, however, constipation ensue, a dose of NUX VOMICA should be given. These two medicines have been found serviceable in the jaundice brought on by an injudicious administration of purgatives to newly-born infants.

Although it is not the object of this work to treat affections produced by the abuse of medicinal agents, yet it may be remarked that when jaundice is clearly traceable to an abuse of *Chamomile*, we should give a dose or two of PULSATILLA, which may be followed up by Ignatia, and should the complaint prove obstinate, Cinchona.

Rhubarb is another favorite medicine in domestic practice, where it has been used and jaundice appears we should administer CHAMOMILLA, and in most cases it will be found necessary to follow it with MERCURIUS.

When this complaint is the result of the abuse of mercurial preparations, or even when although we cannot ascribe it directly to this cause, yet there exists no doubt of their having been injudiciously administered, the case becomes more complicated and difficult to treat; in many instances, however, where the constitution has not been very materially affected, Sulphur, Hepar Sulphuris, Cinchona, and Lachesis, given at long intervals, will promote an amelioration.

When this disease, in its simple form, is attended with febrile symptoms, they generally arise from an inflammatory state of the liver; if there is general heat and fever, ACONITE should be used, after which BELLADONNA will often be required. For further information upon these me-

dicines, in connexion with this complaint, see Inflammation of the Liver.

Among the auxiliary means an attention to diet and exercise should not be neglected; the former should be as light and simple as possible, the latter sufficient and taken in the open air; cheerfulness and exhilarating amusements are also of great assistance in promoting a cure.

CHOLERA.

This disease is most common in the autumnal months; it generally comes on suddenly, and often proves dangerous; it is characterized by violent purging, with constant desire to relieve the bowels, vomiting and griping, and afterwards loss of strength amounting to prostration.

It seems frequently due to atmospherical influence deranging or altering the bilious secretion, and may also be provoked by cold fruits, or anything that easily turns sour upon the stomach; by strong emotions of the mind, by cold, and a variety of other causes; for example, worms, indigestion, and poisonous substances. It has been above remarked that it generally attacks the patient suddenly; however, in some cases we find symptoms of a bilious attack preceding it, such

as disturbed appetite, pressure on the stomach, anxiety, heaviness, foul tongue, &c. By attention to these, and a timely dose of the proper medicines, an attack may be often warded off, particularly when the disease assumes an epidemic character.

CHAMOMILLA will very frequently check it when the precursory symptoms are a yellow-coated tongue, bitter taste in the mouth, and bitter risings; pressure at the region of the stomach, and anguish; or when the complaint commences with sour or bitter vomiting, great anguish, restlessness, feverishness, irritability, diarrhœa, (its character of which has been elsewhere remarked upon,) and cramps in the calves of the legs. This medicine proves very serviceable in the affection attacking children, or if provoked by a fit of passion.

IPECACUANHA. This medicine is rarely useful when the disease has set in with symptoms of marked intensity, but seems more so when the vomiting and diarrhœa appear from the commencement of the attack; when vomiting predominates, or comes on alternately with watery diarrhœa, with a feeling of flaccidity at the stomach; coldness in the extremities and face, and shivering, beginning in the stomach and abdomen, and passing all over the body; and in cramps in the calves of the legs, toes, and fingers; it is also very serviceable when

the more severe symptoms have abated, but the vomiting or diarrhœa continues.

ARSENICUM and VERATRUM are, however, the medicines found to embrace most cases of this disorder as it shows itself in the country. We should employ ARSENICUM when the cholera has been brought on by partaking of cold fruits or vegetables, or by taking ices, or drinking cold beverages when heated; and also when we find heat and burning in the stomach, with extreme thirst, continued nausea and vomiting, and watery diarrhœa, particularly excited by drinking the smallest quantity, rapid failure of strength, coldness, and clammy perspiration. Even in very severe cases this medicine will be found exceedingly efficacious.

VERATRUM. Violent diarrhœa and vomiting, great weakness, cramps in the calves of the legs, coldness of the body and cold perspiration on the forehead, vomiting by sudden jerks, profuse watery motions, paleness of the face, features indicative of great anguish, extreme suffering in the stomach and bowels, and sometimes coldness of the breath and tongue.

Even in the terrible Asiatic cholera this remedy has been successfully employed; in which, moreover, a judicious use of Camphor and other medicines has proved very serviceable. Those who de-

sire further information upon the subject are referred to an interesting article in the first number of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY, by Dr. F. Black, of Edinburgh, principally founded upon Dr. Quin's excellent treatise "*Traitement homœopathique du Cholera*" which will amply repay perusal in the original.

To return to VERATRUM. It will be found useful, as well as ARSENICUM, even in cases not presenting so formidable an array of symptoms as do those enumerated under these medicines, but which, nevertheless, exhibit a strong similarity in character, although in a modified degree. We moreover sometimes meet with instances where one remedy is insufficient, unless followed up by the other.

PULSATILLA, NUX VOMICA, and other medicines mentioned under "DERANGEMENT OF THE STOMACH," are often found serviceable in affections closely assuming the character of Cholera; but the indications differ little from those already given in that article; to which we may also add, for reference, VOMITING and DIARRHŒA.

CINCHONA is very serviceable in establishing the strength of the patient during convalescence, when much exhausted by the severe evacuations attendant upon this complaint; it is also indicated in a species of Cholera, when, along with the vo-

miting, &c. commonly present, we find that the food, in passing through the intestines, has only been partially digested.

When the violence of the disease has passed, the patient should be very cautious in his diet, which should be light, nourishing, and in small quantities at a time. He should also take moderate exercise, and avoid all unnecessary exposure to the risk of contracting cold.

WORMS.

There are three kinds of worms most common in the human stomach and intestines, known by the names of ascarides or thread worms, lumbrici or round worms, and tæniæ or tape worms. The latter are again divided into the common tape worm and the solitary. There are other varieties found in the human body, but it would do no service here to enumerate them.

Women and children, particularly the latter, suffer most from these parasitical animals; this seems to arise from a peculiar state of body that favours their generation, and from weakness of the digestive function: the quantity of unwholesome trash, raw fruit, &c. which children if not closely

watched are continually eating, often aggravates the evil ; exposure to a moist, impure atmosphere should also be taken into account. As all the three varieties mentioned are well known, it would be only wasting space here to describe them ; it may, however, be useful to glance at the symptoms common to all, and then to give those which are more peculiar to each variety.

The most common symptoms of worms are, sallow paleness of the countenance, with dark colour under the eyes, and occasionally a general flushing of the whole face ; itching of the nose, (this however is not a marked symptom from the tendency children have to pick their noses in almost all affections) ; swelling of the upper lip, starting and grinding of the teeth in sleep, variable appetite, at one time bad, at another, voracious, breath sour and fetid, great thirst, an involuntary flow of saliva, particularly when asleep ; swelling of the abdomen, griping and colic like pains, frequent pains in the side, with uneven pulse ; dry cough and palpitation of the heart, and drowsiness ; frothy or whiteish coloured urine, and relaxation of the bowels ; and in severe cases, fainting cold sweats, paralytic and epileptic attacks, and a great variety of nervous symptoms. In children worms are, as well known, a frequent cause of convulsions.

The presence of Lumbrici is the most frequently marked by vomiting, bad breath, gripes and colic, particularly about the navel; loathing of food or voracious appetite, dry cough, convulsions and epileptic fits; the effects of the tapeworm are more violent and distressing, and are often attended with a feeling of coldness and pressure in the abdomen, and a feeling of undulation; with the solitary tapeworm more particularly, we find swoonings, voracious appetite, and sometimes loss of speech. The surest indication, however, of the presence of the tapeworm is the discharge of detached portions of it in the motions, or of small bodies resembling melon seeds. Ascarides are known by a troublesome itching about the seat, as if from hemorrhoids, a constant inclination to relieve the bowels, tenesmus, discharge of mucus from the rectum, derangement of the urinary function, and occasional lowness of spirits or irritability. Worms may, however, exist without causing any great inconvenience, and the violent means that have been taken for their expulsion have often done far more mischief than those parasites would have effected if left undisturbed.

To eradicate the predisposition to vermiculous affections should be our main object in treatment, to effect this often requires a long and judiciously followed course of homœopathic remedies, since

those who have carefully investigated the subject can have no doubt but that this tendency is frequently hereditary; and in such instances a medical adviser is almost indispensable, to obtain this result with the least possible delay, and the utmost practicable alleviation of the patient's sufferings, by promptly meeting with the proper remedy the different phenomena which may from time to time arise.

In many cases of tapeworm good results have been derived from the following course: A dose of SULPHUR; MERCURIUS in ten days after; then again Sulphur in a week; again followed by Mercurius in from ten days to a fortnight.

In all vermiculous affections ACONITE should be given at first when febrile symptoms declare themselves, more particularly if attended with colic, distension, and hardness of the abdomen, slimy evacuation, and itching at the seat.

