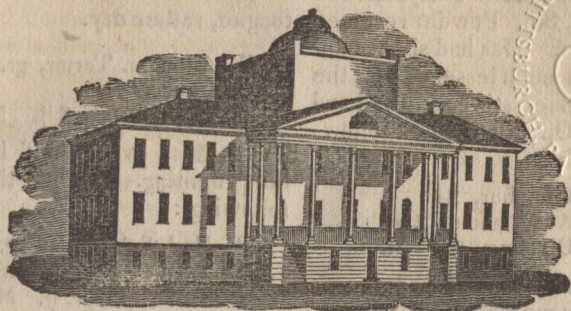


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I.

CASES OF RHEUMATISM.

THE following Reports are condensed accounts of the effects of a few remedies in cases of acute and chronic rheumatism. The remedies principally relied on were colchicum autumnale, and sulphur fumigation. It would be easy to add to the number many similar cases, in a majority of which the remedies above named, were advantageously employed.

W. C.

1. Anna Beard, aged 37.—
Oct. 30th.—Attacked forenoon,
13th inst. with sudden and severe
pain in the left hip, aggravated by
motion. Pain passed to the back
and right hip, but was quite gone
next morning. In succession, the
right hand, the right ankle, and
left knee have been attacked.
Now pain greatest in the calf of
the left leg, and right hand. Left
knee and ankle much swollen.
Pulse 88. Bowels have been
kept regular by daily use of

sulphur. 30th and 31st, got
Pulv. Guaiaci Resinæ ʒi. at bed
time, with powder of opium and
ipecac.

Nov. 1st. Pain in the left leg
not urgent through the day, but
found herself most easy in bed.
Two dejections yesterday. Pulse
100, sitting up.

R. Pulv. semin. colchici, gr. xij.
Divid. in chartas No. iv.

Take a powder at 11 A. M., one
at 9 P. M. and one at 6 A. M. to-
morrow.

2d. One dejection in the morn-
ing. Pain continues. Some sleep.
Pulse 96, small, soft. Counte-
nance better. Appetite not great.
Take a powder at 11 A. M., 4
and 9 P. M., and at 6 A. M. to-
morrow.

3d. Vomited twice in the even-
ing. Pain much less. Seven de-
jections. Take a powder at 6
tomorrow morning.

4th. Nausea and vomiting con-
tinued through yesterday. Now
nausea, but no vomiting. Pain
almost gone. Swelling in the right

wrist and hand diminished, but power of motion not returned. 6 dejections. Omit medicine.

5th. Nausea continues; slight pain in the right hand and left knee. Pulse 96. 3 dejections.

6th, 7th, 8th. Powder resumed at bed time. Has had slight nausea. Pain much lessened, but the knee continues stiff, and the hand useless. On 9th applied following to hand.

R. Camphor, ʒi.
Aq. Ammon. ʒss.
Ol. olivæ, ʒi. M.

13th and 14th. Powder was given in the morning. Slight nausea, but not enough to prevent eating, the appetite for meat having returned.

15th. Without pain at rest; slight uneasiness on motion, but is altogether convalescent. Medicines discontinued by request.

2. P. Fourmin, aged 24. Dec. 5th. Attack, 24th ult. in the loins, not very severe at rest, greatly aggravated by motion. Habits temperate. Has now great and constant pain in both hips, extending down outside of the legs to the toes. This is increased so much on the slightest motion, that the most perfect rest is carefully observed. Great thirst and slight nausea. Pulse 96, neither full nor hard. Tongue moist and slightly coated. No appetite. No sleep for two nights. Was directed, 10 grs. Dover's powder at bed time.

Dec. 6th. Pain as before. Slept 3 hours. No sweat; thirst urgent. Tongue as before. One small dejection yesterday.

R. Hyd. Sub muriat. gr. x.
Pulv. sem. colchici, gr. xij.
M. Divid. in chart. No. iv.

Take one of these every three hours, and at bed time, Dover's powder as before.

7th. Eight dejections; nausea and retching in the night; pulse 76; dense white coat on the tongue, rather dry.

