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MATERIA MEDICA

PETERS & MARCY

1855

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MARCY, PETERS,
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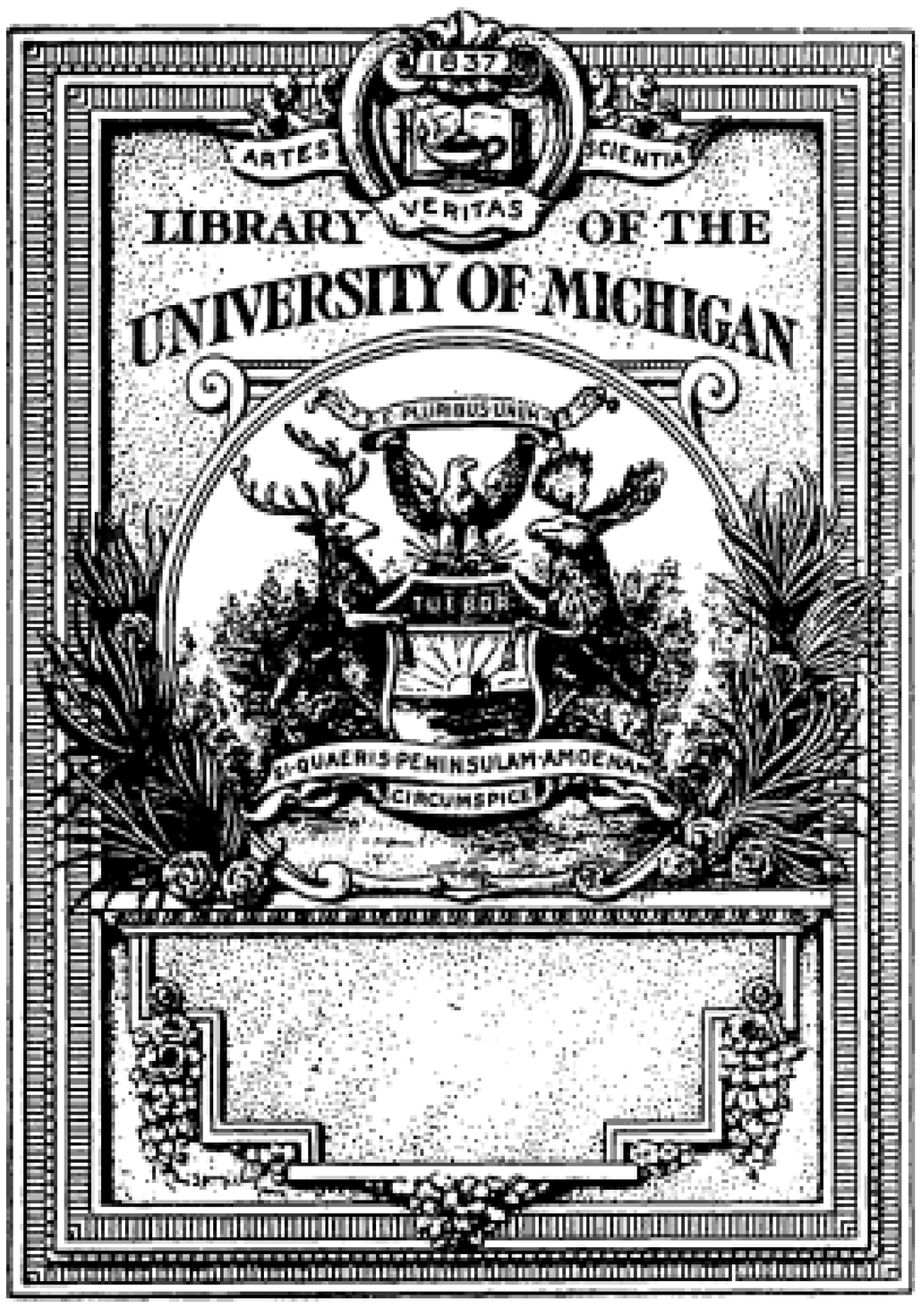

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THE ELEMENTS

OF A

NEW MATERIA MEDICA

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AND

THERAPEUTICS.

Based upon an entirely New Collection of Drug-Provings and Clinical Experience.

BY

E. E. MARCY, M.D., J. C. PETERS, M.D. & OTTO FÜLLGRAFF, M.D.

1859-61

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INTRODUCTION.

In presenting to the profession the commencement of a new work on Materia Medica, the editors are actuated by a desire to accomplish the responsible task in such a manner as to save the practitioner much time and study in the selection of appropriate medicines for different groups of symptoms, and of placing before him such only as are specific and reliable.

Taking into consideration the limited knowledge we possess with regard to many drugs, we are aware of the difficulties to be encountered, and the immense research and labor it will require to carry out properly the duty we have undertaken. But with the aid of the Great Healer, and by dint of the industry and energy with which the good cause shall inspire us, the ideas we have conceived with regard to this important subject shall be fully carried out.

The usual classification of the different organs of the body adopted by our School will be retained; but in the selection of drug-symptoms, such only will be received as are positive and unquestionable. In making this selection we shall require

First, that every symptom shall have been experienced by several different provers.

Second, that the pathological changes induced by the drug shall correspond with its pathogenetic phenomena, and be recorded directly under each organ.

Third, that the drug shall have repeatedly cured morbid symptoms, similar to those recorded in its pathogenesis.

It will be our object to place before the reader the actual genius of each medicine, and to expose not only drug-phenomena which have been felt and seen, but those which are often latent and unappreciated. We shall endeavor to trace all phenomena to their causes, and thus to reach those hidden springs which so often induce discord and disease throughout the entire organism.

It is only through pathology and physiology that this desirable end can be attained. To prove this position we cite two examples.

It is well known that an inflammation or irritation of a certain portion of the cerebellum, will give rise to erections of the penis. It is also true that a mere local irritation of the erector muscles, and of the contiguous parts will also cause erections precisely similar in all respects to the first. Now Opium and Cannabis-indica induce erections by exercising their specific

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action upon the tubercula quadrigemina and the neighboring parts of the brain, while Cantharides produces erections by its specific influence over the parts connected with the erective muscles.

In the first instance cited, Opium or Cannabis would be homœopathic, while in the other instance Cantharides is the true specific.

If we examine the pathogenesis of *Arsenicum* and *Colchicum* we shall observe that both produce dropsical swellings in various parts of the body. In both instances the visible and appreciable symptoms are the same, and if we are unable to trace out the genius of these remedies beyond this point, it would be a matter of indifference which should be prescribed to arrest the dropsical effusion.

But pathology teaches us that *Arsenicum* causes dropsy by impairing the integrity of the spinal marrow, and the ganglionic and capillary nerves, while *Colchicum* produces the same symptoms in virtue of its specific influence over the kidneys and bowels.

Now let us suppose a case of Bright's disease. The patient presents himself with œdema of the legs, and an occasional puffiness of the face, but with no other pains, no other visible symptoms. An analysis of his urine, however, gives us *albumen*, and we diagnose *granulated kidney* as the cause of the œdematous condition. In this instance pathology alone can reveal the hidden and deep-seated action of those drugs, and thus enable us to select the one which is actually homœopathic to the disease.

These distinctions are important; but without the aid of pathology and physiology we could have no certain appreciation of them.

Under each separate organ will also be recorded clinical facts from all sources, for the purpose of illustrating practically the curative sphere of each remedy. In making up this portion of our work, we shall draw upon the experience of reputable physicians in all parts of the world. By this course the practitioner obtains at a glance the therapeutic sphere of each medicine, and is able to compare critically all its pathegenetic, pathological, physiological and curative relations.

Each number of the Journal will contain from fifty to one hundred pages of the work in the form of an appendix, and the matter will be paged independently, so that at the expiration of each year it can be bound into a handsome octavo volume of about 300 pages.

With these few explanatory observations we enter upon our arduous work.

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NEW MATERIA MEDICA.

ACACIA.

GUM ARABIC.

AUTHORITIES.

Waring's Therapeutics (44). Dierbach's Mat. Med. (16). Pereira's Mat. Med. (13). Peters (11).

Clinical Remarks.—In *coughs* much relief is often experienced from allowing a piece of gum-arabic to dissolve slowly in the mouth. It is particularly useful in allaying the irritation of the throat which excites cough in Phthisis (44). I have found it as useful and curative in consumption as cod liver oil, and far more agreeable, but it must be taken in large quantities; at least from two to four ounces per day, and followed up for months; the warm solution of one ounce of gum to half a pint of water, is the best preparation. (11).

In *Ardor urinæ, and Calculous affections* the mucilage proves of great service. Prof. Graham also thinks that the Gum may be employed as an article of diet for diabetic patients, without risk of increasing the sugar discharged in the urine. (44).

Its use as a palliation in acute and chronic gastritis and colitis, and diarrhœa is well known.

In *Hæmorrhage*, the local application of finely powdered gum is often effectual in arresting the flow of blood especially from leech bites; severe *epistaxis* has been successfully treated by finely powdered gum blown into the nostril. (44.) In uterine hæmorrhage a somewhat similar procedure may be used; or a strong mucilage injected; or cloths or lint saturated with it introduced into the vagina.(11.)

In *Burns and Scalds.*—Mr. Rhind of Edinburgh advises applying a thick solution of Gum-Arabic over the burnt surface. He states that it relieves the pain almost instantly, and that under its use the healing process appears to be hastened. He adds that repeated trials for several years and strict observation confirm him as to the value of the treatment. (44).

In *Sore Nipples.*—Erasmus Wilson speaks of the mucilage of Acacia as a useful application. He directs it to be pencilled on the tender part immediately after nursing, and the nipple to be protected with a shield. He also speaks favorably of the application of a powder composed of equal parts of Gum-Arabic, and Borax. (44). But by far the most useful application is the Tincture of Benzoin, applied with a camel's hair brush. It need not be washed off again before nursing. (11).

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ACIDUM ACETICUM.

ACETIC ACID.

AUTHORITIES.

Orfila (2.) Pereira El. of Mat. Med. Vol. 1. P. 351. (3.) Parrot. (40.) Beyer. (41.) Ottinger. (42.) Klusemann. (43.) Waring's Therapeutics. (44.) Vogt's Materia Medica (20.) Marcy (10.) Peters (11.)

PHENOMENA.

Intellect.—Confusion of ideas; disinclination to exert the mind; slight and transient delirium; diminished intellectual power. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—It has proved curative in mania with cerebral excitement; delirium caused by opium; delirium of typhus; alternate stupor and delirium of typhus.

Disposition.—Irritability of temper; nervous and excitable mood.(2.)

Head.—Giddiness; dull pains in the forehead and vertex; shooting pains through the temples; heaviness of the head with sense of intoxication; indications of vascular excitement in the brain; distention of the temporal blood vessels, with increased heat of the head. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—It has proved curative of hæmorrhage of the nose, arising from determination of blood to the head—(used locally as well as internally); headaches from abuse of stimulants, tobacco, coffee and opium; affections of the brain dependent on nervous congestion. (3.)

Scalp.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In Tinea capitis, the local application of the strong acid is recommended by Wigan. The first application is with the acid, diluted with three times its weight of water. On being applied, a number of spots previously looking healthy, become red patches; then, with a piece of sponge tied to the end of a stick, each spot is to be saturated thoroughly with the strong acid for three or four minutes. A single application is sufficient in the majority of cases. A crust grows up with the hair, which may be removed as soon as a pair of fine scissors can be introduced beneath it. Erasmus Wilson speaks favorably of a similar mode of treatment repeated once a week.

Eye.—*Clinical Remarks.*—Particles of Lime in the eye are effectually dissolved and the pain eased, by bathing the eye into diluted vinegar. (11.)

Face.—Face pale and waxen; eyes sunken and surrounded by a dark circle. (44.)

Throat.—*Clinical Remarks.*—The sore-throat of scarlet fever is much benefitted by the application of the steam of warm vinegar; in quinsy, and almost every form of ulcerated or relaxed sore-throat much relief is obtained by inhaling the vapor of hot vinegar and water.

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Appetite and Taste.—Diminished appetite; tongue pale and flabby; adipsia; vomiting soon after eating. (41.)

Stomach.—When taken daily in its diluted form, and in large doses, it produces great uneasiness, cramps and colic, and gradually destroys so effectually the texture of the stomach, and its digestive functions, as to cause emaciation of the body. (20.)

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Tracy's (of Ohio) experience with the vegetable acids as correctives of acidity of the stomach has been considerable; he has prescribed them in a large number of cases, and nearly all with decided benefit. Dr. Tracy himself was subject to repeated and severe attacks of Conjunctivitis, accompanied with acidity of the stomach, which he had attempted to correct by the early and free use of soda, but in vain. He had for months abstained from the use of acids, but was finally induced to take a glass of lemonade, with great alleviation. The remedy was again and again repeated, and the threatened ophthalmic attacks effectually prevented. Dr. Tracy has found vegetable acids uniformly and entirely successful in removing the disposition to attacks of acidity of stomach in persons subject to them; and his impression is that in all such cases they can be relied upon with more confidence than any other remedies. In cases of acidity from pregnancy he has found the sub-acid fruit of great service, while those that were tart could not be borne, and mineral acids were decidedly injurious, while the whole range of alkalies and absorbents were of little or no avail. *Braithwaite* says this may seem a very unscientific (but very homœopathic) mode of procedure, still facts seem to corroborate the value of the practice in some cases. Dr. Chapman of Philadelphia experienced relief from the same remedy. The late Professor Wiston had for a long time ineffectually endeavored to relieve an opulent merchant of acidity of the stomach, who was very speedily cured by drinking of sour beer. Dr. Chapman had a most distressing case, which proved utterly intractable during nearly a whole winter, to the regular alkaline remedies, which was cured promptly during the summer, by the patient subsisting on the sour pie-cherry. Nor is this the only instance in which Dr. Chapman has heard of cures ascribed to tart and perhaps unripe fruit of several kinds, and one especially from Professor Hodges, to sour or unripe apples; he also attended a case with Dr. J. Rhea Barton, which yielded immediately to wheaten mush and vinegar, largely and eagerly consumed.