MERCURIUS may follow it in twenty-four hours, especially if there is tenesmus, and then CINA, which seems here to possess a certain specific effect, the symptoms indicating it closely resembling those which have already been enumerated as among the sufferings commonly present in these disorders.

In some cases where the fever and colic, attendant upon worms, have not been checked by Aconite, we should give a dose or two of BELLA-

DONNA, particularly if we find general nervous excitability and starting.

CICUTA VIROSA is the medicine which we shall be most frequently compelled to employ in worm fever, attended with colic and convulsions; in the most severe forms of the latter derangements, even when not caused by worms, great benefit has been derived from its employment.

IGNATIA will be found useful against ascarides if aconite has not relieved the itching at the seat, if it is accompanied with a feeling of crawling; but to effect a perfect cure SULPHUR will be required, and may be followed in a fortnight by CALCAREA,—this course with an occasional dose of ACONITE should be persevered in for some time.

Children who are subject to worms should be allowed plenty of exercise in the open air, and their food should be solid and wholesome, care being taken to prevent their eating green and unripe vegetables, or other trash of that nature.

GUMBOIL AND SWELLING OF THE CHEEK.

The most frequent cause of this well-known and common affection is a carious tooth, and, generally speaking, all inconvenience subsides when

the tooth has been extracted. When, however, this is not the case, and the swelling remains, or is attended with pain and ulceration of the gums, we must have recourse to medical assistance; and in such instances the best remedies are Arnica, Belladonna, Mercurius, Hepar Sulphuris, Chamomilla, Arsenicum, Aconite, and Sulphur.

ARNICA will be found of great benefit when the swelling is hard and obstinate, or of a shining redness, attended with heat in the face and throbbing, dry, white-coated tongue, bad smell from the mouth, and swelling of the glands of the neck.

BELLADONNA, when there is severe and burning swelling of the gums, with pain as though they were ulcerated on being touched or coming in contact with food; easy bleeding of the gums, and an accumulation of white clammy mucus in the mouth, attended with offensive smell of the breath, bloated appearance of the face, which is generally red and swollen; swelling of the cheek of the affected side, and shooting piercing pains in it. An additional reason for the employment of this medicine is a constitutional predisposition to determination of blood to the head.

MERCURIUS should be given when the gums are ulcerated, and there is burning pain and a sensation of excoriation in them, attended with inflammatory swelling of the inside of the mouth and

cheeks, putrid smell of the breath, profuse discharge of fetid saliva from the mouth, and accumulation of tenacious mucus in the throat.

HEPAR SULPHURIS should be given to forward the suppuration, if the ulcers on the gums become yellow, or there is any appearance of matter in them. This medicine may follow Mercurius with great advantage.

CHAMOMILLA may be found useful where Belladonna or Arnica have not succeeded, or where they have been insufficient, particularly if the swelling is burning and hard, and attended with shooting pulsative pains, which almost drive one to despair. It is also well indicated where the swelling of the cheek puts on an erysipelatous character.

ARSENICUM, when there is swelling and bleeding of the gums, attended with sharp pressive pains, which extend to the ear and cheek, with swelling of the latter, and when the pains are increased by lying on the affected side, but mitigated by heat. This medicine, when indicated, is often very useful after Belladonna.

ACONITE will be found serviceable when the face has a flushed and heated appearance, with swellings of the cheeks and pains in the jawbone. as though they were ulcerated, attended with a sensation of great dryness of the mouth and throat.

SULPHUR, when there is considerable swelling of the cheek, with lancinating pain, and burning drawing sensation in the cheek-bones, accompanied by swelling of the gums, with throbbing pains, and discharge of blood and matter from them. This medicine may follow any of the above-mentioned remedies with great benefit, particucularly where there is a constitutional tendency to a recurrence of the affection.

We may here remark, that if toothache has preceded the swelling of the face, and medicines have been administered against that affection, we may employ the antidote to the medicine last given with beneficial results. Thus, if MERCURIUS has been taken, we may select PULSATILLA, or vice versâ, or SULPHUR after BELLADONNA, &c. If the swelling of the face accompanies TOOTHACHE, see that article for the treatment of the affection.

THE STINGS OF INSECTS.

For the pain and swelling which generally accompanies the stings of wasps, bees, gnats, or other insects, the specific remedy is ARNICA. The injured part should be bathed with a lotion of ARNICATED water, and a dose of the medicine taken. If a person is stung severely in any tender

part, such as the ear, mouth, eye, &c. and considerable pain and febrile symptoms are present, ACONITE should precede the administration of ARNICA, particularly if there is any appearance of inflammation.

If these two medicines should prove insufficient, and there is red-hot inflammatory swelling of the affected part, we have recourse to BELLADONNA.

MERCURIUS may follow BELLADONNA in many cases, where that medicine does not quickly relieve.

SEA-SICKNESS.

This very common and tormenting affection is too well known to need description; it is only caused by a sea-voyage in rough weather, giving a rocking motion to the ship, and in some lasts for three or four days or even longer, but in most individuals only one or two days. Every person is subject to it in a more or less degree, but it disappears after repeated voyages.

The medicines found most generally useful in the treatment of sea-sickness are Nux Vomica, Arsenicum, Cocculus, and Ipecacuanha.

NUX VOMICA. This medicine possesses in a most marked degree the power of preventing an attack of this distressing malady; it should be

taken the night before going on board the vessel, and be repeated the following day. This precautionary measure will rarely fail in preventing severe suffering, and will in all cases tend to ameliorate the symptoms. Where it is not sufficient, we may with advantage follow it up with a dose of ARSENICUM or COCCULUS, being guided in our selection by the indications present.

ARSENICUM should be administered when there is constant and excessive nausea whilst lying down, and violent vomiting on the slightest motion; pain and heavy weight in the head, constrictive and burning sensation in the throat, complete prostration of strength, and utter helplessness, with all the additional symptoms attendant upon a severe attack of this troublesome and distressing affection.

COCCULUS is called for in that extremely unpleasant sensation of excessive nausea, without having the power of relieving one's self by ejecting the contents of the stomach, accompanied by a pressive pain in the forehead, and a feeling of emptiness or hollowness in the head, and great giddiness. A mild temperament also indicates the employment of this medicine, or it is useful where there is an appearance of great anguish during suffering: it may be repeated with advantage in

an hour or two, if there is no abatement of the symptoms.

IPECACUANHA should be administered if the vomiting is violent and continuous, and attended with painful sensation in the head, or what is commonly called a "sick headache," paleness, and cadaverous look of the face, and extreme peevishness and impatience, and a general feeling of coldness, with shuddering.

It is almost unnecessary to remark that, during the administration of any of these remedies, the homœopathic regimen should be strictly attended to. We may also add, that whilst the more violent symptoms of sickness remain, a horizontal position will be found to afford more relief than an upright one, and keeping as near as possible to the centre of motion, near the mainmast of the vessel, will often prevent or remove it.

INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD.

The peculiar diseases of infancy constitute a most important branch of medical study, and possess a special character of their own. They differ in all respects from those of adults. The means of recognition of diseases is different, their characteristics different, and equally different should be their treatment. In the one case we have to deal with an economy going through the various processes of development; in the other, with one arrived at full maturity.

As these are considerations of some importance in a practical point of view, we shall enter upon them at length, and afterwards endeavour to point out the deductions which naturally follow.

The first months of infancy may be looked upon as a state of unfinished existence, and a continual development of a yet imperfect economy—not maturity, but a constant effort towards it—hence many phenomena, which at another period of life would justly be looked upon as a disease, are but the effort of nature's working towards this end.

In infancy all the operations of the system are more active than at any other period; the consumption of matter is greater, but its restoration and increase still more apparent. The circulation is also more rapid, and the vital power is in full

activity to meet the demands upon it; hence the necessity for its renovation by sleep, which is most required in proportion to the youth of the infant; hence diseases run more rapidly to a crisis; the danger is greater, but the convalescence quick in approach and short in duration. From the great preponderance of sanguineous, life, and productiveness, there is a great inclination to nervous affections, spasms, and convulsions; hence the importance of the digestive functions and the lymphatic and glandular systems.

To the unequal size and development of the different organs, the distribution of blood and humours corresponds; thus we see a peculiar predisposition to derangement of the brain, liver, and intestinal canal.

Sympathetic influences are strong and numerous at this period, especially those of the stomach and intestinal canal with the brain, and to this sympathy alone we often owe the existence of disturbances and diseases.

Childhood may be divided into three different periods. The first, from birth to the end of teething; up to this time it is a real continuation of generation, and, being the most creative, is the most mortal period.

The second extends from the commencement of teething to the seventh year. During this period generation terminates; the frame becomes more

perfect, and therefore less liable to derangement, but there is a tendency to inflammation of the windpipe and other organs connected with the respiratory system, and of the brain.

The third is the healthiest and least fatal period of life; it extends from the seventh year to the period of puberty.

SIGNS OF DISEASE IN CHILDREN.

