

TREATMENT OF CHOLERA.

To meet the conditions of this disease, the nature of which is explained in our editorial columns, the following directions are given by Dr. Pratt in the *Missionary Herald*:—

"(1) For the stage of *diarrhea*. This may come on insidiously, painless and hence not alarming, but should be met promptly. The remedy is, 'The cholera mixture,' so called, consisting of equal parts of—

Laudanum,
Tincture of Rhubarb, and
Spirits of Camphor.

"Begin with 30 drops, taken clear and unmixed, with a little sugar placed in the mouth afterward. Repeat the dose after every evacuation, increasing it if the case becomes urgent to 60 drops (a teaspoonful), or 90 drops if necessary. If the diarrhea is not controlled by this means, an injection of from 30 to 90 drops of laudanum, in a tablespoonful of starch, will prove a valuable help. This may be often repeated. If the diarrhea ceases, do not entirely intermit the medicine, but give in gradually diminished doses, every one or two hours, for a period of twelve or even twenty-four hours.

"(2) For the vomiting stage, the best remedy is—
Laudanum,
Tincture of Capsicum,
Tincture of Ginger, and
Tincture of Cardamom seeds,

equal parts; to be given, from 40 to 60 drops, undiluted and followed by sugar, after every fit of vomiting; taking care to give it as soon as the fit ceases, when it will be more likely to be retained. An excellent adjuvant to this is a large mustard poultice to the abdomen.

"(3) For the stage of malignancy, the only remedy is stimulants, especially brandy, which must be given with great freedom, from two to four teaspoonfuls every half or even quarter hour, till heat returns, and pulse and sensibility of extremities are restored. It is always to be given undiluted. Alcohol, or other spirits, will answer the purpose, if brandy is not to be had. It will be necessary to combine with this, artificial heat—bottles of hot water to the body and extremities—friction of the limbs (which no one need fear to apply), and mustard, perhaps, to the feet and hands, stomach and limbs. Remember that boldness, to the verge of rashness, is better than excess of caution, and that no danger is to be apprehended from any of these remedies so long as the symptoms for which they are given are uncontrolled.

"The use of cold water must be strictly forbidden, except merely to gargle the throat; a very small quantity, swallowed, will bring on the diarrhea after it has been stopped for hours. A little water of gum arabic may be allowed, a teaspoonful at a time; or, perhaps, lumps of ice might be taken with safety.

"For the typhoid fever, which often follows an attack, chamomile or sage tea, and diaphoretic treatment, will be all that is needed, beside a moderate use of stimulants, for convalescence."

CHOLERA PREVENTIVE.

A Burgundy-pitch plaster worn over the region of the stomach during the prevalence of the disease. It should be warmed a little before it is put on, the person standing erect when it is applied, so that the plaster shall not interfere with the motions of the body. It is asserted that a British regiment supplied with such plasters, lost only five men during a severe visitation of cholera, and they had refused to wear them. This remedy was used by Dominic Westbrook, in his Academy, at Harlem, as far back as 1832, and in a school of 60 boys, there was not a case of cholera, although the disease was very violent in the village.

CHOLERA—DR. HALL'S LETTER.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The article on "Cholera" in the January and February Nos. of *Hall's Journal of Health*, advance the following sentiments:—

1st. Of all curable diseases, the cholera is among the easiest cured, if promptly attended to in its first stages of two or three thin and weakening passages from the bowels, within any twelve or fifteen hours.

2d. Any remedy swallowed to prevent cholera, will increase the liability to an attack.

3d. It is almost suicidal for any man to attempt to treat his own case.

4th. That a physician should be called always on the instant of an attack, but when it is impossible to procure his services within an hour, ten or twenty grains of calomel should be taken in pill or powder, as a means of stopping the discharges, and of thus arresting the disease, until the physician arrives; because it is easiest to be procured generally—will remain on the stomach, from its heaviness, when even cold water is ejected as soon as swallowed—and because it is the most certain of all medicines known to stimulate the liver to action, this want of action being the fundamental cause of the disease.

5th. The calomel treatment has been more universally relied on in India, England, and the United States, than any other one remedy hitherto; but, as all diseases assume varying phases from year to year, it is better to rely on no previous treatment, should the cholera appear among us in 1866, but to send promptly for a physician; who, being among the affected all the time, can the quickest detect these changes, and is most competent to adapt means necessary to meet these varying phases.

6th. When cholera is prevailing, a single large, thin, painless, weakening, action of the bowels is cholera begun, and the business man should start for home in a vehicle instantly, calling on his physician on his way, and take him home with him; or if he cannot be had for an hour or two, get into bed as soon as possible, dress up warm, eat ice if thirsty, bind a thick warm flannel tightly around the abdomen, and wait with a calm, courageous confidence for his doctor's arrival; but if that arrival is delayed, and the symptoms seem to increase, then take the calomel where its healthful effect is to stop the passage within two hours. W. W. H.

MISCELLANEOUS SUMMARY.