Abdomen.—Griping pain in the bowels; diarrhœa; tympanitis, with difficulty of breathing (from large doses) rumbling in the abdomen. (42.)

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Parrot has treated successfully, diarrhœa accompanying typhus fever with diluted vinegar; also diarrhœa with pain in the gastric region, rumbling, and delirium; also, constipation with tympanitic abdomen and stupor; also griping pains in the abdomen of several years' standing, with difficulty of breathing, sleep-

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lessness, vomiting after every meal, impaired sight, and irritable mood; also six cases of ascites following intermittent and scarlet fevers, (cured in three to four weeks by drachm doses). (40.)

Stool.—Watery diarrhœa; diarrhœa, with colic pains, and tenderness of the abdomen to the touch; bloody discharges from the bowels. (42.)

Clinical Remarks.—In a paper read before the Epidemicological Society of London, Dr. J. H. Tucker begins by alluding to the remarkable, but well established fact, that in 1849, the cider districts of Herefordshire, Somersetshire, and part of Devonshire were to a great extent, exempt from the ravages of Cholera, while the disease was raging around. Upon farther inquiry it was ascertained that this exemption was confined a good deal to those individuals who drank cider as a common beverage, and that those who partook of malt liquor occasionally suffered. He also remarks that in some parts of France and Normandy, more particularly where cider is the common beverage, cholera is seldom known to exist. TUCKER also expresses the opinion that other vegetable acids will be found of service, such as lemon juice, (but lemonade often causes griping and diarrhœa,) orange juice, and sour wines made from grapes. As it would be quite impossible to supply the world with a sufficient quantity of pure cider, he suggests that *Vinegar* might be found a useful substitute in case of another outbreak of Cholera. He then proceeds to show that acid drinks were not only preventive, but remedial in epidemic disorders of the bowels. Cases are related, in which not only were persons exempt from attacks of cholera raging around them, who drank freely of cider, but a case of severe cholera is also related, which yielded to the diluted juice of sour apples. He also refers to some established facts connected with the spread of epidemic dysentery in the army, showing the efficacy of vegetable acids in that disease.

Urine.—Urine increased in quantity, and of a lighter color. (3.)

Uterus.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In uterine hæmorrhages the application of cold vinegar and water to the pubes is not only agreeable, but tends considerably to arrest the discharge of blood. (11.)

Larynx, Trachea, and Chest.—Irritation of the windpipe and chest; dry cough attended with oppressed respiration, succeeded by a moist cough with fever, increased difficulty of breathing, emaciation, night sweats, œdema of the feet and legs, diarrhœa and death; Klusemann reports three cases of hæmoptysis caused by the use of Acetic-acid in from one to four weeks. (43.)

Clinical Remarks.—Vinegar, much diluted with water, has often checked night sweats, bronchial hæmorrhages, and diarrhœa from hectic fever. Kopperstætter, Oettinger and others have cured several cases of hydrothorax by the use of vinegar in drachm doses in from two to six weeks. (10.)

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In *phthisis* the value of the external application of diluted vinegar to the chest and upper part of the body, in allaying the profuse perspirations, is well known; it is a measure attended with salutary effects, and is of great comfort to the patient. The mixture employed by Sir C. Scudamore for this purpose, is composed of one pint of vinegar, one of cologne water, and two of water. Alcohol or spirits and water is often more useful than vinegar. Dr. Roberts strongly advocates both the internal and external use of vinegar for checking the hectic and night sweats, restraining hæmoptysis and producing costiveness. As a preventive of phthisis Dr. Graves speaks favorably of washing the chest with vinegar and water, beginning with it tepid, and reducing the temperature gradually until it can be used cold.

In hæmoptysis the internal and external use of vinegar was highly esteemed by the ancients; Cælius Aurelianus, Avicenna and Rhases are among its chief advocates.

In Asthenia and Angina-pectoris it is of great importance to diminish the susceptibility of the patient to cold; one of the most effectual means of effecting this is to bathe the chest with vinegar and water. It is a measure fraught with benefit also to those who are liable to continual *catarrhal attacks*. (11.)

Breasts.—*Clinical Remarks.*—To milk or mammary abcesses, the application of warm vinegar is stated by Dr. Dewees to be so successful in the early stage of the disease, that we need not in general look for any other remedy. It is he states, particularly useful, when the breasts are greatly and painfully distended with milk; it should be perseveringly employed for twenty-four hours. This testimony in favor of it is very strong.

Upper-Extremities.—Diminished muscular power of the arms and hands; paralytic sensation in the wrists and hands; coldness and prickling in the hands. (2.)

Lower-Extremities.—Œdemateous swelling of the feet and legs; impaired muscular power of the legs; diminished sensibility of the feet; coldness of the feet. (41.)

Fever.—Hectic fever, with emaciation, cough, night sweats, diarrhœa, dispnœa, and dropsical swelling of the feet and legs; typhus fever, with violent delirium, diarrhœa, pain in the abdomen, rumbling in the gastric region; also typhus with stupor, tympanitic abdomen, and obstinate constipation. (2.) (44.)

Clinical Remarks.—Diluted Acetic-acid has been employed as a remedy in abdominal typhus for centuries. Numerous cures are reported by this agent; but in these instances, it is probable that the credit rightfully belongs to the *vis medicatrix naturæ*. As a cooling beverage, to allay thirst, diminish heat, and dilute the irritating secretions of the digestive canal, it is doubtless a remedy of some value. (10.)

Skin.—Skin pale and waxen; general anasarca; diminished sensi-

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bility of the surface of the body; temperature of the skin below the natural standard. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—As an external application vinegar has been used with success to allay the intense itching and burning of eczema. Oettinger cured several cases of chronic eruptive disease, resembling lichen, by the internal and external use of this remedy. The refrigerant influence of diluted vinegar on the surface is undoubted; it not only diminishes heat, but allays pain. (10.)

In *Scarlatina*, dilute Acetic-acid internally, has been strongly recommended by Dr. Isaac Brown. He considers that is it more efficacious than any other treatment, and that is tends to prevent the occurrence of dropsy. Dr. Webster relates four cases, in which it appeared to him conclusive that sponging the body of the patient prevented the spread of the disease beyond the original patient.

In *Psoriasis*, Dr. Cummin states that his trials with strong Acetic-acid have been highly satisfactory; the diseased cuticle separating in flakes, and a new surface being exposed, of a much more healthy character. The application of the acid is hot and painful, especially when there are excoriations and fissures; but these should be protected by Glycerine, or Simple-cerate. The acid requires, in most cases, to be repeated two or three times. In obstinate cases of lepra much benefit has been derived from the use of baths acidulated with Acetic-acid. (11.)

Nævus Maternus.—Dr. Behrend of Berlin advises in the case of the small flat nævi, the application of strong Acetic-acid; under this treatment the blood is made to coagulate in its vessels, the nævus becomes hard and yellow, and is thrown off in the form of a parchment-like layer. In obstinate cases the Muriate Tincture of Iron, or a slight application of strong Nitric-acid may be used.

Warts and Moles may be removed effectually by the application of the strong acid. The warts should be first carefully pared down, and the acid should then be applied with a camel's hair brush. Large moles may be touched lightly with strong Nitric-acid, a wet rag may be applied at once to prevent the acid from burning too deep, and subsequently the mole may be touched every day or two with Acetic-acid. I have found this mode of treatment very successful. (11.)

Cancer.—Acetic-acid is the only known agent which dissolves the true cancer cells; it may be used freely internally and externally.

Burns and Scalds.—Cleghorn of Edinburgh recommends the immediate application of vinegar to the burnt surface, to be continued until the pain abates, and when this returned the application was repeated.

In Purpura, whether attended by fever, or of a torpid character, Erasmus Wilson advises sponging the body with tepid vinegar and water.

In Hospital Gangrene, when of a mild character, Delpech speaks highly of the topical application of Acetic-acid and Vinegar. The ulcerations having been previously cleansed, are to be washed with

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strong vinegar, and then covered with charpie wet with the same liquid. If this fails caustics must be used.

Vinegar in Itch.—Professor Le Coeur of Caen, recommends for the cure of Itch, forcible frictions of the parts affected, with a hard sponge, soaked in good vinegar, thrice daily so as so penetrate the skin and rupture the vesicles. He has tried this treatment with the most complete success in ten cases, the average length of the treatment being less than five days. He thinks this treatment preferable to all others on account of its speedy action, its inexpensive nature, its freedom from all unpleasant odors, and its easy application. He suggests that similar results might be obtained by frictions with the mineral acids diluted with water.

General Symptoms.—Febrile symptoms accompanying typhus hectic fever; dropsical affections arising from loss of blood, diarrhœa or functional derangements; hæmorrhages from the nose, lungs, and stomach; local eruptions, of an itching and burning character; determination of blood to the head, with delirium, convulsive movements, and severe pains in the head.

Only one fatal case of poisoning by the internal use of Acetic-acid is recorded. In this case, the patient (a girl) "appeared to be intoxicated, suffered acute pain, and was violently convulsed."(*Orfila*). No *post-mortem* examination was made.

ACIDUM BENZOICUM.

BENZOIC ACID.

AUTHORITIES.

Jeanes' American provings. (30.) Waring's Therapeutics. (44.) Peters. (11.) North-American Journal of Homœopathy, Vol. 3. (7.) Dierbach's Mat. Med. (6.)

Sleep.—The experimentor awakened after midnight with violent pulsations of the heart and temporal arteries (pulse 110 in a minute) without external heat; and could not fall asleep again. In the morning his tongue was covered with a white mucous coat and he had nausea, and total loss of appetite. In the afternoon at four o'clock all the symptoms had vanished. He awoke every morning about two o'clock, with strong internal heat, and a hard, bounding, but not quickened pulse; he had to lie awake upon his back, because the pulsations of the temporal arteries caused a puffing sound in his ears, and prevented him from going to sleep again (for eight weeks). (30.)

Head.—Confusion of the head with drowsiness.
Pressure in the temples, in the region of constructiveness.
Pressure on the whole of the upper part of the head and spinal co-

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lumn, as if these were pressed together by an elastic body, so that he bent himself involuntarily, and stretched forwards. This sensation without being painful, is productive of extraordinary anxiety (occurring two days in succession whilst sitting.) Itching on the scalp. (30.)

Eyes.—Itching in the angles of the eyes. (30.)

Nose.—Sensation of irritation in the left nostril, such as precedes sneezing, yet without being obliged to sneeze.

Slight transitory hoarseness and repeated sneezing, in the morning, with a pleasant excitement and freedom of the head, which, together with its more rapid disappearance, sufficed to distinguish it from the ordinary symptoms of taking cold. (30.)

Ears.—Itching in the left ear.

Shooting pain in the right ear, intermitting. (30.)

Teeth.—Slight cutting pain in the teeth. Darting pain in carious molars in both jaws. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—Cotton, well moistened with Tinct.-Benzoin is a capital application to aching and carious teeth. (11.)

Mouth.—Soreness of the back part of the tongue, felt most while swallowing. Sensation of soreness and rawness at the root of the tongue, and on the palate. Extensive ulcerations of the tongue with deeply chapped, or fungoid surfaces. An ulcerated tumor in the left side of the mouth upon the soft commissure of the jaws behind the last molar-teeth. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—Benzoin must prove as useful in ulcerations of the mouth, as it does in many more external ulcerations. (11.)

Throat.—Heat in the œsophagus, as from acid eructation. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—In two cases, in females, both for a long time subject to violent *Angina*, in neither of whom the allopathic treatment had ever succeeded in preventing suppuration, though early and energetically applied, and where, in the case of the daughter, homœopathic treatment with Belladonna and other apparently indicated remedies had twice failed to prevent suppuration, although it diminished the suffering much more than any previous treatment, Benzoic-acid in alternation with Belladonna and Digitalis would speedily subdue the attacks, and finally seemed to effect such an alteration of the system that the tendency to this form of disease appeared to be almost extinguished. (30.)

Stomach.—Singultus. Sensation of heat throughout the abdomen. Pain in the left side of the abdomen immediately below the short ribs. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—In *Pyrosis*, the late Dr. Baillie was in the habit of employing the compound tincture; and generally found it efficacious; Dr. Symonds also bears testimony to the value of this treatment. (44.)

Bowels.—Bowels freely open with extraordinary pressure to stool;

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fœtid, watery, white stools, very copious and exhausting in infants, the urine being of very deep red color. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—In cases of diarrhœa in infants, where the stools are very copious, watery, very light colored and fœtid, and where the urine is of an uncommonly deep red color, and its urinous odor remarkably strong, I have found Benzoic-acid produce very great improvement. (30.)

In *constipation* apparently depending upon stricture of the colon, Drs. Hastings and Streeten state that the compound tincture of Benzoin will keep up the peristaltic action, without irritating the bowels; as there is a mechanical obstacle to overcome, comparatively large doses are required, but twenty drops, 3 times a day, will generally keep the bowels active and regular. (44.)

Urine.—Irritability of the bladder; too frequent desire to evacuate the bladder, the urine being normal in appearance. Urine at first only increased in quantity, not in frequency, but in a few days micturination became exceedingly frequent, with strong pressing; urine of an aromatic odor, and saline taste; the odor being long retained and most marked in the forenoon; urine highly colored, sometimes of the color of brandy, the urinous odor being exceedingly strong; urine of the above character, of a specific gravity greater than that of healthy urine when passed into the same vessel, assumed and retained its place below the healthy urine without mixing with it, and though of a very deep red color, it deposited no sediment; he had scalding urine of a deep red color and strong odor, causing so much suffering in its passage, that the patient made water but once a day. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Jeanes of Philadelphia says: I have found the Benzoic-acid of great utility in a number of cases where the *urine* was of a deep red color, sometimes even as dark as brandy, and its urinous odor peculiarly strong. This highly colored and strongly scented urine occurs most frequently in syphilitic cases; where the external symptoms have been either wholly or partially suppressed by improper treatment; also in some cases after infection, but before the establishment of chancre or syphilitic gonorrhœa; and sometimes accompanies these disorders. It is often so strongly marked as to attract the attention of the patient sufficiently to induce him to remark it to the physician. (30.)