We must remember that in children disease, like the organism, is less distinctly characterized and defined than in persons of more mature age; and also that they have neither the aid of language or reason to enable them to describe their sensations; it is, therefore, much more difficult to distinguish disease in them, and requires a knowledge of its own peculiar signs to enable us to do so with accuracy, such are

Acceleration of the pulse, which is, however, not too much to be depended upon, from the great irritability of the system in children; it may, however, be often taken in conjunction with other signs, for example: increased warmth of the head and forehead, and thirst, from which we may presume there is fever present.

Want of appetite, which is indicative of gastric derangements or of fever.

The motions, particularly their colour, diarrhœa or constipation, flatulence, vomiting, state of the tongue, smell of the breath, the state of the skin, and eruptions.

Coughing, accelerated or impeded respiration, rattling in the throat, and hot breath, are signs of internal inflammation.

Crying is the only mode children have of expressing their sensations; we should, therefore, understand or be able to interpret it. Violent crying and great restlessness denote unpleasant sensations. Crying and drawing the legs up towards the belly indicate pain in that region. Crying and putting the hands in the mouth tell the pains of teething. Crying and coughing, with quick respiration, pains in the chest.

Hoarseness, difficulty of swallowing or suckling, and uneasy or disturbed sleep are also signs of disease.

THE TREATMENT OF DISEASE IN CHILDREN.

The treatment must be founded on the foregoing characteristics of infancy; the most simple is the best. We must never be unprepared to meet with sudden and dangerous accidents, and never despair even in the greatest danger, for the

creative power of the organism at this age is very great and wonderfully restorative.

Our principal rule must be to assist nature, and as gently as possible. In no such instances is the great benefit derived from homœopathic treatment more evident. In administering medicines to infants, great caution should be observed, since in them the most violent effects may be produced by trifling causes; for example, convulsions may arise from wind or any thing acid in the stomach, and the weakest and seemingly most insignificant remedies may display a powerful action.

It is during this period that we would call the attention of the reader to the eradication of any constitutional taint the child may inherit from its parents. The consumption and restoration of matter is so much more rapid during infancy, that disease may be more easily and effectually eradicated than at a later period of life; and where the slightest swelling of the glands is apparent, or there are other signs of a scrofulous tendency, we would strongly recommend that the immediate advice of a medical practitioner be sought and the child put under proper treatment.

As we have before observed, there is a particular predisposition to nervous affections; this must be appeased and spasms prevented, for which purpose a dose of COFFEA is generally all that is re-

quired; but if it does not suffice, or there are febrile symptoms present, attended with general excitability, we must follow it with a dose of CHAMOMILLA.

Where there is a tendency to congestions to the head, which are recognized by heat of head, redness of the face, a soporous or convulsive state, give a dose of ACONITE. BELLADONNA or OPIUM may be required.

Acidity, overloading the stomach, wind, and accumulations in the bowels, are the most frequent causes of disease in the early period of life: for their treatment see the articles under those different heads; for by using proper remedies at the outset of a disorder we may prevent the formation of a most serious disease.

Children require more sleep and frequent nourishment than adults; it is, therefore, not wise to withhold food for a long time, even in sickness, but it should always be light and nutritious, and a constant supply of fresh and pure air will greatly assist the process of digestion.

Constant attention to the voice and respiration is particularly called for, in order to detect in time the first symptoms of croup or asthma of Millar.

We will conclude with this general remark. Every trifling derangement is not to be considered

a *disease*, for many complaints are only symptoms of development peculiar to this important period, which require only to be rightly guided, not interrupted.

REGIMEN FOR CHILDREN.

We must regard the child for the first few months as a vegetative being, which is nourished best by a state of rest and sleep. It must be gradually accustomed to external influences.

Daily ablutions are absolutely necessary; they may be commenced when the child is from three to six weeks old, according to its strength, changing the water gradually from tepid to nearly cold. This treatment invigorates the nervous and cutaneous system, and is an effectual guard against rheumatic and catarrhal complaints. Pure air and daily exercise are also imperatively required.

Cleanliness is also a main requisite in the treatment of children; all pernicious exhalations should be removed from their apartments, and their linen and bedclothes should frequently be changed. Caps should be thrown off as soon as the child's hair is sufficiently long to cover its head and prevent its taking cold, and long clothes are to be discarded as soon as possible.

The principal nourishment the infant has during

the first six months is sleep; it should, therefore, never be disturbed, but left to its own instinct to prescribe its duration.

The food must be light, digestible, nourishing, and suited to the constitution of the child, and the various periods of its life. For the first few months the mother's breast is the most proper source of nourishment, and failing that, milk boiled and diluted with water may be given. When the child is six months old, a little weak broth may be allowed occasionally, thickened with flour or crumbs of bread, but animal food should not be given before dentition, as it is apt to inflame the blood or cause inflammatory accidents. From the period of dentition up to the seventh year, milk morning and evening is the most nourishing diet; and a little meat for dinner, with well-boiled and easily-digestible vegetables and fruit or light pudding; no greasy or stimulating food, such as confectionary, spices, coffee, wine, &c., should be allowed, and water should be the principal beverage. This is the surest means to preserve a good and strong stomach and unimpaired digestive power, whereas stimulating food weakens instead of strengthening that organ.

Finally, we must be careful not to call the mental faculties into premature exertion, lest, by disturbing them too soon, we predispose the child

to nervous diseases; the body must have acquired its energy and some development before we employ the mind.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE MEDICINES TO INFANTS AND CHILDREN.

From what we have already said in speaking of this period of life, the rapid course which disease runs and the cause of that rapidity, and moreover the extreme predominance of the nervous system, and the consequent impressionability of the whole infant economy, it seems to follow as a necessary consequence that we ought to endeavour to give as small a dose as possible, and that if we have well chosent he medium, necessity for a repetition will be rather the exception than the rule. Even in most acute diseases at this age the tendency is to a rapid crisis, and therefore requires a very mild dose to assist this and shorten the period of danger. We do not say that there may not be and frequently are cases in which this rule may be departed from, but they are those which ought to be in medical hands.

One point which the homœopathic practitioner always endeavours to ascertain is the susceptibility of his patient to medicinal influence, by this he

is guided in the quantity of his dose, the great point he aims at being to restore the equilibrium of the system without unnecessary suffering; to do this well requires great tact and observation in most cases, but in infants the susceptibility of the nervous, vascular, lymphatic, and grandular system is established; hence the necessity for giving a dose strong enough to be efficient without causing increase of suffering or producing new symptoms, which, although transitory and not liable to lead to any ulterior injurious consequences, often cause alarm to those unacquainted with those phenomena which the medicines are of themselves capable of producing; nay, those very symptoms may incline them to repeat the dose, and thus keep up unnecessary irritation; fortunately, however, if they have chosen the proper remedy, as the disease yields the susceptibility of the system to be affected by medicinal influence diminishes with it.

With infants at the breast, and for the first year, it will generally be found sufficient to dissolve a globule in twelve teaspoonfuls of water, and to give one for a dose; from that to the seventh year they may take from one to two teaspoonfuls for a dose, according to the effect the medicine produces; and from that to their fourteenth year, two or three teaspoonfuls, being guided

by the same rule. Medical men may give stronger doses, because they choose them according to the medicine, can calculate upon, and, in case of need, modify their effects; but the above will be found amply sufficient for all complaints falling within the sphere of domestic practice. Great caution should be observed in the use of the following medicines: Belladonna, Bryonia, Chamomilla, Cicuta Virosa, Nux Vomica, Ignatia, and Aconite; and in the external application of Arnica and Rhus Toxicodendron.

MECONIUM.

This is a blackish coloured matter in the intestines of newly-born infants, and only alluded to here to deprecate the practice of giving the child medicine for its immediate expulsion, the first milk of the mother rarely failing to effect this; the meconium having passed is recognized by the disappearance of blackness in the motions; should this continue after a few days Nux Vomica may be given, which is generally all that is required.

GRIPES.

If an infant is affected with griping and draws its legs up to the belly, CHAMOMILLA should be given, particularly if the mother has used coffee as a beverage, but should not that be the case, a dose of COFFEA CRUDA may often follow Chamomilla with advantage. If the mother or nurse has been in the habit of taking porter, NUX VOMICA should be administered both to herself and the child. The abdomen may also be very gently rubbed with a warm hand before the fire, but no spirit or cordials should, on any account, be allowed.

JAUNDICE.

This complaint very often attacks children shortly after birth, and it is extremely rare to find it assume a dangerous character, but it mostly passes off of itself in a few days. A very small dose of CHAMOMILLA will generally hasten its departure. When this affection has been brought on children by a fit of passion, this remedy is equally efficacious.

EXCORIATION OF THE SKIN.

Infants suffer severely from this affection, which is so common and well known to all people who are intrusted with their superintendence, that there is no necessity for describing it here; it arises not only from want of cleanliness but from inattention in not drying the child properly after washing, or in doing it so roughly as to abrade its extremely delicate skin; there can be no doubt, however, that there is in some children a peculiar tendency to it, notwithstanding the most scrupulous care.

