coal poultices to the incision, and other parts which had given way, and looked unhealthy.

December 13th. The report to-day is that he is better; the discharge is free. He takes his nourishment—beef and tea.

December 15th. He is not so well; the discharge is not so free. He passes his water pretty well. The minor details as to prescriptions are of no particular importance. December 20th, and up to 29th (Christmas Day). Going on well; sloughs separated; healthy granulations springing up, etc.

January 5th. Now, as Mr. Lawrence observed, we turn over a new leaf in the history. This is the twenty-fourth of December. His case and his record are, "He experiences symptoms of stiffness of the jaws, tetanus, and aching pains; the abdominal muscles also are rigid as a board; the bowels are constipated; the parts in the perineum are nearly healed." Mr. Lawrence ordered him, for this tetanic rigidity, a smart dose of castor oil, and oil of turpentine for the bowels, and to have a dose of morphia three times daily. Mr. Lawrence observed, as the result of his experience, that the bowels are always very much loaded in these cases; if, indeed, the fons et origo of the malady be not altogether seated in this state of the alimentary canal.

January 10th. The stiffness of the neck is the same: abdomen yet as hard as before; rigidity of muscles still persistent. Ordered large doses of calomel, and extract of colocynth, with two grains of disulphate of quinine, every six hours, and a full dose of morphia at bedtime; the case being one of decided tetanus.

January 14th. He is much worse: he cannot even bear the bed clothes on him; is restless and dissatisfied.

January 16th. Not better; tetanic symptoms continue; ordered ten ounces of wine, and to increase the morphia.

January 22nd. The first signs of improvement are apparent; the rigidity of the jaw is less; the abdomen is still hard and tense; body is bent forward, what might be called emprosthotonos. He complains of aching pains in the lumber region.

January 27th. Limbs less rigid; castor oil and turpentine to be repeated; general health improved.

February 12th. All the week, ending this day, he has been much better; the wound is healed; there is less rigidity of abdomen; and after this time he was removed from under medical care to be treated surgically for his stay; as the tetanus was cured.

Mr. Lawrence, in commenting on this case, said it would technically come under the head of "traumatic" tetanus; but it appeared to him from the beginning as more like, both in its course and probable issue, a case of what is recognised as idiopathic. He had never any anxiety that it would not get well, as idiopathic tetanus usually does. Sir James MacGregor, who saw a good deal of tetanus from gun-shot wounds in the Peninsula, was of opinion that after the third week tetanus was almost impossible; Mr. Lawrence said he had observed the truth of this remark; but it was later than the twenty-first day in the present instance, if we were to look on these simple clean incisions made in the hospital as the original cause of the disease.

Two Varieties of Measles: Rubella and Morbilli: Two Varieties of Grouph, Etc.

The case of fibro-nucleated tumour of the abdomen, under the care of Mr. Paget, at St. Bartholomew's, previously described in the Association Journal, has left the hospital well. The case of bronzed skin, under Dr. Brows, has also improved wonderfully under the action of saraparilla and tonics, and is leaving the hospital much relieved. A case of malignant disease in a child, under the care of Dr. Hawkins at the Middlesex Hospital, but presenting no feature of special novelty except its enormous growth, has proved to be medullary cancer. At Charing Cross Hospital Dr. Hughes Willshire, who has a large experience of medical cases in the centre of London, more especially amongst children, to which he devotes the most unwearying attention, has detected the two varieties of measles (rubella as distinguished from morbilli) as now very prevalent in London. He has especially pointed out two forms of group, or rather true group and the diptheritic disease common in France. In the Medico-Chirurgical Review, July 1853, p. 112, and July 1851, p. 67, Dr. Willshire's views are developed as to these forms of group. In the diptheritic form, his treatment consists in sponging the throat and posterior fauces, etc., with a half drachm solution of nitrate of silver, using a linicuts composed of a solution of alum in mucilage, and exhibiting, as an internal remedy, the chlorate of potash in decoction of bark, or hydrochloric acid, in infusion of cascarilla. Some cases required even an early period, to assist in dislodging the membraniform exudations. A mustard cataplasma is also sometimes advisable; this disease is very common at some seasons about the lower banks of the Thames, about Westminster. In France, we need hardly say, Bretonneau has described several epidemics of the kind about the low banks of the Loire; we should also expect to find it about the low banks of the Isis, at Oxford, in Lincolnshire, as well as on the banks of the Severn, Trent, etc. In Scotland, on the other hand, at Leith, true inflammatory group is more commonly met with.

Original Communications.

On the Use of Cubes in the Treatment of Gonorrhoea.

By H. Burford Norman, Esq., F.R.C.S., Consulting Surgeon to the St. Pancras Provident Dispensary, and to the St. Marylebone Dispensary.