Case: A gentleman, aged 37, had the following symptoms: whitish deposit in the urine, forming a hard grey crust, very difficult to remove, of offensive and strongly ammoniacal odor; specific gravity 1023; without albumen; the patient's appetite was good, tongue clean, and he slept well; but was pale, complaining of general lassitude and languor, and a sense of weakness across the loins; his bowels were generally confined. By the use of Benzoic-acid he was completely restored. (30.)

Dr. Williamson of Philadelphia reports a case of *Nephritic Colic* in a man subject to it. The *Urine* was extremely high colored and

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strongly scented; the Benzoic-acid afforded great relief in a paroxysm which occurred two years ago, since which time he has not had his usual returns of the complaint. (30.)

In *irritable states of the bladder*, Dr. Prout derived much benefit from the Tinct.-Benzoin. It should be given, he observes, in small doses largely diluted, and persevered in for a long time. Dr. Soden of Bath relates four cases successfully treated with it. Dr. Garrod found that he could produce a very acid state of the urine with Benzoic-acid, enabling the urine to hold in solution a large amount of phosphatic salts. He used it in a case of paraplegia where the urine was highly alkaline, and deposited a large amount of phosphates; under the use of Benzoic-acid, four times a day, the phosphatic deposits soon became lessened, and in a few days entirely ceased, and did not return when the medicine was omitted. (44.)

In *incontinence of urine in children*, Dr. Delcom relates two cases successfully treated with Benzoic-acid, when many other remedies had failed. (44.) Drs. Metcalf, Chapman and Fraene have used it with great benefit. (N. A. Journ. Hom. Vol. 3., p. 334.)

Sexual Organs.—A thrilling almost painful sensation on the left side of the glans-penis, extending into the urethra, so severe as to occasion starting, ending in a sensation of tickling and itching.

Itching in the sulcus behind the corona glandis.

Smarting of the frænum præputii. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—*In Pruritus Scroti.*—Erasmus Wilson states that pencilling the parts with the tincture will be found useful. (44.)

Larynx.—Sneezing with slight hoarseness, without accompanying catarrhal symptoms.

Troublesome, and almost constant, dry hacking cough. (30.)

The powder of Benzoin introduced into the nose, readily causes sneezing; the vapors of Benzoic-acid cause violent coughing. According to Schreiber, if taken internally in large doses, it causes a long-continued scratching sensation in the throat, increased warmth of the body, quickness of the pulse, followed by profuse sweat, attended with dulness of the head and copious expectoration. Benzoic-acid will then also be found in the urine. (11.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is supposed to act specifically upon the mucous membranes, especially the pharyngeal, laryngeal and bronchial; the vapor sometimes causes great irritation of the air-passages; still it is recommended by Dr. Cheyne in strumous laryngitis, and by Trousseau and Pidoux in chronic laryngitis and chronic catarrhs; they advise the air of the patient's apartments to be impregnated with the vapor of Benzoin, the drug being thrown upon burning coals, or it may be inhaled from a common inhaler, the Balsam or Acid being placed in boiling water. (44.)

It is regarded as a powerful expectorant in chronic chest affections, coughs, asthma, suffocative catarrh, spasms of the chest, especially when these occur in connection with amenorrhœa and chlorosis. (11.)

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Chest.—Pain about the third rib, and on the right side, midway between the sternum and the side.

Pain in the right side of the back, about midway between the tenth vertebræ dorsalis and the side.

Pain in the left side, about the sixth rib, increased by deep inspiration, and by bending the body to either side. Deep penetrating stitch in the posterior part of the left side, about the sixth rib. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—In a case where inflammatory rheumatism and violent *asthma*, both of long-standing and frequent recurrence, coexisted, and for which I gave the Benzoic-acid the patient remarked a great amelioration of his asthmatic paroxysms. This is worthy of mention, inasmuch as one of the benzoated tinctures of opium was formerly termed Elixir-asthmaticum, and it may be that further observations will prove the Benzoic-acid to be a remedy for some peculiar forms of asthmatic disorder. (30.)

Breasts.—*In sore and cracked nipples*, the local application of Tinct. Benzoin is the most useful remedy, of all recommended for this purpose; it forms a thin coating, like gutta-percha, which is not removed by the infant in nursing, and which need not be washed off before nursing. (11.)

Back.—Dull pain in the back in the region of the kidneys. (30.)

Extremities.—Nicking and cracking of the joints, both of the superior and inferior extremities, during motion; Pain in the joints of the fingers of the right hand. The pain leaves the right hand and appears in the left arm, then extends downward into the elbow, and leaving this situation, next appears in the region of the heart.

The pain having left these parts, appears in the thigh and ankle.

Pain in the right tendo-achilles, and in the region of the heart at the same time.

The pain is incessantly and suddenly changing its location, but its most constant seat is in the region of the heart. After leaving the right, the pain appears in the left tendo-achilles. Aching pain in the hip, then in the left thigh, next in the knees, then in the toes.

Sharp pain in the left ankle, during the time it supports the weight of the body while walking.

Upon supporting a slight part of the weight of the body on the left foot, severe pain in the tendo-achilles close to the os-calcis. Pain in the gastrocnemii. Pain in the toes. Pain in the large joints of the great toes, with slight tumefaction and redness. Stitch passing upwards, through the right great toe, followed by a burning, which changes gradually again to a stitch, appearing afterwards in the left great toe, from which it vanishes with a thrilling sensation (in the morning).—Whilst lying down (8th day): itching on various parts of the extremities, yielding rather an agreeable feeling on being scratched, but leaving a burning. Feeling of coldness of the knees, as if they were blown upon by a cold wind.

Frequent pulse. (30.)

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Clinical Remarks.—In many cases of rheumatism and of painful joints, with arthritic concretions, arthritic irritation of the great toe-joints attended with swelling and redness of the skin, urine highly colored and of strong ammoniacal odor, I have employed Benzoic-acid with much benefit. (Jeanes.) [30.]

It seems to be one of the most homœopathic remedies for wandering rheumatism, and rheumatic affections of the heart.

In *Gout*, Benzoic-acid has been advised by Drs. Ure and Prout, to prevent the disposition of, and to remove when formed, the masses of Urate of Soda, which so commonly occur about the joints of gouty subjects. (44.)

According to *Lehmann*, Benzoic-acid sometimes occurs in animal fluids, and its conversion in the animal body has already thrown much light on the metamorphosis of the tissues.

Benzoic-acid stands in near chemical relation to Toluylic-acid, Copaivic-acid, and Cinnamic-acid.

Benzoic-acid also bears some relation to Hydrocyanic-acid, for when heated with Potassium it yields Cyanide of Potassium. In fact, the oil of bitter almonds is regarded as a combination of Benzoyl with hydrogen; and Benzoin may be formed by the action of caustic alkalies on oil of bitter almonds, containing Hydrocyanic-acid. Again Nitro-benzide is a yellow fluid with a sweetish taste and cinnamon-like odor.

Benzoic-acid has been found in the urine of the Herbivora and Carnivora, and it very often occurs in the place of Hippuric-acid. Again, when the urine of horses has stood for some time in the stable and begun to be ammonical it never contains Hippuric-acid, but only Benzoic-acid. In like manner we often meet with only Benzoic-acid in human urine, and if some portions of it have long been exposed to the air, they undergo such a change that only Benzoic-acid is found in the whole urine. Hence it appears to be a fact, as Liebig assumed, that a ferment is formed in the urine by means of which the Hippuric-acid is converted into Benzoic-acid; for if we mix a specimen of urine, whether from man or from the horse, with another specimen containing Hippuric-acid, on separating the acids from the mixture, we almost constantly obtain Benzoic-acid alone, the ferment of the urine containing Benzoic-acid probably acting on the Hippuric-acid of the fresh urine. Moreover Benzoic-acid when conveyed into the organism is invariably converted into Hippuric-acid, as observed by Woehler, Keller, Ure, and others.

The ingestion of Benzoic-acid causes an extremely disagreeable irritation in the throat, and subsequently a very profuse diaphoresis; it is also one of the very few acids which produce a marked augmentation of the acidity of the urine.

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ACIDUM FLUORICUM.

FLUORIC ACID.

This acid plays an important part in the animal economy. Brugnatelli believed that he had discovered the existence of this acid in the gastric juice of birds, and Treviranus also believed that, when the contents of the intestinal canal of fowls were digested in porcelain vessels, the glazing was attacked on account of the presence of Hydro-fluoric-acid. Again, the Fluoride of Calicum is so integral a part of the enamel of the teeth, that we must ascribe to its presence (at least in part) the polish and extraordinary hardness of that substance. The presence of Fluoride of Calcium has also been determined with certainty in the bones of almost all animals. Berzelius found 2. 1% of Fluoride of Calcium in the Dentine, and 3. 2% in the enamel of a man's teeth.

The presence of fluorine in blood and milk has been clearly demonstrated by Dr. George Wilson.

In regard to the origin of the Fluoride of Calcium, Lehmann says we cannot doubt that it is easily conveyed into the animal system with the food; we need only remember that many mineral waters contain traces of fluorides, and that plants take up a little Fluoride of Calcium from micaceous soils.

Fluoride of Calcium was detected by Berzelius in the Carlsbad water, and has been found in other mineral waters.

Fluoric-acid is a solvent for some elementary principles which resist the action even of Nitro-hydro-chloric-acid; thus it solves Silica in particular, also Silica and Silicic-acid. It is especially useful as a solvent of Silex in the animal economy, for small quantities of Silica are found in the blood, in the white of egg, in bile, in urine, and in the solid excrements, and occasionally in certain morbid concretions; it has also been shown by numerous experiments that Silica forms an integral constituent of hair and feathers, and hence it is evident that a perfect solvent for it is required in order that it may be readily conveyed through the most minute capillaries to its appropriate destination.

Fluoric-acid is an admirable solvent; its vapor is more pungent than Chlorine, or any of the irritating gases. Of all substances it is the most destructive to animal matter; it produces the strongest caustic effects; when applied to the skin it causes violent pain, the parts around become white and painful, forming a dense pustule filled with matter; even a very small and hardly visible quantity will produce the same effects, though only after the lapse of several hours. The smallest quantity applied to the hand excites violent itching, and pustules filled with matter are soon formed, according to Liebig; in fact the acid unites itself to the skin to such a degree, that it cannot be washed off even by means of carbonate of soda, although the pain may be mitigated. The solution of $\frac{1}{48}$th of a grain, and even that of $\frac{1}{16}$th does not produce either pain or redness; $\frac{1}{8}$th of a grain, however, produces some pain,

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redness and heat, the epidermis falling off in scales after the lapse of a few days.

In consequence of its solvent action upon flint, Fluoric-acid acts energetically upon glass; the transparency of the glass is instantly destroyed, and heat is evolved.

As Fluoric-acid is sometimes developed in excess in the stomach, we may hazard the conjecture that it sometimes gives rise to intense suffering and may even be the cause of the well known perforating ulcer of the stomach; an excess of the acid will also cause rapid caries of the teeth; and may even cause felons, &c., &c.

In order to give a better idea of its action in its concentrated state, we append the following case, from Frank's Magazine.

Franz Pschick assistant in the Chemical Institute of Dr. Jacquin made some experiments with it publicly, December 23d, on which occasion he accidentally exposed his hand to the fumes of Acid.-Flouric. for about *one minute*. An hour after the occurrence, while engaged in cleaning some instruments in warm water, he experienced a very troublesome *prickling in the extremities of the fingers*—and shortly after such violent pain, as obliged him to stop short from his work; soon after this he felt a *chilly* sensation in *his left arm* gradually extending all *through his body;* in the evening when he was seized with a violent *fever and chill*, he mistrusted the real cause of his suffering: the pain now became intolerable, and the integument of the hand very much swollen. On the morning of December 24th *all the fingers* of the left hand, but especially the thumb, were *very much inflamed* and discolored, with very great stiffness of the first and second phalanges; and severe pain extending to the axilla. He then put his hand in albumen, drank water with some nitrate of potash, and applied a poultice of raw potatoes to his hand, all of which eased his condition somewhat. Towards evening, however, the pain and swelling increased again; he re-applied poultices—but could not sleep during the night.

On the 25th, the extremities of the fingers had become all white and the thumb covered with large blisters, attended with severe pulsating pain in the same; on opening one blister after another, a thick, brown, and very offensive-smelling liquid exuded from the same, having an acid reaction. In the course of four weeks the patient gradually recovered.

Mental Condition.—Discontentment and excessive ill-humor, were felt by Hering, Campos and others, followed by indifference and forgetfulness, and finally succeeded by perfect contentment and uncommonly gay disposition of the mind.

Clinical Remarks.—Taking advantage of these effects upon the moral state, Hering gave it to an invalid old lady, who quarrelled continually with nurses, relatives, and the whole house; two doses of Fluoric-acid soon rendered the old lady patient and cheerful, and she continued so.

Head.—Whilst sitting, a dull pressure and compression in the

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occiput, particularly towards the right, with the continual internal sensation of numbness in the left forearm, and severe pricking, whilst stretching it. (Hering.)

Nausea and vertigo. Painful and sudden determination of blood to the forehead. (Hering.) Dullness of the head in the morning; towards the right, with numbness or burning in the forehead, afterwards felt in the jaws. (Hering, &c.)

Dull heaviness of the head, forehead. Pressing pains in the forehead. (Williamson, Husmann, &c.) Sharp shooting pain through the head. (Campos.) [30.]

He felt as if struck with apoplexy, with rush of blood to the head, and partial loss of consciousness, so that he could not recollect where he was. The second dilution caused increased flow of saliva, pain in the head, and sensation as if the head was too heavy, and would drop from one side to the other. The first dilution caused a dull heaviness and pain in the whole head. Rush of blood from the nape of the neck through the centre of the head towards the forehead.