In almost all instances, except those last mentioned, the use of proper precautions and the employment of a simple drying powder (that prepared from wheat is the best) will remove it, and if it does not yield to those means we may give a dose of CHAMOMILLA. If, however, it has gained considerable head, we must employ MERCURIUS. If the mother or nurse has been in the habit of using Chamomile in any form, we should not administer that medicine, since the affection has been most probably produced by it, but counteract its defects with a dose of IGNATIA, followed in about five days by PULSATILLA, if any traces of the complaint remain. In the obstinate

cases already alluded to a dose of SULPHUR should be given, and if that is insufficient proper advice obtained.

No other but the simple powder, above mentioned, should be used; lead and other articles sometimes employed have a repellent property, and may either poison by absorption or cause fatal spasms. Salves and other greasy applications have a tendency to produce ulceration.

Excoriation at the seat of infants often arises from THRUSH, which mostly, at the same time, affects the mouth; when this has been ascertained, the treatment should be regulated accordingly. (See that article.)

REGURGITATION OF MILK.

Some infants frequently suffer from this complaint, which is of little consequence if they only throw up the milk; but if it amounts to vomiting, or is mixed with a watery kind of fluid or bile, it becomes more serious and requires medical treatment.

IPECACUANHA will, in most cases, be found sufficient to remove this evil, particularly if it is bilious vomiting, or vomiting of slimy mucus, and attended with diarrhœa; but if constipation is pre-

sent and there is general uneasiness and restlessness, NUX VOMICA or BRYONIA may be given. If these medicines are insufficient, and the vomiting is accompanied by heat of the body, irritability, or convulsive starts, CHAMOMILLA is called for.

SULPHUR is our best remedy when the disease is caused by general weakness of the stomach, or if the child is of a strumous habit.

CRYING AND SLEEPLESSNESS OF INFANTS.

Sleeplessness, and the continual crying of young children when there is apparently no cause, will generally yield to the administration of Belladonna, Chamomilla, Coffea, Aconite, Ipecacuanha, or Pulsatilla.

BELLADONNA is called for if the child is cross and irritable, drowsy, though unable to sleep, or if it sleeps for a few moments, and then suddenly wakes with starts and violent cries, and is difficult to sooth or comfort.

CHAMOMILLA, when there are restlessness and excitability present, and the infant doubles itself in two, as though it were in pain, and suffers from diarrhœa.

COFFEA, when there is constant crying and

sleeplessness, with restlessness and agitation, particularly if the nurse does not habitually take coffee; if, on the contrary, she frequently partakes of it, Chamomilla may be given in preference.

ACONITE, if there is feverish heat and restlessness, with frequent crying, tossing about, and wakefulness.

IPECACUANHA should be given if there are loose evacuations, attended with colicy pains, and continual crying and sleeplessness.

PULSATILLA. If Chamomilla has been frequently given, and has at length lost its efficacy, or proved insufficient, we may administer a dose of this medicine with great benefit, particularly if the infant's stomach has been overloaded, or its digestive organs are out of order.

If further remedies are needed, see articles on "WAKEFULNESS" and "DIARRHŒA."

STOPPAGE OF THE NOSE.

The nostrils of children are often clogged with a thick mucus, which interferes with their breathing, and renders it very difficult for them to suck or swallow; sometimes rubbing over the nose with a little sweet oil or fresh butter will remove it, and the same plan is useful if a dry ob-

struction of the nose exists. NUX VOMICA is generally found the best medicinal remedy, followed by SULPHUR, should the complaint continue obstinate. CHAMOMILLA, however, deserves a preference, if the obstruction is accompanied by a running of water from the nose, which excoriates the upper lips and the wings of the nose, particularly if there are any symptoms of febrile disturbance or irritability. When it appears in damp cold weather, or becomes worse on going into the open air, DULCAMARA should be given.

THRUSH.

Those little white spongy ulcers, called in medical language aphthæ, are an eruption of the internal mucous membrane; they generally affect the interior of the mouth and throat, and as they mostly arise from neglect, particularly of cleanliness, they are often removable by adopting a contrary course; sometimes, however, they reach through the whole extent of the intestines, and become very dangerous.

They most frequently, as above remarked, arise from neglect of cleanliness, particularly of the healthy practice of frequently bathing and washing a child, and from not cleaning the sucking-bottle

after use, but they may also be traced to too hot or stimulating a regimen either of the mother or nurse, or infant, and sometimes to some peculiar taint of constitution.

In slight cases, frequently washing the mouth, and rubbing the vesicles with finely-powdered white sugar, will remove them; if they increase, they may be touched with a weak solution of Borax.

If, however, these means do not speedily remove the derangement, and the vesicles turn to ulceration, with slight febrile symptoms and constitutional disturbance, paleness of the countenance, difficulty of swallowing, fetid odour from the mouth, swelling of the glands, or irregularity of the bowels, we should give a dose of MERCURIUS; but if the disease assumes a more severe character, or the ulcers threaten to turn gangrene, ARSENICUM is immediately called for.

When, after disappearing under this or any other treatment, or of itself, the complaint frequently returns; or when, from its obstinacy, one crop of aphthæ succeeding another, there is strong reason to suspect the existence of some virus lurking in the constitution, we may, failing medical assistance, give a dose of SULPHUR. Such cases, however, require professional aid.

Although it would not be suitable to the nature of this work, by giving any treatment to induce

non-professional individuals to take the more dangerous forms of this complaint into their own hands, yet it may not be amiss to give some symptoms which mark to what part the thrush has extended, in order that the warnings of danger may not be neglected. If the throat is attacked, there are symptoms of sore throat, with difficulty in swallowing; if the lining membrane of the windpipe, cough; if the gullet and stomach, nausea and vomiting, spasm of the stomach and eructation; if the intestines, diarrhœa or even dysentery, colic-like pains, and sometimes inflammation of the bowels.

MILK CRUSTS.

This affection frequently attacks infants at the breast, and consists of small vesicles, containing a clear transparent lymph, first appearing in clusters on the face, and sometimes extending themselves over the whole body; the pimples soon become yellow, then break, and form a hard crust, which causes great cutaneous irritation and suffering to the poor little patient.

This disorder is frequently owing to abundant or too nutritious food, such as broth, &c., or to want of proper care in cleanliness; it may also arise from a constitutional scrofulous taint.

The following remedies have been found most effective in the treatment of this disease: Aconite, Rhus Toxicodendron, Graphites, Belladonna, Hepar Sulphuris, and Sulphur.

ACONITE, if there is great redness and heat of the skin round the pimples, and the child is restless, excitable, and peevish, and constantly endeavours to scratch itself.

RHUS TOXICODENDRON, when the vesicles are filled with a thick, fetid, or sanguineous serum, and attended with violent itching. A dose of Aconite may follow with advantage.

BELLADONNA is indicated where the pimples have a red inflamed appearance, and there is swelling of the surrounding parts: it is especially called for when the eyes are at all affected.

HEPAR SULPHURIS may follow any of the above-mentioned remedies with advantage, particularly if the disease becomes obstinate, or when the eruption puts on a yellowish appearance.

SULPHUR in all cases where there is any constitutional taint or scrofulous tendency; or, if the other medicines have been found insufficient, this will rarely fail to afford relief.

In obstinate cases of this or any other cutaneous complaint of children at the breast, it should be investigated whether it may not be owing to some taint in the constitution of the nurse.

DENTITION.

Difficult dentition is one of the most frequent causes of disease in children; during this period the nervous system is particularly affected; hence, in some cases, the presence of Convulsions, Spasms, Affections of the Brain, &c.; though in some instances this trying epoch is passed without any suffering beyond the natural irritation caused by the cutting of the teeth. Diarrhœa is a favorable symptom, and a preventive of affections of the brain fever, convulsions, and other perils incident to that period.

When the child is about five or six months old, symptoms of teething appear, such as constant drivelling at the mouth, feverishness, heat of the head, cough, thirst, rattling in the throat, swelling of the gums, peevishness, diarrhœa, sometimes costiveness, and the little sufferer carries everything to its mouth, which it bites, to try and ease the pain of the gums.

In many cases medical assistance will not be required during this period, particularly if the nurse strictly adheres to the directions given under the article REGIMEN; but in some instances we must have recourse to the following remedies: Aconite, Chamomilla, Coffea, Belladonna, Nux Vomica, Mercurius, and Sulphur.

ACONITE, when there are considerable febrile symptoms present, heat of the head and face, pain and swelling of the gums, thirst, and excessive restlessness and uneasiness.

CHAMOMILLA is called for if great excitability is present, attended with convulsive starts during sleep, quick short breathing, cough, thirst, diarrhœa, burning heat of the skin, sobbing, and trembling of the limbs. It is particularly required if the nurse habitually takes coffee.