R. Antimon. Tartar, gr. iv.
Ipecac, ʒi.
Aq. Bullient, ʒij. M.

Take ʒss. every half hour till fair vomiting. At bed time the following:

R. Hyd. Sub muriat. gr. vj.
Pulv. semin. Colchici, gr. iv.
Opii, gr. ij. M.

8th. After two doses, vomited four times; afterwards six dejections, not large. Since midnight, cutting pains in the bowels. Rheumatic pains very much diminished. Pulse 84, soft, easy, not full.

R. Pulv. Opii,
Camph.
Ipecac. āā gr. iv. M. ft.
Pil. No. viij.

Two now, and repeat once in two hours, till relieved in the bowels.

9th. Took ten pills yesterday before bed time, and two this morning. Several small stools yesterday. Rheumatic pains not urgent. Some swelling and redness on the left hand. Pulse 96, full, soft; skin moist; tongue thickly coated.

R. Ol. Ricini, ʒvj.
Tinct. Sennæ Comp. ʒij. M.

At bed time the following:

R. Hyd. Sub mur.
Pulv. semin. Colchici āā gr. iv.
Opii, gr. ij. M.

10th. Pain in the bowels less urgent yesterday. Four small dejections. Slept much yester-

day, but only about two hours in the night. Rheumatic pains diminishing; mouth not sore; pulse 84. Skin natural,—no appetite,—tongue thickly coated,—some nausea. Powder as last night.

11th. Increased pain in the left shoulder and wrist. This came on at midnight with swelling. Some sleep in the day, none during night. Seven dejections, copious; some tenesmus. Pulse 84. Countenance improving,—skin mellow. Pills of opium, camphor, &c. as on the 8th. Powder of the 9th at night.

12th. Took the same number of pills as on the 8th, and powder; slept. Rheumatic pains as before. Pulse 84, soft. No narcotic effects of opium present. Tongue less thickly coated,—appetite very small,—thirst considerable,—nausea, and once vomiting of green matter;—two dejections. Repeat emetic of 7th; afterwards omit medicine, unless diarrhoea or watchfulness demand an opiate.

13th. After two doses, vomited four times light green fluid. Pains much diminished,—a little appetite,—asks to suck beef steak,—let him try some. 9 o'clock P. M. Pains in the limbs increased, especially in the left shoulder, arm, and wrist.

R. Pulv. Ipecac,
Camphor, āā gr. i.
Opii gr. iv. M. ft. Pil.
No. ij.

Take one now, and the other in an hour if pain continues.

14th. Took both pills. Slept well; appetite good; two dejections. Shoulder, &c. much better. If pains recur, repeat pills.

This patient took the powder of guaiacum on the 15th, and the

above pills at bed time when indicated by return of pain. His appetite returned, the rheumatism gradually subsided, however with occasional aggravation, and he discontinued medicines the 4th of January, being at that time, with the exception of slight stiffness in the right ham, in good health.

3. F. Martin, aged 39. Jan. 11th. Attacked at sea with rheumatism four weeks ago. Pains greatest in the loins, back, and left shoulder and arm; most severe about 5 P. M. and when in bed. Tongue pale, thinly coated, tremulous, and indented about the edges. Pulse 72, natural. Skin hot and moist; has not lost flesh; appetite good; bowels loose. The disease has the characters of chronic rheumatism, and yielded very gradually to treatment. He was under treatment for more than three months, and was not perfectly well when he ceased to apply for advice. A brief report only will be given of the means used, and of their effects. To procure rest he first took the compound powder of opium and ipecacuanha, to which was added in a few days the powder of gum guaiacum. Very little relief was obtained. Warm bathing alone, and sometimes followed by the sulphur fumigation, and the sulphur fumigation alone, were next tried, and with temporary benefit. Blisters to the shoulders and the back, and colchicum were next used, and after a few days' trial of these, the sulphur bath was again employed, and with benefit. The report of the 10th of February states, "Always better in the morning; increased pain in the af-

ternoon." Though somewhat relieved, the original characters of the disease remained unchanged, and an alterative dose of calomel and antimony was begun.