Severe pressing pain in the left, or in both temples, followed by pain in the left shoulder; sharp darting pains, much worse than a prolonged electrical shock, or compression of the ulnar nerve, shooting and painful indulation in the brain, occurring so quickly as to excite a very disagreeable idea of impending danger. Rush of blood to the head, with heat in the forehead, increasing to frontal headache. Pain over the right eyebrow, followed by pain in the toes; pain on the right side of the head, followed by pain under the right shoulder-blade.

Clinical Remarks.—This remedy promises to prove a rival to Glonoine, against rush of blood to the head, apoplectic attacks; it also seems homœopathic to rheumatic and neuralgic headaches, especially of the wandering kind; and to some forms of sick headache. (11.)

Scalp.—Itching of the head, and falling off of the hair.

Clinical Remarks.—Williamson who had been becoming more and more bald for years, found after two months' use and action of Fluoric-acid that a new growth of hair was commencing, and he is now much less bald than before. The Fluoric-acid, and Fluoride of Calcium may prove a natural stimulant to the hair, at least it will render a sufficient quantity of Silicia soluble to supply the want of a full growth of hair. A weak solution might be applied locally to the scalp. (11.)

Eyes.—Drawing pain around the eyes. Elevated red blotches and scaly eruption over the brows. (Williamson.)

Frequent attacks of burning, itching on the eyelids and inner canthus of the eyes, inducing one to rub and scratch. (Hering, Husmann, &c.)

Increased lachrymation. (Esrey.)

The sight clearer. (Campos.)

Bright, red sparklings, cross each other in all possible directions, like lightning, on closing the eyes in the evening. (Hering, Husmann.) [30.]

Clinical Remarks.—It has removed muscæ volitantes; it is homœo-

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pathic to photopsia and lachrymation; also to Tinea-ciliaris; and probably to scrofulous ophthalmia. It has proved useful in fistula lachrymalis, attended with pain in the eye, extending very far down into the upper jaw; and into the nostril, followed by soreness and painful sensibility of the bones of the upper jaw and nose. (11.)

Nose.—Sore feeling in the nose; appearance of pimples; fluent coryza, with sneezing. Pains about the bones of the nose, extending into and behind the eye and down into the malar bones.

Clinical Remarks.—A very large pimple with inflamed base on the top of the nose, was cured in two days by Acid.-fluoric. 15th. (Jeanes.)

A chronic inflammation of the nose with pain, redness, some swelling and heat, disappeared within three days; after the formation of a small pustule, with a smooth surface, on a painful red circle. (Hering.) [30.]

Ears.—Stitches and pressing pain in the ears, followed by pains in the heels. (Freitag, Husman.)

Increased sensitiveness of hearing in the morning. (Hering.) [30.]

Clinical Remarks.—It may prove homœopathic to some forms of rheumatic ear-ache, especially in rheumatic irritation of the fibrous tissues about the ear. (8.)

Face and Jaws.—Heat and perspiration in the face. (Hering.)

Itching on the right side of the face. (Geist, Husmann.)

Deep pain in the bones around the eyes. (Hering.)

Painful sensibility in the jaws, spasmodic contraction; drawing and gnawing pain in the inferior maxillary-bones; burning pain on the outside. (Hering, Neidhard.) [30.]

Clinical Remarks.—This remedy seems to act specifically upon the periosteum of the bones of the face; in this respect its action is somewhat similar to that of Mezereum. (11.)

Teeth.—Teeth feel *warm*; the warmth was felt in the teeth, and not in the gums; drawing, digging toothache. (Smith. Husman. Neidhard.)

Sensation of roughness, as if broken, in the lower incisor teeth. Tongue feels painful on touching it. (Hering.) (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—A fistula near the right eye-tooth, of several years' duration, gradually disappeared while taking the remedy; Fluoric-acid seems to exert a specific action upon the fibrous tissues and periosteum about the jaws and teeth. (11.)

Mouth.—Warm, burning sensation, as if from a sore on the inner side of the lips.

Taste.—A solution of $\frac{1}{8}$ gr. caused in the mouth a violent pain, as from hot water, the teeth becoming very painful.

Nausea.—One drop of the $\frac{1}{16}$th produced a bluntness of the teeth, a sensation of sticking, contraction and tension, after which the interior cuticle of the mouth became whitish and peeled off.—Twenty drops of the $\frac{1}{4}$th, taken in water, excited frequent sour eructations, sensation of heat and disagreeable flat taste in the mouth. (Kreiner.)

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The taste is quite intolerable, like ink. (Thenard. Hering.)
Acid, saltish, sweetish taste, with a greasy feeling.
(Pehrson. Gosewisch. Jeanes. Hering.)
Eructations, acid, sour, and bitter, with pyrosis, passage of flatulence, and choking.—Nausea. (Neidhard. Campos.)
Sickness of stomach, with desire to vomit, vertigo and headache.
(Esrey. Smith. Neidhard. Hering.)
He vomits several times with difficulty, a clear, viscid fluid, containing coagulated white pieces. The whole day he felt nausea, eructations and lassitude. (After thirty of $\frac{1}{16}$ solution about two grs. Kreiner.) *Increase of saliva.*
Clinical Remarks.—It may prove curative against waterbrash, soreness of the stomach, gastralgia, &c. (11.)

Palate and Fauces.—Prickling, and a smarting feeling on the tongue and palate. Tenderness and irritability in the larynx; feeling of soreness when coughing. (Jeanes.)
Heat and dryness in the mouth and fauces. (Husman. Williamson.)
Violent burning in the fauces and a sensation of constriction; rumbling in the bowels, pressure in the stomach and burning eructations, choking for two hours. (Ten drops of $\frac{1}{16}$ solution.) (Kreiner.)
Sore throat, with difficult deglutition, hawking up of much phlegm, mixed with some blood. (Hering.) (30.)
Clinical Remarks.—It seems homœopathic to the chronic pharyngitis which is to commonly and erroneously termed bronchitis; also to pharyno-laryngitis; and to chronic pharyngitis, when it arises from gastric disease; also to ulceration of the throat and larynx. (11.)

Stomach.—Pressure in the stomach and burning. Uncomfortable feeling. (Williamson.)
Heat in the stomach before meals, which disappears afterwards, then heaviness in the stomach, and after some hours again heat; aggravated during exercise. (Gosewisch.) (30.)
Clinical Remarks.—We have already alluded to its applicability against dyspepsia, acidity of the stomach, water-brash, and flatulence; it is particularly useful when there is considerable tenderness of the stomach to pressure, with suspicion of ulceration of the stomach, when attended with vomiting of small quantities of blood-streaked acrid mucus. (11.)

Abdomen.—Pain in the left side of the abdomen, in the region of the spleen; above the hip, hindering respiration. (Geist.)
Rumbling in the bowels, with erratic pains; acute shooting pain in the bowels, as if caused by wind. (Smith.) (30.)
Clinical Remarks.—It seems to exert a specific action upon the spleen, as Geist, Pehrson, and Freitag all felt pains about the region of spleen, and one experimenter, who had had a pain in the region of the spleen, for six days, found it to cease quickly, and it did not return again. (11.)

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Fæces.—Inclination to diarrhœa, two free passages the first day.

Awaking after midnight with a large quantity of viscid, tasteless saliva in the mouth, attended with a burning pinching pain in the stomach, and with a sensation of distention from flatulency; after the passage of some wind, the pain is increased, followed by a copious pappy evacuation of the bowels, after which the pain seemed to concentrate itself in the region of the navel, and is followed by a second passage; in the morning he had a third passage. (Pehrson.)

Copious pappy evacuations; watery stools, with pain around the navel. (Pehrson.)

Frequent discharges of inodorous flatus. (Campos.)

Small, excessively offensive discharges of wind. (Hering.) (30.)

Anus.—Violent itching within and around the anus, violent itching; returning frequently. (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—It has proved somewhat useful against prolapsus ani; against irritation and constriction of the sphincter-ani; and against piles. (11.)

Groins, Bladder and Urine.—Pain in the region of the bladder. (Hering.)

Free and frequent discharge of light colored urine, of sufficiently large, but not increased quantity. (Campos, Hering, Williamson.)

Pungent and strong odor of the urine. (Williamson, Hering.) [30.]

Offensive and pimple-colored urine.

Genital Organs.—Sexual passion much increased, with erections at night, during sleep; (Gosewisch, Campos.)

Occasionally stitches and drawing through the left testicle, in the abdominal ring and spermatic cord. (Neidhard.) [30.]

Menses eight days too soon and more copious, thick and coagulated.

Clinical Remarks.—This remedy seems to exert almost as specific an action upon the genital organs as Phosphorus and Platina; it has aroused the sexual organs even in quite elderly persons.

Chest.—Increased irritability of the larynx, with soreness of the cartilage.

Soreness in the chest, oppression, pressing sticking pain in the chest. (E. Smith, Neidhard, Geist, Williamson.) [30.]

Clinical Remarks.—It seems homœopathic to many attacks of chronic but painful laryngitis, attended with soreness of the chest. (11.)

Breast.—Itching on the nipple and around it, in the evening; the nipple next morning is much larger, more red, and the areola darker. A thin brownish crust is formed on the areola. (Hering.) [30.]

It may prove useful to soreness of the nipples, and inflammation and suppuration of the breasts. (11.)

Respiration.—Oppression in the chest, difficulty of breathing. (Bute, Hering.) [30.]

Clinical.—In two cases of incurable hydrothorax, Fluoric-acid, 3d. gave much relief. (Jeanes.) [30.]

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Heart.—Uneasiness about the heart, painful jerking in the heart; continual soreness about the region of the heart.

Clinical Remarks.—It may prove useful against some rheumatic affections of the heart, especially of the fibrous tissues, such as the valves, and chordæ tendiniæ. (11.)

Neck.—Drawing pain in the right side of the neck. (Freitag, Williamson.)

Now and then warm flushes like a warm breath proceeding from the nape of the neck towards the occiput. Stiffness and soreness of the nape of the neck.

Back.—Pain in the back and shoulder; itching of the back. (Williamson, Hering.) [30.]

Great heat in the back extending to the loins; the remedy is very homœopathic to aching pains in the os-sacrum.

Upper Extremities.—Rheumatic pain deep in the bones of the arms; *wandering pains*; tingling sensation, soreness, aching pain, and numbness of the arms, bones of the arms and fingers. (Hering, Freitag, Jeanes, Neidhard, Williamson.) [30.]

Heat in the palm of the hands. (Husmann, Hering.) [30.]

Numbness and lameness of the arms; heaviness and numbness of the arms; falling asleep of the forearms and hands; numb pains, lameness and powerless sensation in the hands; the hands are swollen and warm, and uncommonly red, appearing as if marbled.

Clinical.—It removed a chronic perspiration in the palms of the hands, which persisted even during cold, dry weather; although the back of the hand was dry, still, his palms were constantly so moist that every one who shook hands with him observed it, it disappeared on the fourth day after taking Ac.-fluoric. (Geist.) [30.]

Lower Extremities.—Acute stitches on the right hip bone, spreading themselves over the glutei muscles. (Geist.)

Pain in the right ischiatic nerve.

Laming, pressing, burning, wandering pain in various parts of the lower extremities. (Williamson, Jeanes, Hering.)

Soreness and pain on motion, in the left hip, particularly felt when getting out of the bed, worse in the morning. (Williamson.)

Pain in the knee and ankle joints. (Neidhard, Smith, Williamson.)

Heat and crawling sensation of the sole of the right foot. (Williamson.) [30.]

Clinical Remarks.—It is particularly serviceable against those rheumatic and neuralgic pains of the extremities, which are very apt to fly to the head, or heart.

Skin.—Burning pains on small spots of the skin, in different parts of the body. (Hering, Geist.)

Itching in various places of the body, mostly on the posterior parts. (Hering.)

Violent pricking itching of the skin and small pimples here and there. (Hering.)

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Several small light carmine red, elevated, round blood vesicles, resembling little flesh warts; they are very soft and compressible, and by a strong and steady pressure the blood disappears, but immediately returns again. They are very perceptible as light red enlargements of the capillaries raising up the cuticle. (Hering.) [30.]

Clinical.—Numerous varicose veins of twenty years' standing on the left leg of an old man, were diminished one-half, after repeated doses of Fluor.-acid. (12th, Neidhard.)

Heat.—Increased heat of the body. (Hering.)

General feeling of heat, heaviness and lameness of the whole body. (Neidhard.) [30.]

Clinical Remarks.—The moderate use of this remedy is supposed to render one more capable of bearing the summer heat, and to prevent liability to sun stroke.

Perspiration.—*Profuse,* sour, offensive perspiration in the afternoon. (Williamson.)

For several evenings an unusual profuse and glutinous perspiration, with itching. (Hering.) (30.)

Sleep.—Sleeplessness. (Campos.) Day and night without his usual sleep; he feels as if he had already slept.

Drowsiness in the forenoon. (Hering, Campos, Pehrson.)

Sudden sleepiness in the evening. Profound sleep until late in the morning. (Hering.)

Vivid dreams. (Hering, Husman, Pehrson.) (30.)

Clinical Remarks.—It promises to prove useful against sleeplessness from fulness of the head, or from the activity of the brain, with frequent awaking and vivid dreams.

General Symptoms.—Jerking pains in different parts of the body. (Hering, Neidhard, Campos.)

Increased ability to exercise his muscles without fatigue. (Campos,) regardless of the most excessive heat of summer, or cold in winter. Hands, fingers, toes, feet, jaws, lips, eyebrows and eyelids, muscles of the face, &c. are all in motion, as in *Chorea.*

ACIDUM GALLICUM.

GALLIC ACID.

Authorities.—Waring's Therapeutics. (44.) Wood and Bache. (7.)