COFFEA, when there is great restlessness and inability to sleep, frequent starts and alternations of spirits, peevishness, continual crying, and irritability. If this medicine is insufficient, *Aconite* may follow with great benefit, more particularly against the fever which accompanies this state, in which it may be usefully seconded by the next-mentioned remedy.

BELLADONNA, when there is any appearance of cerebral irritation, or any of the indications for its use, given under "CONVULSIONS," which see.

NUX VOMICA is useful if, as is sometimes the case, constipation attends the other symptoms; but if diarrhœa is present, and *Chamomilla* is insufficient, we must have recourse to MERCURIUS. See also DIARRHŒA OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN.

It frequently happens that the teeth are excessively slow in cutting their way through the gum;

in such cases SULPHUR and CALCAREA are excellent assistants, greatly expediting the work of nature, and thus curtailing the sufferings of the little patient. The Calcarea may follow the Sulphur in from ten days to a fortnight.

The common practice of giving the child an ivory ring or a coral greatly relieves the pains of the gums, and assists the protrusion of the teeth.

CONVULSIONS.

Spasms and convulsions in infants are frequently only a symptom of some other disease; they may arise from various causes, such as gastric derangements, teething, acidity, worms; even wind may occasion them, and in nervous children anything that irritates the intestinal canal produces them. They sometimes precede an attack of Measles, Smallpox, &c. and generally disappear on the breaking out of the eruption. In such cases they require no other treatment than that prescribed under these different heads; but in other instances we must have recourse to some of the following remedies, and be guided in our selection by the cause of the malady, and the symptoms present: Belladonna, Chamomilla, Ignatia, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Cicuta Virosa, Cina, Mercurius, Ipecacuanha, Bryonia, Opium, Moschus, Coffea, and Sulphur.

BELLADONNA. In all cases where there is a constitutional predisposition to determination of blood to the head this is our best remedy; it is particularly called for in children of a plethoric habit and sanguineous temperament, and where the attack lasts some time; its principal indications are, frequent starting while asleep, convulsions of the whole body, especially the arms and eyes, loss of consciousness, frequent weeping and passionate cries, and throwing about the limbs in all directions. This medicine is also called for when after the attack there is rigidity and coldness of the whole body.

CHAMOMILLA, in convulsions of nervous children during the period of dentition, when there is great peevishness, drowsiness, and frequent desire to drink; convulsive jerkings of the limbs, rolling about of the head, loss of consciousness, and redness of one side of the face, with paleness of the other.

IGNATIA is called for in most cases at the beginning of the disease, or if the cause is not yet defined; a melancholy temperament, or sudden alternations from gaiety to sadness, indicates its use; and where there are flushes of heat, with trembling of the whole body during or after the attack; light slumber, from which the child wakes suddenly with a convulsive start and loud piercing

cries; and when the fit returns every day at the same hour.

Nux Vomica should be given when convulsions arise from gastric derangements or irritation of the stomach, particularly when the patient is of a lively passionate disposition and dark complexion, and the following symptoms are present: violent and continuous convulsive spasms, with loud cries and bending backwards of the body: great thirst, constipation, trembling of the limbs, and profuse perspiration during the intervals of the attacks.

Pulsatilla in female children of mild gentle dispositions, when the attack is caused by acidity or overloading the stomach.

Cicuta Virosa is extremely valuable when we can trace the complaint to the existence of worms. Its indications are, severe attacks of griping colic, cramp-like contortions and spams of the limbs, foaming at the mouth and suspended or difficult respiration, and general convulsive appearance of the whole body, the fit terminating in a state of insensibility.

Cina is also very serviceable when convulsions are caused by the presence of worms; it is particularly indicated when the little sufferer is of a melancholy temperament or scrofulous habit, and there are spasms of the limbs, cramps in the

chest, hardness of the stomach, stiffness of the entire body, and hard dry cough.

MERCURIUS may follow the last-named medicine with benefit, if it is insufficient, particularly if the attack comes on in the evening, and is attended with hard distension of the abdomen, painful eructations and salivation, heat, perspiration, and great prostration of strength after the paroxysm.

IPECACUANHA, in convulsions accompanied by nausea, vomiting, and diarrhœa, with loss of consciousness, and convulsive spasms of the face; piercing cries, and rattling of mucus in the chest, and wasting away of flesh.

BRYONIA is our best remedy when convulsions are caused by the suppression of any eruption, or the sudden disappearance of any cutaneous disease.

OPIUM, when the affection arises from fright, and there is excessive trembling of the whole body, and tossing about of the limbs; hardness of the stomach and constipation, violent shrieking during the paroxysm, or a soporous state after the fit is over.

MOSCHUS is a most valuable remedy when the convulsions partake of an hysterical character, particularly if they are attended with spasms in the chest, or when the respiration is much affected.

COFFEA will be found of great benefit when the attacks are very frequent, and when we cannot

discover the presence of any other ailment that might account for them: it is particularly called for in weak delicate children, the offspring of a highly-nervous or susceptible mother; or where convulsions are the forerunners of measles, small-pox, or any eruptive disease.

SULPHUR may be given in alternation with any of the above-named medicines, if, although apparently indicated by the symptoms, they have proved insufficient. It is likewise useful in cases arising from repressed eruptions, or where the disease assumes a chronic character, particularly when from some suspected taint of constitution, other remedies, although indicated by the symptoms, do not display their full curative action.

ASTHMA OF MILLAR.

This is a disease incident to childhood; its attacks are sudden, and without any premonitory symptoms, and generally come on at night. The respiration is impeded, and gasping almost to suffocation, and attended with a hard barking cough and anxious restless feeling; it has been confounded with croup, which is a dangerous mistake, as each disease requires its own particular treatment; it may easily be distinguished by its spasmodic character, whereas croup is an inflam-

matory affection. In asthma the child feels well during the day, and breathes freely; in croup there is no remission of the symptoms from the commencement of the attack till it is over.

The paroxysms return with increased violence the second night, and death from suffocation frequently ensues on the third attack, though sometimes the first may prove fatal.

The latent cause is decidedly a strumous habit; the exciting ones are taking cold, putting on unaired clothes, or sitting in a draught of damp air.

We will content ourselves with pointing out only two remedies, which will rarely fail to relieve in cases of imminent danger, and allow time to obtain proper medical assistance, since we fear that going more into detail, and giving a multitude of medicines, will only cause doubt and confusion in a case where the life of the little patient depends upon prompt decision.

Moschus has been found almost specific, from the close resemblance between the symptoms provoked by this medicine and those characterizing the affection now under consideration. It is particularly useful in relieving the spasmodic constriction of the chest, and the feeling of oppression and suffocation present; with or without a cough, or when the cough is of a hard, dry, barking character.

ARSENICUM is the next remedy we would point out as most frequently called for in this affection, in the form it is generally met with in this country; indeed the resemblance between the symptoms characteristic of this disorder and those produced by this medicine are so strikingly analogous as to leave no doubt of the homœopathic relation of this substance to a great majority of cases, and experience has proved the correctness of this view. The symptoms upon which we would lay most stress are the shortness and difficulty of breathing, with respiration anxious, stertorous, and wheezing, stifling, and approaching to suffocation; the spasmodic constriction of the chest or larynx, the anxiety and prostration of strength, the dry cough; the attacks generally coming on at night, and periodically.

It has been remarked that the second or third attacks are generally the most perilous; when the means above pointed out have been found efficient in the first instance, there will generally be time to obtain proper medical assistance, and to take the necessary steps to prevent a recurrence of the danger.

ACIDITIES.

These are to be looked upon rather as the effects of derangement than as their cause; there is no doubt but that the principal food of childhood, particularly in the infantile period, is of a nature especially calculated to turn sour upon the stomach, yet it is evidently that best suited for their nutrition by nature, and will rarely do so to an inconvenient extent, unless the digestion has been deranged by some other cause. When, however, this has been the case, acidity often proves very troublesome; it is known by looseness, greenish colour of the evacuations, with gripes, often accompanied with heat and restlessness. CHAMOMILLA will generally remove it; but children who are very subject to it should have proper medical advice, since it may be the sign of a tendency to weakness of digestion, which is best treated the moment it declares itself.

It may be remarked, that a want of sufficient exercise to promote digestion is very frequently the cause of acidities.

VOMITING.

This is often a most salutary effort of nature to relieve herself of injurious substances in the stomach, and arises from that organ being overloaded, and will mostly cure itself. In children, moreover, the nerves of the stomach are very sensible to the slightest irritation, but this sensibility may be so far increased by improper regimen, or continually overtasking that organ, that it may not be able to bear the otherwise healthy stimulus of the most simple nutriment, even in exceedingly small quantities.

A very common cause with children of both vomiting and looseness, particularly the former, is a violent fit of passion.