R. Antimon. Tartar. gr. i.
Pulv. Opii, gr. ij.
Hyd. Sub mur. gr. x. M. ft.
Pil. No. vi.

One every night.

Feb. 19th. Some diminution of the disease. The mouth is not sore, and a sense of numbness complained of in the right leg. Take half a pill in the morning, in addition to the night dose.

20th. Leg very uncomfortable yesterday P. M. Side and loins free from pain. Pain severe in the left shoulder. Warm bath at night.

21st. Much relieved by the bath; leg relieved,—mouth sore,—no pytalism.

22d. Pain in the legs prevents walking; on examination nothing was discoverable; pain is greatly aggravated the moment he puts the feet down. Mouth more sore,—no appetite,—nausea,—thirst,—no dejection for two days. Pulse 116, soft. Pain about the shoulder and arms less. Omit pills, &c.

R. Infus. Sennæ Compos. ℥ij.
Tinct. Sennæ Compos. ℥ss. M.

Take the draught immediately, and repeat in four hours if no operation. Bandage to the legs.

Stomach well; convalescent; cannot stand up without uneasiness; bowels costive. Since the last report, has been quite ill; stomach greatly disturbed; pulse rapid; much debility. The rheumatic disease, however, has been declining daily.

16th. Has continued to improve. To-day, conjunctiva of the left eye much inflamed, and

has been gradually getting so for some days,—eye somewhat painful, but pain not increased by light.

R. Zinc Sulphat. gr. xij.
Aq. Distillat. ℥iv. M. ft. Solutio.

Wash the eye with this every two hours.

17th to 22d. Reports generally rather better. 23d, sight not clear; inflammation of the conjunctiva rather less. Cornea and aqueous humor clear. Let him be cupped ℥iv.

24th. Pain returned to the shoulders; eye not painful; sight improved. 25th. Eye much better.

27th. Pain in the shoulder. Vision not improved since last report; slight pain across the forehead, over the eyes. Cerat. cantharid. behind each ear.

28th. Eye comfortable through the day, but this morning is irritated by the wash. More stiffness about the shoulder.

30th. Vision of the right eye affected as the left eye. Pain over the right eye. Cup right temples ℥iv.

31st. Left eye less inflamed and vision much improved. Pupil of the left eye more dilated than the right. Inflammation of the right eye increased since cupping, but the eye feels less heavy. Sight of the left eye reported natural. Blister behind the right ear.

April 1st. Left eye greatly improved, and vision continues perfect. Right eye still inflamed, but sees better with it.

2d. Right eye better.

3d. Right eye more inflamed,—severe pain in the ball of the eye. Eye waters freely.

R. Sodæ Sulphat. ℥i.
Aq. Commun. ℥v. M.

Immediately, and after operation,

R. Pulv. Cinchon. Rub. ℥i,

and repeat every two hours unless increase of symptoms.

4th, 5th and 6th. Symptoms daily declining. On the 7th the bark produced nausea, and a few drops of an aromatic tincture were added to it. This patient was discharged from further treatment, on the 19th of April, convalescent.

4. H. S. Barlow, aged 13 years. Jan. 27th. A few days since, after exposure to cold and wet, was seized with severe pain in the legs and feet, and in the abdomen and chest. Pressure now adds greatly to the pain in the abdomen, and renders the respiration short, suppressed, and grunting; daily chills, followed by heat; urgent thirst. Tongue loaded with a thick, yellowish white coat, with swollen papillæ near the tip, not very dry. Headache; hot and dry skin; pulse full, hard, 88. Countenance full and ruddy; brow knit; has been vomited, purged and vesicated without relief. Venesection to ℥x. immediately.

R. Hyd. Submuriat. gr. viij.
Pulv. Sem. Colchici, gr. vj.
Pulv. Opii, Pulv. Ipecac. āā gr. ij. M. divid. in chart. No. iv.

One of these every four hours. Farinaceous diet.

Jan. 28th. Some sleep, but symptoms remain very much as yesterday. Nausea.