The astringency of Nut-galls depends upon the presence of Tannic- and Gallic-acids; of the former they contain 26, of the latter 6 per-cent. Gallic-acid in its properties is very similar to those of Tannin, but it is much weaker; still in all cases of hæmorrhage in which the bleeding vessels must be reached through the route of the circulation, it is believed to be more efficient even than Tannic-acid, as its chemical affinities do not offer the same impediments to its absorption as those of

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the latter acid. It is said to be the active ingredient in Ruspini's styptic. Mr. C. Wetherill, believing that Gallic-acid differs from the Tannic wholly in containing more water; conceived the idea of preparing the former from the latter by the fixation of water; this he effected through the agency of Sulphuric-acid; having mixed thirteen drachms of Tannic-acid with twenty-two fluid-ounces of Sulphuric-acid and four times that bulk of water, he heated the mixture to the boiling point, and then allowed it to stand; in a few days an abundant precipitate of white Gallic-acid took place amounting to 87. 4. per-cent. of the Tannic-acid.

The experience with it is principally clinical and palliative.

Nose.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In epistaxis, it is a useful application; dossils of lint impregnated with it may be applied to the nostrils; or a solution of it in warm water may be snuffed up the nostrils, and the throat gargled with it. (11.)

Stomach and Bowels.—It does not so frequently produce constipation as Tannic-acid.

Clinical Remarks.—In Dyspepsia arising from a relaxed condition of the gastric mucous membrane, Dr. Sampson derived great benefit from Gallic-acid. In *Hæmatemesis* and bleeding from the bowels, or from any other part with which Tannic-acid can be brought in direct contact, it will be found more useful than Gallic-acid; but when the hæmorrhage proceeds from the spleen or liver, then Gallic-acid will prove most efficient.

Dr. Bayles says: In *Pyrosis* the most marked benefit will follow the use of this remedy; it not only checks the secretion with a certainty and rapidity he has never seen to follow the administration of any other remedy, but it gives general tone to the stomach, increases the appetite, and even removes *constipation* in many cases. (44.)

Kidneys.—In Hæmaturia, Dr. Garrod has used Gallic-acid with the greatest advantage, and is inclined to look upon it as the best styptic we possess. *Dose*, three grains, three or four times a day.

Albuminuria.—Sampson relates four cases in which the albuminous character of the urine was changed to a healthy standard by Gallic-acid. *Dose.* Ten grains thrice daily, or oftener; he considers that smaller quantities would have proved insufficient. (11.)

In many cases of chronic nephritis, one grain doses of the first trituration of Gallic-acid repeated every three or four hours, has effected prompt cures. It removes pains arising from sub-acute inflammation of the kidneys more speedily than any remedy we have ever employed. We have witnessed its efficiency also, as a curative agent in several calculous affections of the kidneys. A number of excellent cures of nephritic maladies, are reported by Dr. Redmond Coxe, jr. of Philadelphia, who employed the remedy at the first trituration. (10.)

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Genital Organs.—In *Menorrhagia* it has been found eminently useful; severe cases successfully treated by it are recorded by Stevenson, Simpson and others; they continued its use during the intervals, as well as at the period of the discharge.

In *Leucorrhœa*, Drs. Ballard and Garrod state, no remedy which they have employed will bear comparison with Gallic-acid, either for the rapidity with which the cure is effected, or in the permanency of the result. They used it internally, and by vaginal injection.

In *Gonorrhœa*, Sampson says it will change a thick and yellow discharge in four days to the smallest quantity of colorless gleet.

Chest.—The excessive *expectorations* of phthisis and bronchitis are much lessened by Gallic-acid.

In the profuse *perspiration* of phthisis it has been used successfully: Ballard and Garrod state, that although, like all other medicines, Gallic-acid sometimes fails in arresting these discharges, yet they have more reason to be satisfied with it than with any other remedy which they had formerly been in the habit of using.

During the past two years we have been in the habit of prescribing this acid in advanced phthisis with copious expectoration of purulent matter, profuse night-sweats, diarrhœa, and other hectic symptoms, and for the most part with favorable results.

In the case of a young lady, who had a cavity in the left lung, with copious expectoration of pus, night-sweats, frequent hæmorrhages from the lungs and bowels, evening-fever, and pulse 130 to the minute, the prolonged use of Gallic-acid of the first trituration, dried up the cavity, stopped the expectoration, the sweats, the hæmorrhages, and the fever, and enabled the patient to regain her flesh and strength. Eight months have now elapsed since the cessation of these serious symptoms, and the lady experiences no difficulty except great shortness of breath upon the slightest exertion. Her flesh, strength and general appearance are the same as when she enjoyed perfect health; but the sound of the left lung on percussion is dull. (10.)

ACIDUM HYDROCYANICUM.

PRUSSIC-ACID.

This acid may be readily procured from many vegetables, as from bitter almonds, apple-pits, the kernels of peaches, apricots, cherries, plums, and damsons; also from the flowers of the peach, cherry-laurel and wild-cherry; from the bark of the latter, and from the root of the mountain-ash; it has also been obtained from the ergot of rye.

It is rarely or ever found in animals; but Cyanogen has been detected in combination with iron, in the urine, menstrual fluid and sweat; and with Sulphur and Potassium in the saliva; the greenish-blue discharge of some ulcers probably depends upon the presence of Prussiate of Iron, at least Pereira once detected it. During the

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decomposition of animal matters, Cyanogen is frequently generated, as when blood and Carbonate of Potash are calcined in an iron pot. Also, when cheese is exposed to the action of water and the sun, it disengages Ammonia, and if heated in this state with Alcohol, it yields traces of Hydrocyanic-acid. Taylor says that the organs of persons who have died from natural causes have occasionally been found to exhale an odor of Prussic-acid, as he once perceived.

It is probable that in many weakly, nervous and dyspeptic patients, Hydrocyanic-acid is found in the system, causing great sinking feeling at the pit of the stomach, debility, nervousness and cramps.

Poisoning by Prussic-acid is so commonly the result of an attempt at suicide, or of unpardonable negligence in allopathic physicians, that we ought to be well acquainted with its characteristic symptoms.

When a large dose has been taken, as from half to one ounce of the diluted acid, insensibility commences in one or two minutes, attended with convulsive respiration at long intervals, the patient appearing dead in the mean time.

Case 1.—An English surgeon in large practice took seven drachms of dilute Prussic-acid; he was quite insensible in two minutes, and survived about four or five minutes; he lay on the floor senseless; there were no convulsions of the limbs or trunk, but a faint flickering motion was observed about the muscles of the lips; respiration seemed to cease for some seconds, then it was performed in fits and the act of expiration was remarkably deep and lasted for a long time.

In another case, besides the above symptoms there was coldness of the hands and feet, and no pulse was to be felt; convulsions of the limbs and trunk are sometimes observed; the finger nails have been found of a livid color, and the hands firmly clenched.

Case 2.—From forty grains of the Prussic-acid a man was observed immediately to stagger a few steps, and then to sink down without a groan, apparently lifeless; the pulse was gone, and the breathing for some time imperceptible; but after a short interval he made so forcible an expiration that the ribs seemed drawn almost to the spine; the legs and arms then became cold, the eyes prominent, glistening and quite insensible; after one or two more convulsive expirations, he died in about five minutes. (Taylor.)

Case 3.—From two drachms of medicinal-acid; in about two minutes, extreme bitterness in the mouth, great confusion of the head, headache, and loud ringing in the ears; he walked a few steps, leaned forward on a table, became insensible; his thighs became rigid and were drawn up to the abdomen, when he fell backwards; in this state he remained three or four minutes during which time he was violently convulsed; from the use of Ammonia, sensibility soon returned, and vomiting with great relief supervened, and in half hour he was quite well, with the exception of pain and feeling of distension in the head; during the convulsions, the arms were also rigid and on drawing them to one side, they forcibly reverted to their former

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position; the eyes were shut, teeth clenched, and muscles of the face violently convulsed.

Case 4.—A man had taken for two months, on account of a chronic catarrh, ten drops of Ittner's-acid, without experiencing the slightest toxicological effect; at length he was found in bed, one morning with headache, blindness, dilated insensible pupils, feeble irregular pulse, occasional suspension of breathing and rapidly increasing insensibility; in no long time spasms commenced in the toes, and gradually effected the rest of the body, till at length violent fits of general tetanus were formed, lasting from six to ten minutes, and alternating in the intervals with coma; subsequently the spasms were confined to the jaws and eyes, and delirium succeeded; at four, P. M. he was tolerably sensible, but the delirium returned at night; at ten, A. M. next day, he recovered his sight, and on the subsequent morning he had no complaint, but headache and pain in the eyes.

Antidotes. *Ammonia*, cold affusion, and electricity. John Murray of London was so convinced of the efficacy of Ammonia as an antidote that he expressed himself ready to swallow a dose of the acid large enough to prove fatal, provided a skillful person were beside him to administer the antidote. Dupuy, Orfila and Christison agree to this, provided the Ammonia also be inhaled.

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PHENOMENA.

Intellect.—Inability to think; dullness of the senses; vertigo; illusion of the senses. 1. Violent delirium; gay delirium, with desire to sing and dance, and acceleration of the circulation. (27.) Sleepiness; giddiness. 2. Indisposition to exert the mind; confusion of ideas. 4. Sudden loss of consciousness and of sensation. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most homœopathic remedies to *sudden* coma; from opium the coma comes on gradually, rarely under the lapse of fifteen minutes; while from Prussic-acid it is instantaneous—even from doses too small to prove fatal, coma is seldom delayed beyond two minutes. (11.)

Affections and Disposition.—Despondency. (1.) Gloomy disposition; irritable mood, which disappears in the open air; fretful, peevish, and ill-humored; gay, laughing and singing mood, as if intoxicated. (4.) Great agitation and excitement. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—Lonsdale thinks that hypochondriasis, orginating in derangement of the stomach, or kept up by a morbid state of the chylopectic viscera may be advantageously treated by this remedy; it certainly seems homœopathic to it, especially when attended with pyrosis. (44.)

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Head.—Oppressive pain in the forehead, or in the left side of the occiput; tension in the frontal region; pricking in different parts of the head. (1.) Feeling of tightness in the head; tightness in the forehead; heaviness and pressure in the forehead; tightness of the right side of the head, with pressure in the occiput and forehead; pressure in both temples extending to the orbits; lancinating and boring pain in the forehead and orbits. (4.) Very severe tearing pains, sometimes at the bottom of the orbits, sometimes in the temples, and sometimes at the occiput; pain in the frontal region. (27). Pain and feeling of distention of the head. (3.) Head confused; feeling of tightness around the head. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most homœopathic remedies to passive venous congestion of the brain; to congestive apoplexy; to dropsy of the brain, consequent upon excessive congestion, &c. The peculiar intermittent respiration caused by Prussic-acid is highly characteristic of dropsy of the brain, and also of softening of the brain. Chapman and Montagh suggest as one of the remedies for the apoplectic condition, that is found towards the end of some cases of Asiatic cholera. (11.)

Pathology.—*In men*: Brain dotted with blue points, and congested with blood; the ventricles of the brain turgid with blood.—Dura-mater covered with a thick, dark, bloody layer.—A quantity of thick, dark-blue blood in the brain.—(1.) Two ounces of dark red serum under the dura-mater.—Cerebral veins distended with thin uncongealed blood.—Brain softer than natural.—Bluish spots in the brain.—Lateral ventricle distended with serum.—Choroid plexus, dark, bluish red.—Cerebellum greyer than natural.—Tentorium cerebelli filled with very dark-blood.—Vessels of the dura-mater, pia-mater, basis cranii, choroid plexus, and substantia corticalis much distended with blood. (4.)

Eyes.—Obscuration of sight; pressure over the inner canthus of the right eye; heaviness of the eyes, and a feeling as if they were immovable; lancinating and boring pain in the orbits; photophobia; protruded, glassy eyes, with dilated pupils. (4.) Obscured vision; pupils usually dilated but sometimes contracted. (3.) Pupils very much dilated and but slightly sensible to light; eye-balls prominent, very hard, and tender to the touch; the veins of the eye-lids very much dilated, and varicose; eye-balls convulsed, first being drawn towards the right, and then upwards; pupils contracted; eyes prominent, fixed and insensible to light. (27.) Pupils fixed and dilated. (2.)

Pathology.—A very peculiar glistening and staring expression of the eyes, so as to render it difficult to believe that the person is really dead.

Clinical Remarks.—The vapor of Prussic-acid has been applied to the eyes in cataract, and opacities of the cornea, with some success it is said; still the vapor applied to the healthy eye will cause dimness of the cornea. (11.)

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Ears.—Pressure in both ears, with buzzing. (1.)

Nose.—Wings of the nose bluish. (1.) Convulsive twitchings of the wings of the nose. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—A weak solution has been applied successfully to Acne about the face and nose. (11.)

Face.—Lock-jaw. (1.) Violent convulsions of the face, which is dotted with lead-colored spots; trismus. (27.) Face convulsed, and swollen; distortion of the mouth.

Pathology.—Lead-colored spots sometimes observed on the face after death. (27.)

Mouth, Pharynx.—Increased secretion of saliva; tongue coated; pain in the palate; spasm in the œsophagus; inflammation of the pharynx and œsophagus. (1.) Difficulty of swallowing drinks, as if from paralysis. (27.) Irritation at the root of the tongue, changing to a scraping sensation; feeling of constriction in the tongue. (4.) Very bitter taste in the mouth; irritation of the throat. (3.) Trismus; distortion of the mouth; tongue and throat red and inflamed; sore throat, rendering it difficult to swallow drinks. (2.)

Pathology.—Violet color of the larynx, trachea, and œsophagus, down to the stomach.—Redness of the mucous membrane of the throat and œsophagus. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is quite homœopathic to salivation and ulceration of the mouth; probably also to chronic pharyngitis; (8.) and to paralysis of the pharynx and œsophagus, with great inability to swallow. (11.)

Stomach, Gastric Symptoms.—Inflammation of the stomach; loss of appetite. (1.) Oft-repeated vomiting; sensitiveness of the epigastric region; complete loss of appetite. (27.) Loss of appetite, which was afterwards increased; feeling of warmth in the stomach; flat taste; aversion to food, although very hungry; heartburn; feeling of heaviness and pressure in the stomach. (4.) Frequent nausea; vomiting. (3.) Pain and fullness in the epigastric region. (2.)