IPECACUANHA will generally be found very efficacious in ordinary cases when it is of undigested food, or even greenish, acid, or bilious; it is useful whether or not diarrhœa accompanies it. If, however, it continues severe after this medicine, and the strength of the little patient is much exhausted, ARSENICUM will speedily relieve it; but if there is purging and vomiting, attended with sinking of strength, coldness of the extremities and cold sweat, partly on the forehead, with expression of suffering in the countenance and

pinched features, resembling an attack of Cholera, no time should be lost in giving a dose of VERATRUM, and forthwith obtaining proper medical advice.

CHAMOMILLA will promptly relieve an attack brought on by a sudden fit of passion.

Mucilaginous drinks may also be given with great advantage after an attack, and will assist in calming the irritability of the stomach.

Chronic vomiting in children should be promptly looked to, since it may arise from some serious derangement of the lining membrane of the stomach from worms, or some affection of the brain. When we find it attended with fever and distension of the stomach, and that pressure on that part causes the child to cry out; inflammation of the stomach may be dreaded, or inflammation of the brain, when, in addition to the vomiting, there is fever, stupor, and constipation.

LOOSENESS OR DIARRHŒA OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN.

The greatest danger in this affection is a sudden stoppage, in some cases diarrhœa is extremely salutary, that attendant upon dentition; it is often, together with the drivelling at the mouth,

the best safeguard against cerebral attacks, spasms, and convulsions, here the advantage of a properly conducted homœopathic treatment is evident, which, by a judiciously selected medicine, and assisting nature, moderates the violence of the discharge without rashly checking it, which might be attended with fatal consequences; death, very frequently, in such instances, ensuing from apoplexy. It may also be remarked, that when the diarrhœa is very violent during this period, it may arise from the stimulus of teething acting by determination of blood upon the brain, which keeps up the diarrhœa, and moreover provokes spasmodic attacks, but even against this derangement the remedies of the new school may be directed, with an effect almost deserving of the title of specific.

Diarrhœa is often critical after a child has caught cold, or if an eruption has suddenly disappeared; it is sometimes accompanied by griping pains, which are shown by the infant drawing its legs up towards the abdomen, and at others unattended with suffering; it becomes dangerous, when from the copious evacuations and their long continuance it exhausts the child, or when from defect of regimen or other causes, the digestive organs have been so weakened that it frequently returns; in atrophy of children, and in the soften-

ing of the lining membrane of the stomach, it is a sign of the impending danger; the symptoms of these diseases will be noted at the end of this article; their treatment is too serious to be intrusted to non-medical hands.

Homœopathy, as already remarked, possesses the power of conducting a diarrhœa to a fortunate result, without suddenly checking it. We lay particular stress upon this point, as many seem to be disappointed if they do not perceive an immediate change follow the administration of the remedies, they should recollect that it is the duty of the medical man to be the assistant of nature, not her controller, to be guided by her, not rashly to interfere with and disturb her efforts. On the other hand, if in the disease we are at present upon, the looseness ceases shortly after the administration of a suitable medicine, no uneasiness need be felt on the score of the remedy having checked it too suddenly, it merely forwarded a crisis, and all danger in that respect has ceased.

The most ordinary causes of this derangement in infants at the breast are, acidity of the stomach from improper food, such as milk or gruel too long kept, or some fault in the nurse's milk, and in all cases of infants and children faults in diet, taking cold, passion, fright, &c., moreover, dentition, as above noted, and weaning. It is salutary

when the evacuations are green, slimy, or curdled; and sometimes, though not so much so, when they are of a watery nature.

In the treatment, the cause, when that can be ascertained, and the symptoms attendant upon the attack should both be kept in mind, the peculiar infantile constitution should also be regarded: for example, if we can trace it to a cold in damp weather, or the child having been left wet or wearing too light clothing, or being left uncovered at night; the abdomen should be swathed in flannel, and a dose of DULCAMARA precede any other remedy, even if the complaint is attended with gripings, and the evacuations are greenish or brownish; it is applicable to diarrhœa, which most frequently shows itself in cool weather, and comes on most frequently at night. The latter characteristic, however, is common to many other medicines, and must only be taken in conjunction with other symptoms. If this remedy does not remove it we should, in most instances, have recourse to CHAMOMILLA, a medicine upon which considerable stress has been deservedly laid throughout this work; as of great utility in the derangements of this period of life, it is useful against diarrhœa, brought on by a chill in infants, or by a sudden check of perspiration in children, as also in adults; in the diarrhœa attending dentition, and in that provoked

by acidity of the stomach or improper food, if attended with severe colic-like pains, drawing up of the legs, cries, tossing, distension and hardness of the abdomen, febrile symptoms, desire to vomit, want of appetite, thirst, and if the motions are watery, bilious, slimy, yellowish or greenish, and resemble beat up eggs with a fetid odour, it is the chief remedy when an attack has been brought on by a fit of passion.

BELLADONNA is sometimes found useful after Chamomilla, if the griping continues, particularly during dentition, and we have reason to suppose that the affection is sympathetic, with determination of blood to the head excited by the stimulus of teething, also when spasms accompany the affection; here, moreover, great benefit is found by preceding this remedy a few hours with a dose of ACONITE; the uses of these medicines are given under DENTITION, (which see.)

MERCURIUS is also an excellent remedy when diarrhœa arises from having taken cold from a chill, and when the affection continues obstinate, or assumes a more serious character, blood being found in the evacuations and the child suffering from tenesmus or protrusion of the intestine. IPECACUANHA has been found serviceable when diarrhœa comes on during hot weather, or during weaning, and when the child suffers from consi-

derable gastric derangement, and greenish or yellow bilious vomiting comes on, with paleness of the face, and livid circle round the eyes. When the diarrhœa is watery, slimy, or yellowish, sometimes streaked with blood, or like matter in a state of fermentation, and attended with colic-like pains and cries, tossing and restlessness, and general coldness; it is best suited for children of what is generally denominated the lymphatic temperament.

In some cases when the diarrhœa is provoked by warm weather, or at the period of weaning, and does not yield to Ipecacuanha, NUX VOMICA will remove it.

BRYONIA has also been found useful in children, in whom looseness comes on whenever the weather becomes warm, and may be given if neither of the above medicines prove sufficient.

SULPHUR is one of our best remedies when diarrhœa ensues on the disappearance of eruptions. Many such cases, however, require particular treatment, for example, in diarrhœa after measles we might find PULSATILLA more suitable. Sulphur is also useful in painter's diarrhœa and in obstinate cases, particularly with weak, scrofulous children.

OPIUM should be given if an attack is traceable to a sudden fright, and if much febrile disturbance remains should be followed by ACONITE.

Arsenicum, in the diarrhœa brought on by drinking anything cold, and in obstinate diarrhœa, with emaciation and weakness.

It will now be merely necessary to allude to two diseases, in which diarrhœa is a symptom of pressing danger, and requires prompt and skilful medical superintendence not only to select the proper remedies, but to regulate the regimen and general cure of the little patient. The first is softening of the membrane of the stomach; the ordinary signs are, sudden appearance of diarrhœa, watery mucous discharge, pinching of the features, rapid emaciation, vomiting of food and acidities, thirst, restlessness, crying and whimpering, quick and small pulse, inflation of the stomach, and constant drowsiness. The other affection is known by the names of atrophy, marasmus, or tabes mesenterica; in it there are diarrhœa and pain in the abdomen, intermediately with costiveness, voracious appetite, and wasting, particularly at the extremities, the abdomen is hard and distended, often with indurated lumps perceptible to the touch; the countenance pinched with an expression of age, or wrinkled, the skin dry and flaccid.

As soon as the first symptoms of either of these complaints appear, proper means should be at once adopted; for though often easily checked if taken early in hand, if neglected they will almost always prove incurable.

CONSTIPATION OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN.

This complaint is not a common one in infants, unless they have been kept too much upon dry or farinaceous food, instead of that which nature intended for their proper source of nourishment; or in some instances, where the mother or nurse have a decided tendency to costiveness; to remedy which the proper homœopathic means should be adopted upon her part. See article CONSTIPATION.

In children of a more advanced age, it is sometimes caused by allowing them more animal food than is proper for their still delicate digestive powers, or by the natural action of the bowels having been injudiciously stimulated in tender infancy by aperient medicines.

Ordinary cases of this complaint, when it has not grown into a habit, will generally yield to a dose of OPIUM, which may be followed in from twenty-four to forty-eight hours by NATRUM MURIATICUM; the former period, if the bowels have not acted; the latter, if they exhibit any tendency to relapse: but if the case proves obstinate, or the child is of a decidedly costive habit, NUX VOMICA may be given, repeated in a week or ten days, ac-

cording to the effect; and three days after a dose of SULPHUR. At this early period of life, this course persevered in for a short time will rarely fail to remove this tendency. If any real inconvenience is felt before the treatment has reestablished the natural action of the bowels, an enema of tepid water may be used, but only in case of urgent necessity, and as seldom as possible; it will be found that after a short time all assistance of this nature can be wholly dispensed with.

FEVERS OF INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD.

GASTRIC FEVER.