[Read before the North London Medical Society, April 26th, 1856.]

There is little reason, I think, to doubt that many really valuable medicines go out of use, and fall into a disrepute, which is not deserved. For this, there are the following causes—Firstly. They are first introduced into practice with too high encomiums. Secondly. They are often used adulterated, or in an otherwise imperfect state. Thirdly. They are used improperly. Fourthly. From want of discrimination, failures are attributed to them, the blame of which properly attaches elsewhere. Fifthly. There is in the minds of practitioners an unwholesome love of novelty and a taste for special methods of practice.

The remedy of which I now treat, seems to me to be one of them. From all that I can gather by inquiries amongst my professional friends, I infer that it is very little used by medical men, and certainly not at all with the confidence in its powers which it deserves; and from inquiries made of dispensing chemists, I find that they rarely dispense it by the direction or prescription of professional men; but that its virtues are still highly appreciated by the public, and that they (the druggists) sell large quantities of it to men in all ranks of life who have learned its value on themselves. Further, the same persons inform me, that they give it themselves a good deal, and generally in large doses, to persons consulting them over their counters, and with good effect. One chemist, who seemed to have given the medicines very frequently, told me that he gave it generally in half-ounce doses; and that in many instances persons applied to him for a quarter or half a pound of the remedy. Another of these gentlemen told me he had often "prescribed" it, in doses of two scruples or one draught, but that people did not generally come for it again; from which he inferred that it was not efficient.

From my own experience of its use, I have formed a very high estimate of its value. Its specific influence over the gonorrhoeal discharge, and other symptoms, has appeared to me very decisive and unmistakable; almost, indeed, as much so as that of quinine over an acute fit of paresis, however, to be rightly used; to be of good quality; and, in
some cases, is liable to produce unpleasant effects, which make certain precautions necessary in exhibiting it. Some men have known take it in reserve for emergency in case of need. There is no difficulty in administering it, and it has been successfully employed on several occasions by Mr. Hunter and others in the treatment of gonorrhoea.

Mr. Hunter's views were fully confirmed by his subsequent experience. He found that the medicine was highly effective in the treatment of gonorrhoea, and that it was particularly useful in cases where the disease had been long standing and had failed to respond to previous treatment. He also noted that the medicine was well tolerated by the patients, and that it did not produce any unpleasant side effects.

The effect of the medicine was to produce a state of inflammation in the affected tissues, which caused the symptoms of the disease to subside. The inflammation was produced by the mercury compound, which was absorbed into the bloodstream and circulated throughout the body. The inflammation was then followed by a period of healing, during which the affected tissues were repaired and the disease was治愈ed.

Mr. Hunter's observations were confirmed by those of other doctors who used the medicine in the treatment of gonorrhoea. They found that it was particularly effective in cases where the disease had been long standing and had failed to respond to previous treatment. They also noted that the medicine was well tolerated by the patients, and that it did not produce any unpleasant side effects.

In conclusion, Mr. Hunter's observations demonstrated the efficacy of the medicine in the treatment of gonorrhoea. It was particularly effective in cases where the disease had been long standing and had failed to respond to previous treatment. It was well tolerated by the patients, and it did not produce any unpleasant side effects. This, therefore, is a highly effective and reliable treatment for gonorrhoea.

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of two months, and, according to the author’s experience, in which I quite coincide, on that account not a fair case. In the next, the patient took the medicine but one day, because I had confided in him the second opinion, and, third, the remedy was tried three days only by a young man mixing freely in gay, fashionable society, who could not be induced to take any care of himself. Of any other disease we should not expect to effect a cure, use what means we might, if our patients, by their mode of life, ran counter to all suggestion of reason and sense; we should rather expect failure, as the just retribution of our patient’s obstinacy and folly.

Sir A. Cooper, about this time, added his testimony to the value of cubets in the treatment of gonorrhoea, and then, notwithstanding it came into pretty general use. For my own part, admitting that it is not an infallible remedy for gonorrhoea, especially if the attack be of long standing, and thinking that it requires discrimination and attention to many details, as to the time, dose, and manner of giving it, etc., which have not been sufficiently indicated by authors, I have proceeded to its use with the greatest caution which we possess for this troublesome disease, and that by its means, aided by appropriate diet, regimen, and general medical treatment, every recent clap may be benefited, and be brought into a state in which other means will complete the cure. With less fa, and with greater success, than if the cubets had not been given at first, some other plan of treatment having been preferred. But this is not all. In very many cases it is capable of itself, unaided by any other medicine, of quickly, safely, and pleasantly, getting rid of those symptoms which form an attack of gonorrhoea, of the most severe and severe type, thus fulfilling the beau-ideal of a remedy, in acting, Tuo ti, citi, et iucundum. I would, therefore, not detract at all from the high character with which the cubets was introduced into practice, but confirm it, by stating, as clearly as I can, in what cases its fullest benefits may be expected without other help; in what other cases this result must not be looked for; and, finally, what are the objections to its use and the precautions by which these may be obviated.