Pathology.—Veins of the stomach much injected.—Mucous membrane of the stomach of a reddish brown color.—Dryness of the mucous membrane of the stomach near the pylorus, but moist and easily separated from the middle coat in other parts.—(4.)

Clinical Remarks.—We have in several instances successfully employed the 12th dilution of Prussic-acid in cardialgia. It has long been used in this malady by the other school, and with success for the the most part, although empyrically. Pereira has often seen it cure promptly severe forms of English cholera, attended with violet vomiting and purging, after opium had failed. (10.)

The immediate and permanent relief sometimes obtained in gastrodynia from Prussic-acid is very extraordinary; cases which have lasted for months and seemed to arise from some organic disease, may sometimes be cured in a few hours. It is also peculiar that in all

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cases we obtain either perfect success, or meet with complete failure, it is said never to cause partial relief. It not only allays pain in the stomach, but relieves vomiting, and that frequently when all other remedies fail. It is supposed to be most useful:

1st, In cases, in which pain at the stomach is the leading symptom;
2d, When gastrodynia is attended with water-brash;
3d, When excessive irritability of the stomach produces vomiting;
4th, In those disorders of the stomach which in their symptoms resemble affections of the heart.

It is more homœopathic to venous congestion of the stomach than to inflammation; also more homœopathic to cramps of the stomach than to neuralgia, or atony.

It is supposed not only to possess a remarkable power in allaying morbid irritability of the stomach, but also to induce a slower and more healthy secretion of gastric juice.

Still Pereira says some of its effects are those of an *irritant:* such as the acrid impression made by the vapor on the nose and mouth; the salivation; the vomiting and purging; and the redness of the stomach. (11.)

Abdomen.—Occasional rumbling of the bowels, followed by a sense of heat throughout the abdomen; colic pains in the abdomen; pain in the region of the right kidney. (4.) Tympanitic distention of the abdomen. (2.)

Pathology.—Villous coat of the duodenum, reddish brown, friable, and easily detached.—Villous coat of intestinal canal covered with a reddish mucus.—Injection of the veins of the intestinal mucous membrane. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most homœopathic remedies to venous plethora of all the the abdominal organs, especially to venous congestion of the stomach, liver, spleen, and whole portal circulation. (11.) Pereira found it curative against a most excruciating pain in the bowels, commencing daily at 2, P.M., and ceasing only at night, lasting for two months, and apparently caused by fever and ague; one dose effected a cure.

Stool.—Involuntary discharges from the bowels. (4.)
Involuntary Stools in bed. (27.) Colic and diarrhœa. (28.)

Clinical Remarks.—In Asiatic or malignant cholera it has occasionally appeared to be successful; it is the most homœopathic remedy in the stage of collapse. Pereira has found it useful in checking the diarrhœa of phthisical subjects when Log-wood, Chalk, and Opium had failed.

Liver and Spleen.—A large quantity of dark violet-colored blood in the liver and spleen; liver and spleen brittle. Joerg noticed in the mesentery of a frog, poisoned with Prussic-acid, that the circulation first in the veins became slower, then that in the arteries; finally the mesenteric arteries became paler and almost empty, while the veins became fuller, and the blood darker and almost violet-colored. In two

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cases, Mertzdorf noticed that the bile and gall-bladder had a blue tint. Spleen gorged, soft and pultaceous.

Urinary Organs.—Retention of urine. (1.) Increased flow of urine, with a slight burning in the urethra; involuntary discharges of urine. (4.)

PATHOLOGY.—A large quantity of dark, violet-colored blood in the kidneys, much softened, and then veins gorged with black blood.

Genital Organs.—Nocturnal pollutions. (27.)

PATHOLOGY.—Scrotum blue and deprived of epidermis here and there; penis in a state of semi-erection, with indications of seminal or prostatic discharge. (1.)

Clinical Remarks—In *gonorrhœa*, injections containing Prussic-acid have been employed with benefit; Schlegel has also tried the cherry laurel water with the same result.

The writer has cured one case of intermittent neuralgia of the left ovary with the 6th dilution, repeated every two hours during the intermissions, after many other of the usual remedies had failed. The paroxysms had been of daily occurrence for more than four weeks, and were entirely cured after two days. (10.)

Larynx and Chest.—Inflammation of the larynx; feeling as if the larynx was swollen; tightness of the chest; asthma; acute sticking pains in the chest. (1.) Respiration difficult and rattling; dyspnœa, accompanied by very marked *râle*; cough, with a slight expectoration of a lightish yellow opaque mucus. Three days after the dose, the patient experienced all the symptoms of an intense pulmonary catarrh. Troublesome paroxysms of cough; catarrhal symptoms increased by the use of cold drinks; cough and dyspnœa worse on lying down in the evening. (2.) Scraping in the larynx and trachea; increased secretion of mucus easily thrown off by coughing; tightness across the chest; stitches in the chest on taking a deep inspiration; dryness in the mouth and larynx; dry cough; lancinating pains in both sides of the thorax, with difficult respiration; palpitation of the heart, with fleeting stitches in the cardiac region; scraping and tickling in the throat; lancinating pain on the right side under the false ribs; respirations and pulsations of the heart rapid. (4.) Respiration feeble, intermittent; respiratory murmur scarcely perceptible by auscultation; respiration sometimes very strong and sometimes intermittent; painful and accelerated respiration. (27.)

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Rosenberg recommends Ac.-hydroc. in true and sthenic cases of pneumonia; pneumonia in phthisical persons; in sub-inflammatory, so-called florid phthisis; in violent inflammations of the lungs after venesection, in the stage of grey hepatization, with stinking purulent expectoration; also in pneumonia chronic, with pleuritis and emphysema of the lungs; in pneumonia notha, in young, very irritable persons, with phthisical disposition, attended with cough,

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dryness in larynx, scratching in the trachea, deep groaning respiration, oppression of the chest, and stitches of pain from deep inspiration.

Ac.-hydroc. and its analogous remedies deprive, according to the provings of Magendie (*Leçons sur le phenom. physiques de la vie*, vol. IV.) the blood of the power to coagulate, and change it to a tar-like mass or raspberry-juice fluid, producing extravasation in the lungs, or obstruction in the capillary vessels; whence arise symptoms of obstruction, and paralysis of the circulation, such as is manifest in cholera, typhus, &c., characterized by terrible anxiety, great oppression of the chest, slow, weak, anxious and rattling respiration; convulsive drawing together of the trachea; gelatinous, blood-streaked expectoration; weak, imperceptible pulse, rolling of the eyes; enlarged, insensible pupils; blue, cold skin; absence of all pain.—(*Müller.—Hom. Vierteljahrsschrift*, Vol. 2. p. 111.)

A woman, about 25 years old, had been sick for sixteen days without medical aid; the whole right lung, except a small place under the clavicle, was apparently in the stage of grey hepatization; the expectoration so fetid that it infected the whole room; there was rapid failure of strength. *Ac.-hydroc.* was given in small, and often-repeated doses, (viz., $\frac{1}{24}$ gr. Amygdalin) and in three days her life was out of danger. (*Dr. Liedbeck—Hom. Vierteljahrsschrift.*) 2. *Band.*

Pathology.—A quantity of blood in the trachea.—Larynx, trachea, and lungs of a violet color, and filled with violet colored blood.—Lungs heavier, firmer, denser than natural, reddish, dotted with black points, and filled internally with a blue black blood of an oily consistence.—Lungs not entirely collapsed; rather hepatized; general distention of the veins of the lungs with black blood.

Clinical Remarks.—The effects upon the respiratory and circulatory organs, are owing to the influence of the acid over those parts of the nervous system from which the respiratory organs and heart derive their power. As a remedy, therefore, it is especially appropriate in spasmodic affections of the respiratory apparatus, like asthma, hooping-cough, and other coughs dependant upon a morbid condition of the nerves supplying these organs. We have found the 12th dilution of great service in phthisis, where the cough has been very troublesome, with thick purulent expectoration, and the patient has become quite emaciated, weak, and nervous from hectic. We have seen its good effects also in asthma and hooping cough, after other remedies had been prescribed without any material benefit. The acid cured in two weeks, in the hands of Frank, phthisis pituitosa with the following symptoms, violent cough, with copious purulent expectoration, pressure in the region of the heart, wandering pains about the thorax, head-ache, furred tongue, high fever, dry skin, sleeplessness. The same physician has cured with it many severe cases of tussis hectica, and asthma spasticum.

The specific action of this remedy on the chest is exceedingly well marked; the breathing is very apt to become labored and oppressed,

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and the chest heavy and full, even before the stomach suffers, and in most cases the immediate cause of death is obstruction of respiration. It is most homœopathic to venous congestion of the lungs. It is the best remedy against the *Epilepsia thoracica* of Schoenlein; in this affection the patient becomes oppressed towards evening, or is awakened from sleep by the feeling of great constriction and oppression of the chest, so that he breathes violently and pantingly, but without sharp pain; this feeling of constriction commences at the ensiform process, and spreads itself from thence over the chest, often attended with the feeling of an ascending aura; the attacks last from fifteen minutes to half an hour, and are followed by a spasmodic cough, which expels but little mucus; or the aura arises to the head and the patient becomes dizzy. Finally convulsions set in. (11.)

Dr. Chapman suggests it as homœopathic to pulmonary apoplexy.

In the last stages of cholera when diarrhœa has ceased and the vomiting has decreased, when there is anguish with pressure on the chest, and the patient becomes cold, with gradual extinction of the pulse, Prussic-acid deserves a trial.

Superior Extremities.—Coldness of the extremities. (2.) Trembling of the right hand; convulsions of the extremities. (27.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most homœopathic remedies to *epilepsy.* It is indicated against the sudden loss of consciousness, and violent convulsions, with venous congestion of internal organs, and blueness of the surface which attend this disease. (11.)

Inferior Extremities.—Coldness of the extremities; convulsions of the extremities; trembling of the extremities. (27.)

Skin.—Slight heat of skin on the second day, becoming hot and dry on the third day; face slightly swollen. (2.) Prickling of the skin. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—Frank cured in two weeks one case of herpetic eruption of two years' standing on the mons veneris, in a lady fifty years old, by the external use of the following lotion:—Acid.-Hydrocyan. ℥jss. and alcohol ℥iv.

Sleep.—Irresistible and constant drowsiness, or sleeplessness. (1.) Deep and prolonged sleep; yawning; inclination to sleep; inability to sleep; sense of great fatigue, without being able to sleep soundly. (4.) Sleepless and agitated during the night. (27.)

Clinical Remarks.—In obstinate cases sleeplessness consequent upon morbid excitement of the nervous system, or upon intense mental excitement, this drug is a remedy of marked power.

Fever.—Pulse small and almost imperceptible in the left wrist; increased fullness of pulse on the second day; catarrhal fever on the third day, with hot and dry skin, cough, great oppression and difficulty of breathing, face red and swollen, aggravation of the symptoms by using cold drinks; evening fever, with heaviness and pain in the head,

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sore throat so as to be unable to swallow drinks, inability to sleep, short fatiguing cough. (2.) Creeping sensations; creeping chills of short duration; great heat; great tendency to perspire; pulse variable. (4.) Pulsations of the heart and arteries, sometimes accelerated, sometimes slower than natural, and sometimes intermittent, but always feeble; heat, thirst, anorexia, sleeplessness, great lassitude, and pulse 100 per minute; gay delirium, with accelerated pulse; paroxysms of coldness and trembling with pain in the head, sleeplessness, painful respiration, rapid and very small pulse. (27.) Vascular system sometimes affected very much, at other times not at all. Some patients only feel warmth in the epigastrium; in others this warmth arises to the face, in the form of flushes, attended with dizziness, and heaviness of the head; in others the feeling of warmth became general, and was attended with palpitation of the heart.

Clinical Remarks.—Hydrocyanic-acid was formerly regarded as a remedy of peculiar efficacy in inflammatory fevers; but the more recent researches of Hahnemann, Orfila, Christison and others, have demonstrated that it possesses no control over affections of a purely inflammatory character. In hectic fevers, and in feverish conditions accompanying catarrh, asthma, hooping cough, &c., it is a valuable remedy in virtue of its specific action upon the nerves of the parts involved. It is much more homœopathic to venous-congestions and inflammations than to arterial.

Heart and Arteries.—The arteries and left cavities of the heart empty; the veins and right cavities distended with fluid blood. In some cases death is caused by stoppage of the heart's action, although in experiments upon rabbits the heart has still been found beating on opening the chest. The venous system is usually gorged with blood, the blood in many cases being fluid, dark, or bluish black, or viscid or oily. Dr. Meyer found on putting a ligature around the large vessels close to the heart that Prussic-acid produced no effect. It only acts when taken into the circulation and then *paralyzes* the heart.

Clinical Remarks.—In *hypertrophy of the heart*, Hope advises Prussic-acid as a palliative, in doses of two or three drops, two or three times daily; it requires to be steadily persevered in. In *nervous palpitations*, or those arising from debility it has been found useful. In *angina pectoris* it has been successfully employed by Brugnatello, Granville and others. Dr. Schlessier relates a very severe case, which, after resisting all other remedies, yielded immediately to Prussic-acid. Dr. Chapman, of London, suggests it as a homœopathic remedy for angina pectoris, and refers to the many deaths reported in the newspapers, said to have been from spasm of the heart, without any organic lesion being found after death: Dr. Arnold, Lord George Bentwick, Horace Twiss and others died thus. (11.)

Blood.—The blood is every where fluid, so that two pounds have flowed from an incision in the scalp, and twelve ounces from that of the dura-mater; it has had a glimmering bluish appearance as if

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Prussian-blue or Cochineal had been mixed with it. It was perfectly fluid every where in the bodies of the seven epileptics poisoned with it at Paris. Only in rare instances has the blood coagulated after flowing from the body, or been found coagulated in the heart. The state of the blood reminds one of that after a person has been struck with lightning. It seems merely to depotentize the blood and render it venous, not to cause any dyscrasia in it. Hence it probably will not prove curative in dyscrasias, such as tubercle, cancer, &c. It may be homœopathic to the blood disorder in cholera, as the blood then is often found to be of the color and consistence of treacle. (11.)