R. Antimon. Tart. gr. vj.
Aq. Bullient, ℥ij. M.

℥ss. now, and every half hour till free operation. In the latter part of the afternoon, if not relieved repeat venesection; when

the stomach is quiet, repeat the powders of yesterday; one every six hours. At bed time, if dyspnea continue, vesicate the chest. Blood drawn yesterday has a thick buff coat.

29th. Took the whole of solution of antimony, and vomited freely: was bled to ℥vj. Symptoms much mitigated; pulse 72; some nausea. Give the powders once in eight hours. Venesection, if pain, &c. return.

30th. Was bled ℥x. Pulse 84, less hard. Symptoms again mitigated. Nausea. Omit powders.

R. Zinci Sulphat. ℥i.
Aq. ℥ss. M.

Take this immediately, and repeat in half an hour, if no vomiting. At bed time,

R. Pulv. Opii,
Ipecac. āā gr. i. M.

31st. Vomited twice after the second dose. Day and night comfortable. Pulse 60, hard; occasionally one pulsation hesitates. Looks and feels better. At 12 A. M. a powder of the 27th. Pill as last night.

This course was continued to the 3d of February. Then, took powder of guaiacum, and solid food moderately as appetite returned. The colchicum was occasionally given, with the guaiacum, as the symptoms demanded, till the 17th, when he was well enough to walk abroad, and on the 25th ceased to use medicines.

5. A. Simmonds, aged 45. June 18th. Has been a sufferer from rheumatism for 20 years. Present attack begun a year ago, May last; first appearing in the smaller joints, and extending from these to the larger ones of both

the upper and lower extremities. Is now tolerably easy in motion, but suffers greatly from any attempt to move. Appetite small, tongue nearly clean, bowels regular, pulse 62. Urine thick, frequent, small in quantity, and high colored. Appearance like nodosity about the joints of two fingers of the right hand. Warm bath.

19th. Sulphur fumigation every night.

20th. Reports very pleasant effects from fumigation. Sweats profusely in a few minutes after being exposed to it. From the long continuance of the disease, and its almost universal occupation of the joints, the following pill was directed to be taken every night, and the fumigation to be continued.

R. Hyd. Submur. gr. vj.
Antimon. Tart. gr. i.
Pulv. Opii, gr. ij. M. ft. Pil.
No. vj.

July 2d. Gradual amendment to this date. Now walks with scarcely a perceptible limp.

3d. Continues better.

4th. Mouth not sore; continues better; has not been so well for a year past, as at the present time.

5th. Walked about four hours yesterday; feels altogether better; pain very slight. Omit medicines.

6. G. Crocker, aged 54. Aug. 8th. Subject to rheumatism for 15 years, but never has been laid up by the disease more than three weeks, before the present attack, which occurred a year ago, and was brought on as he says by sprain in the side. A blister removed the pain in the side, but it occurred at once in the hip, after leaving the side. Six weeks after came on pains in right knee

and foot, with much swelling; and soon after in left knee. Has pain also in back and hips. Pain constant, but variable in intensity. Moves limbs with difficulty, and cannot walk without crutches. General appearance healthful; bowels regular. Had a warm bath the first day he came under my care, and next day began to use the sulphur bath. Fumigation was at first from 3j. sulphur, and was gradually increased. It was directed for the latter part of the day, and before beginning it, the bowels were evacuated by a cathartic of calomel and jalap. The compound submuriate pill was directed to be taken at bedtime every night, unless contra-indicated by soreness of the mouth, or other sufficient reason.

Aug. 11th. Expressed himself relieved by bath. 12th day, comfortable. Night less so. 13th. Night more easy.

The report shows a gradual amendment, with occasional increase of pain, to the 22d, when soreness of the mouth is reported, and the pill omitted.

24th. Rheumatic pains as they have been lately, but much less than before beginning present treatment. Mouth better. Fumigation produces full perspiration, and is now accompanied by some itching of the skin.

27th. Symptoms stationary; mouth nearly well; take pill night and morning.

30th. Reports he is mending. Sept. 1st. Slept better than for six months. Continues to improve.

5th. Walked abroad yesterday some distance with ease. Is now somewhat stiff from over exertion. Is so far recovered as to think farther medical treatment unnecessary.