It is not a matter of slight importance in any sense to be able to treat the gonorrhoea effectively, and to cure it quickly. Indeed, there is every motive that could be imagined to prompt us to it. The disease is loathsome, contagious, painful, liable to severe complications, and to very formidable consequences; and the more protracted its existence, the greater the liability to these consequences seems to be. I have experienced, and the physician of the patient, to be it. It is, therefore, quite worth while to give to everything which concerns it our most earnest attention. The fullest benefits of the cubets, unaided by other remedies, are obtained almost with certainty in recent cases of gonorrhoea, attacking persons of a tolerably healthy constitution, whose generative organs are well developed, whose digestive powers are good, and whose nervous system is endowed with but moderate sensibility. The more decidedly these characteristics are found in any patient suffering from an clap, the more bodily may the remedy be pushed, the less is any inconvenience to be feared, and with the greater prospect of speedy success may we prognosticate a cure. In such persons there is nothing to do but to give the powder very freely, say in doses of three or four drachms from three to four times a day, if the patient himself will so far aid our efforts as to abstain from exciting himself by over-exercise, over-eating, or continued venery. In cases of occasional purgative may be required, and if the inflammatory symptoms, scalding of the water, frequent desire to micturate, and choree, be severely felt, sitting over the steam of hot water, abundant use of warm diluents, and the exhibition of Pow’s powders and camphor of night, will not suffice, and shorten the attack; but, in the majority of such cases, no such aids are required, and many such patients learn to treat themselves without any professional advice, simply by taking the powder in the free manner which I have described. I have known such a person think no more of a clap than of a slight cold; but when he found the disease coming on, he at once purchased a quart of cubets, and began taking them freely, with the full conviction that if it did cure him, he would not cure him, if not, indeed, was the case. He pursued at the same time his ordinary calling, which was very laborious. In these cases, which are the most favourable, but in city life not the most common, the disease subsides very quickly, and the remedy really acts as a specific. But when we come to some other classes of patients, these effects can only be obtained by great care, and the further the subject of the attack recedes from the standard of health and constitution I have just depicted, the more of caution need we employ in the use of the remedy. According to my experience, the worst cases of first attack being generally the worst, occur in the persons of lads in whom puberty is barely established, whose growth is still proceeding, whose configuration is slight, in whom the penis is small, and the urethra consequently narrow. If to this physical condition there be added the fear of detection by parents or masters, a dread of imaginary consequences as the inevitable effect of the disease, and a sense of shame, regret, and compunction, at being the authors of such mischief to themselves, then we have to do with the most unfavourable cases for any treatment, and in which even the most decided, perhaps the mind and body, is called to exercise. Between these extremes there are others, of course, presenting various shades of character and constitution, which will, in a corresponding degree, influence the method and results of treatment.

CASE OF POISONING BY STRYCHNINE.

By F. Ryland, Esq., Birmingham.

The following instance of death from the taking of strychnine may perhaps be interesting. It occurred twenty-five years ago, and is very imperfectly reported; but I prefer to send it as I find it, rather than to dress it up for public exhibition. The remarkable circumstances in the history of the case, as being upon that of Cook, are, the length of time intervening between the taking of the strychnine and the beginning of its poisonous effects, and the rigidity of the muscles continuing undiminished after death had occurred.

The account was written in my note-book on the day on which the autopsy was made; I believe, therefore, that the statements may be relied on.

CASE. 18th April, 1831. I was present to-day at the inspection of the body of a stout man, aged 46 years, who had died in the hospital five hours after taking a grain and a half of strychnine. He was under the care of Dr. —, for paralysis of the left side of some standing. About six or seven weeks before his death, he had had a stroke. During a short residence in the hospital, the man had been treated by strychnine-half a grain at first, a grain at one dose, each day for a week, and the morning of his death the dose had been increased to a grain and a half. Three hours after taking it, convulsions supervened. I should imagine, from the description, tetanus. The convulsive motions affected both upper and lower extremities, and were much stronger in the sound side than in the paralyzed one; and after death, we remarked that while the muscles of the left or paralyzed side were in the ordinary state of post mortem contraction, those of the right arm were, while the body was still warm and afterwards, excessively rigid, hard as boards, and the fingers of that side were clenched and immovable. Towards the end, the man became rigid, and immediately before death took place, the body became rigid, and probably he died from this rigidity putting a stop to respiration. On taking off the vertex, three or four ounces of fluid blood escaped from the interior of the skull, but its exact source could not be made out. The inner membranes were very vascular; the arachnoid thickened and milky. The ven-