Nervous System.—Pereira thinks that the parts most specifically affected by this acid are the brain and true spinal system. The pain in the head, insensibility and coma are evidences of the cerebral affection; while the tetanic convulsions depend upon a disorder of the true spinal system. Whatever may be the precise pathological condition of the brain and spinal cord it is *probably identical with that which occurs during an epileptic paroxysm.* Dr. Meyer of Tübingen instituted a number of experiments with Prussic-acid to ascertain if possible, with absolute certainty its exact mode of action. He proved that it paralyzes the extremities of the nerves it comes in contact with, i. e. deprives the part of sensation and motion, thereby causing passive congestion, and exudation from paralysis of the capillaries.

General Symptoms.—Catalepsy. (1.) Towards evening a feeling of exhaustion, especially in the lower extremities; dynamized motive power; great exhaustion, with yawning and great inclination to sleep, contrary to his usual custom; on being aroused from sleep, great confusion of the head, and inability to keep awake; desire to sleep late in the morning; lassitude and exhaustion of the whole body; soon after taking an over-dose, falling senseless to the ground; violent vertigo and chilliness, trembling of the limbs, vomiting; difficult respiration; intoxication with signs of fainting; paralysis; convulsions; icy coldness of the extremities; trunk stiff and bent backwards; symptoms better in the open air. (4.)

ACIDUM MURIATICUM.

MURIATIC ACID.

TOXICOLOGICAL EFFECTS.

Very little is known concerning the action of this acid as a poison; but one case is reported by Orfila, and of 527 cases of poisoning there was not one in which this acid was used. The grosser symptoms do not vary from those of the other mineral acids.

There is the same sensation of burning heat from the throat to the epigastrium, with vomiting of a highly acid liquid of a dark green

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color, mixed with mucus and altered blood; the tongue becomes swollen and dry; there is much thirst and great difficulty in swallowing; and the chief seat of the paiu may be in the throat and fauces; the pulse has been observed to be small, frequent and irregular; the skin cold and clammy; the intellectual faculties generally remain clear until death. (11.)

PATHOLOGICAL APPEARANCES.—The fauces, larynx and œsophagus highly inflamed, the mucous membrane lying in detached masses, or actually sloughing away; in one case the mucous membrane was thickened.

The coat of the stomach so much corroded in many places that only the peritonial tunic is left, and in attempting to raise the organ, the parietes gave way.

The contents of the stomach are sometimes yellowish, at others of a dark green color; the gall bladder has been found of a grass-green color from the well known action of this acid on the bile.

The lining membrane of the stomach has been found of a black color, presenting a charred appearance; the blackening extending through the duodenum in it whole length, especially on the valvulæ conniventies; the intervals being stained of a greenish-yellow cclor from the action of this acid on the bile.

When death does not take place for several days, the stomach is highly inflamed, and for the most part in a state of sloughing; large shreds of membrane may be hanging down, especially about the pylorus.

Remarks.—It is evident that this and other mineral acids are the most homœopathic remedies for the most intense ulcerative-, sloughing-, and phagadenic-inflammation; in malignant typhus and scarlet fevers: bad forms of syphilis; gangrenous stomatitis; putrid sore-throat; cancrum-oris; gangrenous ulceration of the genital organs, &c.

Antidotes.—Same as for the other mineral acids. (11.)

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PHENOMENA.

Sensorium.—Vertigo in the open air, and unsteady gait. (1.) Giddiness; intoxication; stupor. (3.)

Clinical Remarks.—In Frank's Magazine we find several cures reported by this acid, of convulsions preceded by buzzing in the ears and vertigo. The convulsions were severe, and after having lasted for several hours, were arrested by a few drops of the diluted acid. (10.)

Mind and Disposition.—Out of humor; irritability; most irritable in the evening. (1.)

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Clinical Remarks.—It is recommended against melancholy and great sadness, when arising from or attended with great acidity of the stomach, bilious derangement, dyspepsia, &c. (11.)

Head.—Tearing pain in the right parietal bone; tensive pain in the right temple; boring pain in the vertex; feeling as if the brain were loose; burning feeling in the head. (1.)

PATHOLOGY.—Blood vessels of the brain very much injected, and the ventricles distended; the arachnoid thickened and opaque; the pia-mater very much injected: a large quantity of serum between the convolutions of the brain. (45.)

Clinical Remarks.—The 1st dilution of Muriatic-acid has often proved curative in our hands in the headaches which so often accompany chronic hepatitis. Also in the dull and stupifying headaches which occur in the progress of typhoid and scarlet fevers, it has not unfrequently displayed excellent curative effects. (10.)—This remedy is infinitely more serviceable in headaches, inflammation of the arachnoid, and dropsy of the brain than Nitric-acid, which is used much more frequently by many physicians. (11.)

Scalp.—Pustules on the forehead and temples; pimples on the forehead, rapidly forming a scurf. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Frank reports one case of *Herpes furfur.* extending over the scalp and face, cured in five weeks by the acid, after Sulphur, Mercurius, Dulcamara, &c., had failed. In our own practice, two cases of porrigo of the forehead, attended with intense burning itching, and running rapidly into the scaly desquamation, were cured in six weeks by the alternate use of Muriatic and Sulphuric-acids, at the 3d dilution. Both of these patients had been for many years sufferers from gout and liver derangements; a complication with which porrigo and eczema are almost invariably accompanied. (10.) Mack recommends it against humid, suppurating and scurfy eruptions; against pimples on the forehead, finally running together into a scurf; but we have found Nitric-acid more useful. (11.)

Eyes.—Itching in the eyes; slight inflammation of the eyes; burning in the eyes on washing them; one-half of every object appears to be cut off from the other half in a perpendicular line; twinkling before the eyes. (1.) Eyes red, and sparkling. (2.)

PATHOLOGY.—Injection of the vessels of the conjunctiva. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—High dilutions of the acid have been successfully employed by us in chronic inflammations of the edges of the lids, remaining after scrofulous ophthalmia. It has likewise proved curative in eczema of the lids, eye-brows, and forehead. (10.)

Ears.—Hardness of hearing; hearing morbidly acute, (secondary effect); frequent tingling, humming and whizzing in the ear; ears sensitive to noise; tearing in the left ear; itching pimples upon both ears: heat and dryness in the ears; ulcerative pain in the left ear, aggravated by boring with the finger. (1.)

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Clinical Remarks.—The writer has occasionally prescribed Muriatic-acid in effections of the ears accompanying malignant scarlatina. It has proved most efficient in gatherings in the ears; attended with hardness of hearing, tenderness of the external ear to the touch, severe ulcerative pains, ringing, and slight sero-purulent, acrid discharges from the ears. We have seen good effects from this acid in the deafness, and ringing in the ears accompanying typhoid fevers. In these instances, other symptoms have corresponded. In two instances, herpetic eruptions about the ears, have disappeared under the prolonged use of the 30th dilution. (10.) A weak dilution may occasionally be dropped into the ears; Nitric-acid seems to act more specifically upon the eyes; Mur.-acid. upon the ears.

Nose.—Frequent sneezing; Coryza; frequent bleeding of the nose; stinging pains in the nostrils; violent itching of the tip of the nose; obstruction of the nose; acrid or corrosive discharge from the nose, or obstruction of the nose with dryness. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—In *malignant scarlet fever* with acrid and corrosive discharge from the nose, fetid breath, disposition to bleed from the nose, obstruction in the nose, soreness and blisters around the nose and mouth, redness of the eyes, gatherings in the ears, faint, darkish eruption, mixed with petechiæ, ulcers in the throat ash-colored or bluish, the drug under consideration is a remedy of the highest importance. We can recall to mind a number of cures of the above group of symptoms with this medicine. In these cases, where the vitality has become very much depressed, we have been in the habit of using the first dilution, each dose in a table-spoonful of water. (10.) It has been recommended against bleeding from the nose; great dryness, obstruction and thick scabs in the nose; ulceration, fissures and scurfiness of the nostrils. (11.)

Face.—Pimples on the face; pimples around the lips; vesicles around the mouth; burning of the lips; rough borders of the lips, with dry, cracked skin. (1.) Animated expression of the face; bluish color of the lips. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—Van Swieten has employed the diluted acid with benefit, as an external application in cancrum-oris. We have frequently used water acidulated with it, as a lotion to allay the intolerable itching and burning of porrigo, eczema, and lichen. Used in this manner, it never repels the eruption, or gives rise to any unpleasant secondary effects. It is particularly appropriate when the remedy is being administered internally for the same malady. He commends its internal use in obstinate eczema attacking the face, and in herpetic eruptions appearing in the whiskers and around the ears. In these cases we are accustomed to prescribe the higher dilutions. (10.) It is useful against acne and other pimples and pustules upon the face; freckles; and ulceration and scurfiness of the upper lip. (11.)

Mouth.—Slight inflammation of the gums; swelling of the gums;

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scorbutic gums; tearing pain in the right upper teeth; copious saliva in the mouth. (1.) Tongue very red and dry; lips darkish. (2.)

PATHOLOGY.—Tongue brown, thickened, hard and dry; lips darkish; ulcerated spots on the mucous membrane of the mouth. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—Properly diluted this acid forms an excellent application for ulcers in the mouth arising from abuse of Mercury or from disordered stomach. It is a valuable internal remedy in ulcers of the mouth occurring as symptoms of scarlet and typhoid fevers, provided other phenomena are homœopathic. We have already alluded to its use in cancrum-oris by Van Swieten. In scorbutic affections of the gums it has been used with advantage, both internally and locally. (10.) It is recommended against inflammation and swelling of the gums; scurvy of the gums; salivation; but more especially against diphtheritis of the mouth and fauces. It is indicated in all typhoid and malignant fevers, when the tongue becomes dry, brown and parched. (11.)

Pharynx.—Rawness and smarting of the fauces. (1.) Redness of the throat; ulceration of the throat. (10.)

PATHOLOGY.—Pharynx and œsophagus of a purple red color, and excoriated in two or three places. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—This is one of our most valuable medicines in the greyish or purple and fetid ulcers of the throat occurring in malignant scarlatina. Above we have detailed the other symptoms which correspond with the drug pathogenesis. We have cured with it a few cases of troublesome ulcerations, of long-standing, appearing in individuals of impaired constitutions, and in persons of a scrofulous dyscrasia. In several cases of this description we have likewise failed of affording any relief. (10.) It is one of the most homœopathic remedies to that croupous inflammation of the pharynx which is apt to descend into the larynx and trachea causing true croup; or to travel down the œsophagus to the stomach. (11.)

Taste, Appetite and Gastric Symptoms.—Bitter taste; acrid and putrid taste; aversion to meat; hiccough before and after eating; frequent eructations. (1.) Hiccough; efforts to vomit; vomiting of yellowish fluids. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—In some forms of dyspepsia, Muriatic-acid holds a high rank as a curative agent. Pereira notices two facts connected with it, which give it a marked interest as a dyspeptic remedy: viz., its power when mixed with mucus, as a solvent or digester of various articles of food, and the fact of its being a constituent of healthy gastric juice. Our own experience has been confined to cases of indigestion in connection with scrofulous and other chronic ulcerations of the mucous membrane of the mouth, pharynx and œsophagus. In these instances we have now and then used a dilution of the acid with decided advantage. (10.) A very interesting cure of convulsive eructations is reported in Frank's Magazine. A man 60 years of age, subject to rheumatic and catarrhal complaints, took cold and was affected as follows: violent and tasteless eructations, lasting

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sometimes for twelve hours, constant flow and spitting of saliva, violent thirst, without heat, impaired appetite, constipation, pressing pain in the chest, worse in the left side, sensation of coldness in the abdomen, rumbling in the bowels preceding the eructations, nausea, great weakness, faintness, cold feet, wandering pains in the head, knees, feet, &c. Every movement of the chest or body brought on an attack. After having taken a great variety of allopathic medicines, for a period of several months, without relief, this patient was promptly cured with a few doses of diluted Muriatic-acid. (10.)

In some forms of dyspepsia Muriatic-acid will have to be assisted or alternated with Lactic-acid; this acid has been incontestibly proven to be an important ingredient of the healthy gastric juice—it is a colorless, syrupy liquid having a very sour taste; it coagulates albumen, and dissolves a large quantity of freshly precipitated phosphate of lime, properties which render it of great importance to the animal economy. It has been proposed by Magendie as a remedy in certain forms of dyspepsia, and for the removal of phosphatic deposits in the urine. (11.)

Hypochondria.—Burning tension in the right hypochondrium; stitches in the left hypochondrium, when stooping; stitches in the left side, under the ribs.

Pathology.—Congested appearance of the liver; green tint of that portion of the gall-bladder in contact with the stomach. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—Muriatic-acid has long been employed, in tropical climates, especially in chronic hepatitis. It is usually prescribed both internally, and as a constituent of the Nitro-muriatic-acid bath. We have been in the habit of using this remedy internally and externally in obstinate cases of this description, and for the most part with satisfactory results.

Stomach.—Empty feeling in the stomach and œsophagus; pressure in the stomach; feeling of repletion in the stomach; heat and burning in the stomach. (1.) Violent pains in the epigastric region; heat and burning in the stomach. (2.) Sensation of warmth in the stomach. (3.)

Pathology.—Stomach thickened and inflamed on its external surface; on its internal surface, the mucous membrane may be detached in layers, with the greatest facility, throughout its whole extent, and presenting in its *cul-de-sac*, gangrenous patches. (2.) In another case the stomach appeared to be charred, and the gall-bladder presented a green tint at the part where it was in contact with the stomach. (3.)

Clinical Remarks.—Chronic gastritis, with heat and burning in the stomach, frequent nausea, vomiting of solid food soon after ingestion, great thirst, sense of fullness in the stomach, or empty and constrictive feeling in the stomach, has often been removed by this remedy. The nausea and vomiting of pregnancy has often been either much relieved or entirely cured by this remedy. (10.) It is an important remedy in some of the most severe and hopeless diseases of the stomach (see page 37.)