The sulphur fumigation in this case was continued through the whole treatment.

7. T. Smith, aged 28. October 3d. Disease occurred between two and three years since, upon exposure to wet and cold while perspiring freely. The muscles of the back and shoulders were first attacked, then in rapid succession all his limbs, accompanied by stiffness in the joints. He cannot raise the hands to the mouth, and sits very uncomfortably in a chair. The neck is rigid, and drawn a little towards the left shoulder. The head moves only with the body. The lower jaw is much confined in its motions, rendering chewing difficult, and swallowing is much embarrassed. Has pain in the chest upon a full inspiration, and when rising from bed this pain is increased, and a violent pain ensues at the epigastrium. He can only lie on the back. Nights restless, sleepless. Complains now of pain in the epigastrium, loins, and in short in almost every part of the body, and any attempt to move increases his suffering. The ring and little fingers of the left hand much distorted. The first phalanges are drawn back forcibly by the extensors, while the others are strongly bent. The alimentary canal is well, appetite good; urine natural; is emaciated. There was not much to hope for from remedies in this case; or rather that much benefit would be derived from any, unless persevered in for a long time, and under favorable circumstances. Opportunities for both of these existing, a trial for relief, if not cure, was attempted. The patient had a warm bath the day he

was seen, and began at night to take a pill of the extract of stramonium ij. grains, combined with one of calomel. The stramonium was given to procure rest, and relieve pain; and was preferred to opium or its preparations, as it produces less disturbance in the functions of the stomach and bowels. This course was continued for a few days with some benefit. The stramonium was at length given in doses of three grains, its quantity being regulated by its effects on the head, and particularly by the degree in which the vision was disturbed.

Oct. 9th. By report on the 8th the pain in the limbs is diminished, but has pain in the head, loins and sides; moderate pressure on these last produces much distress. Slept well last night; pupils dilated; vision imperfect; stomach and bowels well.

R. Ext. Dat. Stramon. gr. ijss. ft. Pil. j.

Take this every night. In evening, sulphur bath, beginning with 3j. of sulphur.

On the 11th, friction was directed to be employed every night after the sulphur bath, and to be faithfully applied over the whole body.

Under the use of these means decided changes for the better gradually occurred. He was first able to stand straighter, and to bend his body in sitting with more ease. The arms acquired free motion, so that he could saw wood for three hours without interruption. The head first became more erect, and then its motion from side to side was regained, and gradually the other movements of the head on the neck, and the neck on itself and the trunk. Mastication and degluti-

tion became free; flesh increased, and sufficient recovery to enable this former complete cripple to support himself by the labor of a house servant. He did not cease to use remedies till April 29th, but in December he had strength and freedom of motion quite sufficient to perform a fair proportion of labor. Benefit was derived from the use of blisters to parts in which pain and lameness were most fixed. The stramonium was again and again resorted to when the urgency of pain demanded, and the only inconvenience it produced, was a temporary diminution, or loss of vision.

II.

ANALYSIS OF THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES.

Continued from p. 42.

IV.—*Thoughts on the Pathology and Treatment of Icterus, or Jaundice.* By N. CHAPMAN, M. D.

THIS article contains a history of jaundice, with directions for its management.

Dr. Chapman denies that the common cause assigned for this disease, the entrance of the bile into the circulation, is correct. He mentions a case, recorded by Richter, where the disease occurred in an individual who after death was found destitute of a gall bladder; and an experiment of Portal, who tied the cystic duct of an animal without producing jaundice.

Dr. C. supposes that some morbid change is produced in the serum of the capillaries, by the causes of jaundice. The capillaries being in a languid state are disposed to secrete a fluid of some shade of yellow, a change similar to that occasioned by the torpor of impaired vitality of the extreme vessels in a bruised part. The irritation which produces jaun-

dice is in the mucous tissue of the stomach and duodenum, and not in the liver.

In the more inveterate forms of the disease, the green or black jaundice, medicines are of little utility. Mercury, according to Baillie, will give temporary relief occasionally; but he has only known two cases of recovery, out of a great number which had come under his observation.