The most common fever incident to childhood is that denominated GASTRIC, from its being attended with unusually great derangement of the stomach; its principal symptoms are, total loss of appetite, thirst, foul tongue, nausea, vomiting, offensive smell of the breath, rattling of mucus in the throat, oppression at the chest, agitated sleep, with tossing about and frequent waking, and convulsive jerking of the limbs.

The remedies most useful in the treatment of this affection are Aconite, Chamomilla, Belladonna, Ipecacuanha, and Nux Vomica.

ACONITE. We may always commence our treatment with a dose of this medicine; it will allay the febrile symptoms present, and calm the increased circulation of the blood; it is particularly useful where the sleep is agitated, and the little sufferer frequently wakes with a start, and there is crying, thirst, and great anguish.

CHAMOMILLA is called for when the skin is hot and red, and there is agitation at night, with tossing, moaning, and general uneasiness, hot perspiration, short quick breathing, rattling in the throat, short dry cough, vomiting of acid mucus, diarrhœa, and convulsive starting of the limbs.

BELLADONNA is our best remedy, where there is a tendency to cerebral congestions, constant flushing of the face, foul tongue, thirst, want of appetite, vomiting, and bilious diarrhœa.

IPECACUANHA, when the vomiting is excessive and continual, attended with diarrhœa and a total loss of appetite, and a sensation of coldness and shivering over the whole body.

NUX VOMICA, when constipation is present, with thirst, yellow coating of the tongue, and vomiting. Restlessness and irritability are also indications for the employment of this medicine.

CATARRHAL FEVER.

The general characteristics of this complaint are

hoarseness, discharge of serum from the nose and eyes, frequent sneezing, cough, wheezing and difficult respiration, with a rattling of mucus in the throat, from the difficulty infants have of detaching the phlegm.

The principal medicines found useful in the treatment of this affection are Dulcamara, Arsenicum, Chamomilla, Aconite, and Nux Vomica.

DULCAMARA is a most valuable remedy, if the complaint arises from taking cold, or is present in damp wet weather: its indications are discharge from the nose, sneezing, hoarseness, dryness of the mouth, rattling in the throat, and a general feeling of coldness and heaviness.

ARSENICUM, when the discharge from the nose is of a thin watery description, and there is frequent sneezing, great thirst, difficult and short respiration, hoarseness, and cough. This medicine is especially useful, if the affection arises from too long continued immersion in cold water.

CHAMOMILLA is one of our most valuable medicines in the treatment of children; it is called for in almost all diseases of childhood, but especially in this; it is peculiarly suited to that catarrhal fever which is frequently the consequence of checked perspiration, and is well indicated when there is continual excoriating discharge of mucus from the nose; hoarseness, shivering, great thirst,

flushing of the face, redness of one cheek and paleness of the other, impatience, irritability, and general peevishness and ill-humour.

ACONITE should be given if the complaint assumes an inflammatory character, and there are considerable febrile symptoms present, with restlessness, sleeplessness, and hot dry skin; it is particularly useful when the eyes of the little sufferer are much affected, and there is great sensibility to light.

NUX VOMICA, when, with all the other symptoms of catarrh, constipation is present, loss of appetite, dry barking cough, great oppression at the chest, dry obstruction of the nose at night, and fluent coryza during the day. This medicine is particularly called for when the affection arises from a chill, or when the patient is of an irritable passionate temperament.

WORM FEVER.

In the ordinary affections of this nature, with severe pain in the abdomen, and other vermiculous symptoms, CICUTA VIROSA is our best remedy. For further indications, and medicines useful in the treatment of this affection, see the article on "WORMS."

RINGWORM AND SCALDHEAD.

In this complaint all external remedies must be laid aside, since the consequences of the eruption being driven in are frequently very serious. If the ringworm presents a well-defined circle, SEPIA should be given; RHUS TOXICODENDRON when the roots of the hair are enlarged, and the head is covered with thick crusts with matter. SULPHUR is the best remedy when the scabs are thick and yellow, with fetid thick pus, great itching, and the head is painful to the touch. It may in some cases be followed by Hepar Sulphuris, and by CALCAREA CARBONICA if the case continues obstinate. In dry scaldhead, with bran-like eruption and glandular swellings, DULCAMARA is also useful. The remedies must be persevered in some time to effect a cure, which, however, placing it in proper hands will materially facilitate.

VACCINATION.

We cannot have a more convincing proof of the truth of our guiding law—SIMILIA SIMILIBUS CURANTUR—than the purely homœopathic operation of *Vaccination,* or one which affords a more

striking illustration of its efficacy in the treatment and prevention of disease, by exhibiting analogous symptoms on a healthy subject.

Our first object must be to obtain genuine and perfectly pure lymph; it must be taken from a healthy subject as soon as it is generated in the vaccined spot, and while it is still pellucid, for the earlier the vaccine matter is extracted the more infectious it is, and of course the more protective in its effects; when it becomes more matured, and yellowish, it has lost much of its power. It is of the utmost consequence that the child from whom the infectious matter is communicated be perfectly healthy, and have no inherent taint of constitution, for experience has taught us that the most terrible disorders have been communicated to healthy children from being vaccinated with lymph contaminated with syphilis, herpes, scrofula, &c., which injurious consequences might have been prevented by taking proper precaution that the matter was pure and unvitiated.

The course of the genuine and protective pock is—for the first two or three days after the operation has been performed there is no alteration in the health of the little patient; on the fourth the vaccined spot appears red, and a little raised; next day it is still more elevated, and on the sixth a pustule filled with watery fluid is quite apparent;

it increases in size for the two following days, and is surrounded by a red inflammatory circle; on the eighth day it puts on a yellowish appearance, and the matter becomes thicker and purulent; during the ninth and tenth days the redness diffuses itself several inches round the spot, and there is an itching more than a painful sensation; the pustule then dries up, and changes into a scab, which loosens and falls off in a few days. The disease is now ended, and no subsequent malady takes place. There is no medical treatment required during its course, but the greatest care should be taken to prevent the infant taking cold.

The spurious and non-protective pock is to be distinguished by the premature appearance of the eruption; the pustule forms on the third or fourth day after vaccination, and a total absence of the diffused inflammatory redness which should always succeed the yellowish appearance of the pock.

In cases of this description the immediate advice of the medical man should be sought, for he alone can determine with what species of disorder the virus is contaminated, and, by prescribing accordingly, in a measure prevent the evil consequences likely to arise from its communication.

When the child is of a healthy constitution, the operation of vaccination may with the greatest safety be performed when the infant is about five

or six months old; but, should the smallpox be prevalent, it may be necessary to have recourse to this precautionary measure at an earlier period. If we can be allowed to select our time, spring or summer are the best seasons for performing the operation, as there is then less chance of the infant's taking cold.

COMPLAINTS OF FEMALES,

DIRECTIONS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE REMEDIES, &c.

FEMALES, besides being liable in common with the other sex to a variety of ailments, suffer from some peculiar to themselves, and from a number of derangements entailed upon them from their difference of organization, from the place which they occupy in the scale of existence, and the duties consequent upon that position.

It would not suit a work of this nature to enter into detail upon all the diseases incident to the female sex, nor the conduct and precaution to be observed before, after, and during confinement, as at those important periods of her life a woman will generally be provided with some person competent to lay down rules for her guidance, in accordance with the different exigencies that may from time to time present themselves.

It must, however, be borne in mind that the

female organization imparts a peculiar character to all her ailments, and it should also be remembered, in prescribing for her, that some medicines, for example PULSATILLA, bear a particular affinity to these characteristics. This has been already noticed in different parts of this work.

Among the female characteristics are a tendency to a plethoric state, and to a determination of blood to different organs, irritability and sensibility of the nervous system, a slight cause producing a strong but frequently short reaction, and in many points the female characteristics are very similar to those of children.

The influence of the uterine system upon the organism must also be taken into account.

DOSES. It is a necessary inference from the foregoing, that there are in the female many points peculiarly susceptible to medicinal influence, and in such instances we must modify our doses accordingly.

A single globule will, in most cases, be sufficiently strong, but with some very excitable temperaments it may be advisable to dissolve one globule in six teaspoonfuls of water, and give one teaspoonful repeating in from twelve to twenty-four hours, if we are certain of having selected the proper remedy, but it has only partially relieved.

DERANGEMENT OF THE FEMALE ECONOMY.

From about the fourteenth to the sixteenth year in this climate a great change takes place in the female, one which may influence her whole after-life; in order that it may be beneficial, she should have been accustomed to take sufficient exercise in the open air, adhere to a well-regulated diet, wear light and easily fitting clothing, and have her mind kept cheerful and amused—sedentary habits, confinement to the house, or anything tending to depress the spirits are highly injurious. When these rules have been observed, unless some peculiarity of constitution exists, we may generally with safety leave nature to perform her own work.

As long as we perceive no derangement of health consequent upon the apparent delay of a natural function, no interference on our part is called for, but when such is the case, we must have recourse to medicinal agents.