A CONFERENCE of professors and teachers, with others interested in education, convened by the Metric Committee of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, met last Friday evening in the Lecture Theatre of the Museum of Geology, Jermyn street. The object of the meeting was to discuss the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures. A resolution was passed approving of instruction generally in the system, and that as Government practically prescribed the curriculum of the training colleges, they should be asked to make questions in the metric system a portion of the examination of teachers for certificates.

A WESTERN CLOCK FACTORY.—A clock and brass manufacturing company has been organized in Chicago, with a capital of \$200,000. Forty acres of land within six miles of the city have been purchased, and the buildings are to be erected forthwith. The capacity of the manufactory will be two hundred thousand clocks per annum, and from four to five hundred tons of brass for the market, in addition to what will be worked up in the establishment. The material for the manufacture of brass will be obtained from Lake Superior and La Salle, copper from the former and zinc from the latter. It is to be expected that the establishment will be in operation some time in July.

THE rinderpest—which we are glad to notice is generally on the decrease—has appeared in Cadzon Forest, among the famous breed of wild cattle, belonging to the Duke of Hamilton. The Duke, with the view to preserve his valuable herd of Ayrshires, has put them down in his coal pits, where they are enjoying complete immunity from the plague though it is raging above.—*Mechanics' Magazine*.

DR. PARRY accounts for the non-destructibility of the stomach by digestion, as follows:—In a state of health the blood is always alkaline, and the gastric juice acid. The introduction of food to the stomach attracts the blood to that organ, as well as determines a secretion of gastric juice, and the alkalinity of the blood protects the stomach from the action of the acid.

THE cannon cast for the Austrian navy are composed of—copper, 600 parts; zinc, 382 parts; iron, 18 parts. This alloy is reported to be excessively tenacious and easy to forge and drill.

A VINEYARD was lately sold by auction at Gevrey, in the Cote d'Or, at the rate of \$5,000 an acre, the highest price known to have been given in that country.

THE Paris Universal Exhibition of 1867 will offer to the public, among other curiosities, says the *Moniteur*, an aquarium which will be thirty metres long by twenty metres in height. It is intended, as in the aquarium of the Acclimatization Society, to bring together as complete a collection as possible of the most curious specimens of the submarine world. The size of the aquarium will cause spectators to fancy that they are under water. On looking upwards, the rare opportunity of seeing sharks, tunny fish, cod, and porpoises disporting themselves in their own element, will be given; and it is expected that this will form one of the many interesting features of the forthcoming exhibition.

M. SCHLÖESING has succeeded in discovering an arrangement by which an intense heat, sufficient to melt iron, can be got from ordinary gas. The principle of his contrivance is the complete combustion of the proportionate amounts of gas and air within a confined space, and the continuous supply of the combustible materials. A copper tube, carefully pierced, is the chief instrument in securing those results. M. Schloesing was able to melt a piece of iron, weighing 400 gms., in twenty minutes, by his plan.

It appears that the common salt occurring in nature in the Andes in process of time undergoes nitrification, being now in company with lime and the nitrogen of the air, by a process not easily explained—the chlorine of the salt going to the lime, forming chloride of calcium, and nitrate of soda being produced.

DR. GALLARD stated, in a paper to the French Academy, that in many districts where intermittent fevers had prevailed from time immemorial, the drainage effected by railway works removed these disorders.



E. F. C. D., of Md.—The best oil for light machinery is sperm oil. Any kind of wood may have gold leaf applied to it. You can obtain gilding size of any painter.

N. J.,—of.—A horizontal engine and boiler of the best make will give good satisfaction in a saw mill.

J. G. A., Ga.—We fear your broken amber pipe is a hopeless case. As all cements are dissolved or softened by heat, it follows that you cannot mend it that way. Possibly bands of silver in connection with a good cement may do. Try some good jeweller.

T. E. F., of N. H.—You ask "which bearing has the most friction, one that is six inches long and six inches in diameter, or one that is six inches in diameter and nine inches long? We will take, for instance, a locomotive axle with the same weight on each." According to Morin, the friction will be the same.

J. S. W., of N. Y.—In your estimate of the actual power of a horse you omit the light to which the coal is raised—one of the essential elements.

G. C. D., of Tenn.—We think the purple ink of your letter is one of the animal eyes; it would cost ten dollars to have it thoroughly tested, and a bottle of it would be required.

J. E., of N. Y.—Smee says that the auro-cyanide of potassium is the best salt for electro-gilding. For the mode of its preparation we must refer you to his work; it is published by John Wiley, of 535 Broadway, New York.

H. G. R., of Ohio.—Your mode of computing the velocities of pulleys is right. The velocity is in inverse proportion to the diameter. Cannot your foreman understand that the proportion of 6 to 7½ is the same as the proportion of 1,200 to 1,500. One and a half is one-fourth of six.

J. S., of Ind.—We have published the mode of making papier mache so often, we must refer you to back numbers for it.

N. C., of N. Y.—The bright scales in the stone that you enclose are mica. There is no probability that the specimen contains gold, but this can be positively ascertained only by careful assay, which will cost ten dollars.

TO OUR READERS.

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