V.—*Observations on the Medical Topography and Endemic Fever of Montgomery County, Alabama.* By CHARLES S. LUCAS, M.D. of Alabama.

The County of Montgomery lies chiefly on the east side of the Alabama River, including within its northern and eastern boundaries, a small portion of country between the Coosa and Talipooa, which unite to form the Alabama River.

Owing to the softness of the soil through which this river flows, the course frequently becomes altered, leaving numerous stagnant pools, which being exposed to the intense heat of the sun, are soon covered with a green scum, are the nidus of myriads of insects, and soon communicate an offensive taint to the surrounding atmosphere. Into these ponds the negroes are in the habit of throwing decayed timbers removed from the cultivated lands, so that there is soon formed a compound for the production of miasma, which could scarcely be excelled by human ingenuity.

The soil is extremely fertile, and the growth of vegetable productions rapid and luxuriant. The wild lands being cleared by girdling the trees and cutting down the under growth; vast masses of vegetable substance are left to decay, and must contribute largely to the causes of disease, as the process of decomposition is exceedingly rapid. The summers are excessively hot and the winters generally mild.

The sickly season commences in June, and continues till about the middle of October; during which period, strangers and those unaccustomed to the climate, suffer much more than those who have resided in the country for a few years. The negroes who have lived a few years in this State, are sold, on this account, at a higher price than those brought from Virginia and Maryland.

The inhabitants of the river lands consider themselves comparatively safe if the rains are sufficiently frequent and copious to keep the stagnant pools well filled; but the same cause operates most fatally in the oak and hickory lands, where large cultivated tracts, frequently manured with cotton seed, are exposed to the scorching heat of the sun, after being sufficiently moistened to allow of the most rapid decomposition of the vegetable matter.

"The fevers of Montgomery may be considered as forming two varieties, which may be termed inflammatory and congestive.

"The inflammatory form of fever was preceded by the following symptoms; chilliness of the surface, extending down the back; in some cases the coolness was so slight as only to be discoverable at the ends of the nose, fingers, and toes, while other parts of the body were preternaturally hot. Patients complained of great heat and suffocation, when the surface was cold and the heat only perceptible at certain points. The loins, knees, and large joints, generally were very painful: headache, nausea, and disposition to vomit; a small, quick and variable pulse, with hurried respiration, were the symptoms of the first stage."

"In the second stage, the heat of the surface was augmented considerably, the pulse was increased, full and unyielding; the face flushed, the conjunctiva red, excessive headache, tongue parched, and frequently delirium was present. The secretions were altered in character and dimin-

ished in quantity, and the bowels were necessarily torpid. The excited stage fully developed would continue for several hours, and even days, when a slight abatement would take place, about the same hour that the pain occurred on the preceding day. Sometimes no remission took place till the third day; in others the remission was so slight as scarcely to be discovered. The disease advancing, the symptoms become aggravated; the greatest distress, accompanied with much exhaustion, occurred, and this violence terminated about the fifth, seventh, ninth, or eleventh day. Where the crisis is favorable, the pulse becomes soft, the skin and tongue moist, all the secretions more abundant, thirst diminished, respiration freer, and sleep natural. An unfavorable termination is indicated, by the pulse becoming quicker, the respiration frequent, feeble and anxious, the tongue dark, brown, or black, and all the symptoms indicating the immediate proximity of dissolution."

"The congestive form of this fever was not of such frequent occurrence as the inflammatory, but was altogether more formidable and fatal. The duration of the attack varied according to circumstances: the fatal termination speedily followed a violent accession, unless speedily relieved by energetic treatment. The symptoms were very deceptive; cases sometimes terminated in death before danger was apprehended, not occupying more than twenty-four or thirty-six hours in the whole course. The patient was generally affected with all animal and organic actions; a slight, scarcely distinguishable chill, laborious respiration, sense of weight and oppression at the præcordia, great pain in the head, pulse frequent, low, struggling, indolent, and occasionally intermitting, where the brain was affected. The heat of the surface was partial or circumscribed; the tongue, which at first was but slightly changed, as the disease ad-