Females of more mature age sometimes also suffer from obstructions of this nature, sometimes, as it were, from constitution or without any ap-

preciable cause, but very frequently from cold. As the symptoms in both these instances closely approximate, and as the same medicines serve in both cases, it will suit all practicable purposes to treat them in common.

PULSATILLA will meet a great number of cases of both varieties. Although it is in most instances the remedy which should be first given, yet we may be allowed to mark for what instances and to what symptoms it is more peculiarly applicable. It is best suited to young girls or females with light air, eyes, and complexion, and of mild character; in those who have a greater tendency to cold than warmth, and are of relaxed fibre, with a disinclination to exertion, of pale complexion and languid circulation, weak pulse. The symptoms in such cases bear out the character of the medicine: among them may be enumerated a feeling of heaviness or fatigue in the head—sometimes the pain is confined to one side—paleness of the face, vertigo and humming in the ears, with pains in the stomach, region of the liver and loins, colic or flatulence, hysterical spasms at the abdomen, want of appetite and dislike to food, desire for stimulants or acids, nausea and vomiting, diarrhœa, oppression of the breathing—particularly after the slightest exertion—palpitation of the heart, coldness of the hands and feet, sometimes alternately with sudden heat,

swelling of the legs and feet, with a feeling of fatigue in the lower limbs, shivering, yawning and stretching, with disposition to melancholy and tears.

This remedy is also serviceable when the derangement has been produced by cold, damp air, or by a chill; or, if it is attended with catarrhal symptoms, it may also be remarked, that against the cough often found in such cases it is a most valuable remedy.

If the case proves obstinate, it may be followed by SEPIA, which seems in derangements of this nature to possess a certain specific influence, particularly when the female suffers from a kind of hysterical headache; when the face is sallow and almost dirty looking, with colic-like pains in the loins and burning pain in the limbs.

In strumous habits and when the medicines already mentioned have not produced the effects that might have been expected, we should employ SULPHUR, or at the commencement of treatment, when we find headache principally seated at the back of the head, with pain extending to the nape of the neck, eruption on the face, principally on the forehead and round the mouth; voracious appetite, pressive fulness and a feeling of weight at the stomach, abdomen, and under the false ribs, abdominal and hysterical spasms,

pains in the loins, difficulty of breathing, either diarrhœa or constipation, tendency to take cold, disposition of the limbs to numbness and nervous weakness, with great feeling of fatigue, especially in the legs, irritability and depression of spirits even to tears. Sometimes we find this derangement in females of what is termed a plethoric tendency, with strong firm fibre, full pulse, and vigorous habits, in such cases, particularly when we find determination of blood to the head and chest, with increased action of the heart, pressive beating or shooting headache, heat and thirst, and irascibility, ACONITE should be our first remedy; it is of great service in young girls in whom this derangement arises from a sedentary life.

Complications of this affection, and other ailments of a contrary nature that females are subject to, should never be treated unless by persons properly qualified; and during the period it is better, except in case of disease or of some pressing emergency, to discontinue taking medicine altogether.

MORNING SICKNESS.

Heartburn, nausea, and sickness, are the most common accompaniments of the first months of gestation. Some feel but little of this, but others suffer considerably. From being generally most severe after rising from bed, the complaint is best known by the name which has been employed as a heading to this article. IPECACUANHA will relieve it in females of the lymphatic temperament and lax fibre, in whom there is generally a deficiency of warmth and a tendency to looseness of the bowels. NUX VOMICA is more particularly suitable to those of the character and temperament given under this medicine (see MEDICINES AND THEIR ANTIDOTES), and those of a costive habit, but will meet most ordinary cases, except those already particularized under Ipecacuanha. If, however, the vomiting proves very obstinate, medical advice should be sought.

CONSTIPATION. Should this prove troublesome during this state, the medicines most suitable for its removal are NUX VOMICA, OPIUM, NATRUM MURIATICUM, and BRYONIA. (See article CONSTIPATION.)

MORAL EMOTIONS.

The great influence which strong emotions of the mind possess over the animal economy is an acknowledged fact, and the evil effects often remain after the cause that excited them has ceased. We fortunately possess remedies capable of modifying and obviating the consequences arising from this source.

OPIUM is the best remedy when the following symptoms declare themselves after a sudden shock to the nervous system from FRIGHT or JOY. —Determination of blood to the head, with heat and perspiration on that part; pains in the forehead, stupor or loss of consciousness, lethargic sleep, with deep drawn breath and snoring; eyes and mouth half closed; sour risings and vomiting; spasmodic rigidity of the whole frame; fainting; convulsions; oppression of the chest; weight in the abdomen; internal heat, with coldness of the body; cold perspiration and diarrhœa.

ACONITE when from a FRIGHT—particularly in children—we find determination of blood to the head, and febrile symptoms, in some of which cases it may precede Opium.

VERATRUM, if the diarrhœa and general cold-

ness of the body after a shock from FRIGHT do not yield to Opium.

COFFEA, when the nervous system has been shaken by the strong effects of SUDDEN JOY, and when there is a tendency to fainting with trembling of the limbs; this remedy is best suited to women and children.

PULSATILLA has been found efficacious against the effects of FRIGHT, characterized by diarrhœa, a feeling of heat in the abdomen and coldness in the limbs, and against those of PASSION in people of generally mild temperament.

CHAMOMILLA against the consequences of a FIT OF PASSION, more particularly in children, but also not unfrequently meeting the cases of adults; with a number of bilious symptoms, such as bitter taste in the mouth, griping, pressure at the pit of the stomach, jaundice, diarrhœa, fever and thirst; palpitation of the heart, short breath, or in children convulsions and chokings.

BRYONIA will, however, generally be found most suitable to the sufferings of adults, more particularly those of the characteristic temperament (see MEDICINES AND THEIR ANTIDOTES), brought on by INDULGENCE IN PASSION OR A FIT OF RAGE; for example, general coldness and shiverings, bilious attacks, and a feeling of irrepressible irascibility.

NUX VOMICA may often, in such cases, follow Bryonia with good results.

IGNATIA has been found of most effect when derangements of health have arisen from brooding over some subject of GRIEF, of hidden MORTIFICATION OR AFFLICTION from some severe loss; and when in spite of every exertion the sufferer cannot subdue his melancholy; it may be passingly remarked that it is also useful in some grave maladies, particularly in children, arising from FRIGHT OR FEAR.

COLOCYNTH has been found to relieve the effects of MORTIFICATION OR INDIGNATION when they show themselves in the form of spasmodic colic, with cramps in the calves of the legs, nausea, bitter vomiting and sleeplessness.

BELLADONNA, sometimes followed by HEPAR SULPHURIS, is often found serviceable in affections of children caused by FRIGHT OR PASSION. When some symptoms, such as crying, fear, and difficulty of quieting them remain.

As the results of strong moral emotions often lay the foundation of serious complaints, medical advice should always be obtained when practicable.

PREVENTIVE TREATMENT OF SCARLET FEVER, MEASLES, &c.

The possibility of preventing certain diseases presenting a marked specific character, by equally specific remedies, is not among the least of the blessings which we owe to the discovery of the homœopathic law. Previous to the light which Hahnemann threw upon medical science, the power of vaccination, in neutralising the virus of the smallpox by anticipation, stood as a solitary fact. Since that period we have found that it was only a proof of the truth of the law above named, which others have corroborated, and that a wide field has been opened for us, not only in the cure, but in the prevention of disease, of which, even in the comparative infancy of the system, we are reaping the benefit.

In the article PREVENTIVE TREATMENT OF COMMON COLDS, the possibility of obviating the evil consequences of exposure to damp, colds, &c. has been pointed out; in an EPIDEMIC when its character has been clearly ascertained—by giving the remedies that have been found serviceable to

meet the whole group of symptoms in treatment—we may prevent or materially modify its effects; and in the ordinary occurrences of life we may obviate the results of imprudence in diet, &c. by the administration of some remedy with which we should meet them when they arise. Of this every Homœopathist's practice give him daily proof; but as entering more in detail upon those points would not be suitable to a work of this nature, they have only been alluded to in corroboration of our position, and we shall now proceed to briefly point out the preventives best suited to some common maladies.

Scarlet Fever. When this disease is prevalent, one, two, or three globules of Belladonna, according to the age of the individual, should be dissolved in six or twelve teaspoonfuls of water, and one given for a dose—first every second day, and afterwards adding a day for each future exhibition of the medicine, not keeping the solution above three days; cease after giving six doses for a week, and afterwards repeat the course if the disease continues prevalent.

Measles, give Aconite and Pulsatilla alternately in the same manner, three doses of each.

During the prevalence of CHOLERA, CAMPHOR is among the best preservatives; but in case of its appearing, it may present some modifications of character, and a medical man should be applied to, who will, from his experience in the treatment, lay down the proper course to be pursued. The same remarks apply to TYPHUS, INFLUENZA, and other complaints ruling as Epidemics.

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