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Abdomen.—Colicky pinching in the abdomen; colic early in the morning in bed; violent cutting, with pinching in the abdomen, when standing or walking, going off when sitting; distention of the abdomen; feeling of repletion in the abdomen after a moderate meal; rumbling in the abdomen; pinching in the abdominal muscles; empty feeling in the abdomen. (1.)

PATHOLOGY.—Thickening of the duodenum; jejunum perforated by a worm, which had found its way into the cavity of the abdomen. (2.) Charred appearance of the duodenum; green tint of that portion of the gall-bladder in contact with the stomach, (from the action of acid on the bile?). (3.)

Clinical Remarks.—In flatulent distention of the stomach, with rumbling and colic pains,—especially on standing upright or walking, we have sometimes witnessed good effects from the 12th dilution of the acid. (10.)

Stool.—Stool in small pieces, with straining; inactivity of the rectum; hard, difficult stool, alternating with soft-stools; diarrhœa with burning at the anus; itching of the anus and rectum; swelling of the varices of the rectum, with burning sore pain; blood with the stool; itching in the perineum. (1.) Relaxed state of the bowels. (3.)

Clinical Remarks.—Against several varieties of bowel complaint, Muriatic-acid is a remedy of decided value. With it we have cured several obstinate cases of chronic diarrhœa, attended with tenesmus, colic pains before stool, burning at the anus, stools occasionally bloody, prolapsus of the rectum after stool. It has also cured several cases of diarrhœa, with soft clay-colored stools, alternating with hard and difficult stools. It is likewise a favorite and efficient medicine in certain forms of diarrhœa accompanying typhoid and scarlet fevers. Our own experience points most strongly to the following indications in these fevers, scanty, loose, and bloody stools, with rumbling in the abdomen, colic pains before and during the discharges, tenesmus, burning at the anus, chilliness and prostration after each stool. (10.) It is quite as useful as Nitric-acid against prolapsus-ani, and blind and flowing piles, with burning soreness.

Urinary Organs.—Frequent desire to urinate, with small emission, and tenesmus of the bladder afterwards; frequent desire to urinate with profuse discharge; profuse and pale-yellow urine; slow emission of urine. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—The old school prescribe Muriatic-acid to counteract phosphatic deposits in the urine. It is homœopathic in slight cases of chronic hepatitis, when the urine is pretty copious and tinged with bile. In one case of vesical tenesmus with frequent desire to urinate, accompanying a case of bilious diarrhœa, Muriatic-acid at the 2d dilution effected a prompt cure. (10.) In some cases of Oxalic-acid diathesis, Prout prefers Muriatic-acid to any other remedy; also in the Cystic-oxide diathesis; Bulman cured a case of phosphatic calculus by injecting into the bladder, two drops of Muriatic-acid to

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four ounces of water, always taking care to wash out the bladder previously with warm water. It has cured ischuria; frequent desire to urinate with profuse discharge of urine; diabetes; weakness and paralysis of the bladder. (11.)

Genital Organs.—Itching of the scrotum; leucorrhœa.

Clinical Remarks.—Heare prescribed the acid at the 12th dilution in several cases of itching eruptions upon the scrotum and inside of the thighs. It has proved serviceable in one case of lichen, and in one case of porrigo. We have also administered it in cases of leucorrhœa, but with much less satisfactory results than we are accustomed to witness from the use of the Nitric-acid. (10.) Zeller of Vienna first used it in syphilis: Pearson found that it would radically cure the disease, but ascribed the benefit derived from it to its *salutary* action upon the stomach and constitution, and also to its agency on the ulcers of the throat and tongue as a local application. Rust of Vienna cured several hundred cases, without the aid of a single grain of Mercury; but he failed in every case in which a full diet was allowed; low diet is essential, and large doses, viz., one drachm per day in two pints of Barley-water. (11.)

Larynx.—Hoarseness; loose cough with mucous expectoration morning and evening. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Frank advises the acid in some forms of *tussis convulsiva*. He thinks it appropriate when the paroxysms of cough, terminate in vomiting, and throwing up of large masses of a whitish matter, looking like bread dissolved in water or milk—probably decomposed gastric juice. He has also found it curative in cases unattended by vomiting, but where every attack was so violent as to threaten suffocation, and reduce the patient almost to a condition of tetanus (10.) It has been advised against œdema glottitis; chronic hoarseness, with soreness of the chest. (11.)

Chest.—Oppression across the chest; deep breathing; sticking pain in the chest; boring stitch in the intercostal muscles of the right side; stitches in the region of the heart; sticking pain in the chest during motion or inspiration; violent beating of the heart. (1.)

Pathology.—Muriatic-acid does not exercise any specific action over the lungs; but has a general specific action upon the mucous membranes. In virtue of this action it is prescribed in certain affections of the mucous membrane of the air passages.

Clinical Remarks.—In the last stages of chronic bronchitis and catarrhal consumption, when hectic symptoms are marked and there are copious expectorations, irritating spasmodic cough, diarrhœa and profuse night sweats, this acid is often prescribed with benefit. (10.)

Back.—Violent stitches in the left side of the back; stitches in the scapula; aching pain in the small of the back, when standing or sitting. (1.)

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Clinical Remarks —This medicine will do good in the aching pains in the back, arising from diarrhœas and prolapsus-ani. (10.)

Superior Extremities —Drawing in the left upper arm; frequent drawing tension in the elbow-joint; itching and burning blotches on the fore-arms and elbows; itching eruption upon the hands; cramp-like tearing pain in the upper arm.

Clinical Remarks.—In psoriasis between the fingers, eczema of the hands and fore-arms, and in itching blotches covering the arms we have prescribed the acid with advantage. (10.)

Inferior Extremities.—Sticking with pressure in the muscles of the left thigh, only when sitting; weakness of the thighs and wandering gait; itching herpetic spots on the inside of the thighs; swelling of the knees; frequent tearing in both tibiæ; coldness of the feet; itching stitches in the feet, worse when at rest; swelling and redness of the toes; throbbing pain in the toes. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—We have cured one case of violent porrigo upon the inside of the thighs with the 12th dilution of this acid. (10.)

Sleep.—Difficulty of falling asleep; drowsy in the afternoon; frequent waking at night; waking every morning at four, and inability to fall asleep again; nausea and distention of the abdomen, early in the morning when in bed; sleeplessness in the early part of the night; anxious dreams. (1.) A slight degree of stupor. (3.)

Clinical Remarks.—Drowsiness arising from bilious derangement, is often relieved by the acid. Good effects have also followed its use in three cases of drowsiness occurring as symptoms of Bright's disease of the kidneys. In these last instances, the relief was only temporary.

Fever.—Chilliness; chilliness with thirst, dry mouth and burning face; heat of the body with inclination to uncover; night sweats; feverish shuddering. (1.) Pulse frequent and full, face animated eyes red and sparkling, severe headache, violent delirium, skin hot and dry, tongue red, lips bluish, hiccoughs, nausea and vomiting. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—We esteem this drug a valuable remedy in certain stages of typhoid and scarlet fevers. The following symptoms which not unfrequently occur during the progress of *typhoid fevers*, point to its use: great prostration, occasional or constant delirium, rapid pulse, red and dry tongue, or dark and dry tongue, dull, confused pain in the head, stitching pains in the side, disposition to settle down in bed, slavering, digging with the head into the pillow, depression of the lower jaw, looseness of the bowels. In *malignant scarlatina*, the following group of symptoms indicate the employment of Muriatic-acid; purple color of the cheeks, bluish lips, lips dark, dry and cracked, tongue red and moist, or dark and dry, pulse very rapid, lethargic state, with delirium, eyes red and suffused, great prostration, diarrhœa, irregular, faint eruption, becoming dark red, and mixed with petechiæ, dark or greyish ulcerations of the throat,

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fœtid breath, acrid and fetid discharge from the nostrils, soreness and blisters around the nose and lips, coldness of the extremities, occasional shuddering hiccough. (10.) This remedy is applicable in *hectic fever* with frequent shudderings during the day, and profuse night sweats in the morning in bed. While experiencing the chilly sensations the patient has great heat and burning in the cheeks, rapid pulse, dryness of the mouth, and thirst. (10.)

Hɪss of Stockholm found it highly serviceable in typhus fever, particularly in cases attended with cerebral symptoms (see head); its employment was not contra-indicated by the state of the tongue or stomach; it was useful whether the tongue was loaded or not, red and fissured, moist, or *parched*; it was also given whether the abdomen was painful or not, tense or flaccid, and both when there was constipation or diarrhœa. If the doses were too large it always aggravated bronchial or pulmonary congestion. (11.)

In the *continued fevers of children*, Wᴇsᴛ found it useful in the advanced stages, after the second week, when the vital powers were much depressed; if he had used it earlier, he would have been still more successful. (11.)

Skin.—Stinging itching in various parts of the body, relieved by scratching; stitches in the skin at different parts; ulcers on the skin; titillating, prickling itching of the skin, relieved only temporarily by friction. (1.) Skin burning and dry; or cold and clammy. (2.)

Pᴀᴛʜᴏʟᴏɢʏ.—The only morbid appearances which have been observed upon the skin in cases of poisoning, are, a bluish tinge of some portions of the surface, œdematous state of the feet and ankles. Manufacturers of the article have been occasionally afflicted with painful ulcers of the skin, in consequence of inhaling the vapors arising from the acid during the process of manufacture. (10.)

Clinical Remarks.—Itching eruptions of the skin have sometimes been cured by this drug. It is in these cases of eruptive disease in which a marked alkaline condition is found, that the remedy has been found most beneficial. It has been used in the old school as an external application to sloughing phagedæna, and in a diluted form, as a lotion to *cancrum-oris*. (10.)

General Symptoms.—Lassitude; vacillating gait, owing to weakness of the thighs; drowsiness; pains in the periosteum of every bone. (1.) Asthenic conditions; putrid, typhoid, and malignant forms of disease; hectic symptoms, with profuse loss of fluids by sweat and diarrhœa. (10.)

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ACIDUM NITRICUM.

NITRIC ACID.

TOXICOLOGICAL EFFECTS.

From the *strong* acid, the symptoms come on immediately, and the swallowing of the acid is attended by the most intense burning pain in the fauces and œsophagus, extending to the stomach; there are gaseous eructations from the chemical action of the acid; swelling of the abdomen, violent vomiting of liquid or solid matters, mixed with altered blood and shreds of mucus, having a strong acid reaction. The abdomen is generally *exquisitely tender*. The mucous membrane of the mouth is commonly soft and white, after a time becoming yellow, or of a brown color; the teeth are also white, and the enamel is partially destroyed. There is great difficulty of speaking, as well as of swallowing; the power of swallowing is sometimes entirely lost. On opening the mouth, the tongue may be found swollen and of a citron color; the tonsils are also swollen and enlarged. The difficulty of breathing is sometimes so great as to render tracheotomy indispensable, especially in young subjects. As the case proceeds, the pulse becomes small, frequent and irregular; the surface of the body extremely cold, and there are frequent *rigors*. The deglutition of the smallest quantity of liquid increases the severity of the pain, and gives rise to a feeling of laceration or corrosion. There is obstinate constipation. Death takes place in from eighteen to twenty-four hours, and is sometimes preceded by a kind of stupor easily removed; the intellectual faculties commonly remain clear to the last. (11.)

Should the patient survive the first effect of the poison, the mucous membrane of the fauces and œsophagus is discharged either in irregular masses, or a complete cylinder of the œsophagial lining may come away. There is great irritability of the stomach, vomiting, and destruction of the powers of digestion; the patient becomes slowly emaciated, and dies from starvation or exhaustion.

Death may also be caused by inflammation and *œdema of the larynx*, with consequent suffocation. (11.)

CHRONIC POISONING.

Case 1.—A man aged 34, swallowed a wineglassful of Nitric-acid, but the greater portion was immediately rejected by vomiting. An attack of acute gastritis followed, from which he apparently recovered; but about a month afterwards he had severe pain throughout the œsophagus to the epigastrium, and vomiting after taking food. He gradually sank and died in three months.

PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY.—The pylorus was found so diminished in size, that its diameter did not exceed a line or two; and the duodonum was equally contracted for about one and a half inch from its commencement. The mucous membrane was softened and red in patches;

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and *there were several cicatrices of ulcers.* The subjacent tissues were in a *scirrhous* state. (Taylor's Medical Jurisprudence.)

Case 2.—A man aged 52, drank two ounces of dilute Nitric-acid, followed immediately by violent pain and burning in the mouth, throat and œsophagus; then he vomited up the larger portion of the acid. On the next day the pains in the mouth and throat had increased; the inner surface of the mouth, throat and tongue were covered with white, easily-detached, and partly detached shreds of mucous- and false membrane. The palate and tonsils were swollen and painful; swallowing was very difficult, and liquids only could be got down. Respiration was much oppressed. The stomach was somewhat painful to the touch; the muscles of the abdomen very much contracted. The pulse small and tranquil; brain undisturbed; stool and urine natural. During the following few days he had attacks of violent pain in the stomach; but in the course of eight days his mouth and throat had improved so much that he could take a little food; still he became weaker, his appearance was worse, and he became emaciated; for two days before the final catastrophe he vomited his food several times and discharged some blood with his stools. On the fifteenth day, increased pain in the stomach sat in, with frequent attacks of nausea and anxiety, followed by violent vomiting of black and fluid blood, and of a broad membrane one foot in diameter; this membranous mass was putrid, black in patches, perforated in several places, and contained fibrous and large vascular ramifications. Soon after the vomiting he had stools containing a large quantity of black, offensive and putrid blood. After these evacuations the patient became miserable and weak, his pulse small and frequent, with increased pain in the stomach. In four days more he again vomited and purged black and offensive blood; he exhaled a most putrid odor; his limbs became cold; pulse small and very frequent; eyes dull, sight extinguished; still he lived and vomited blood from time to time for two days more, when he died.

Pathological Anatomy.—The brain was healthy, with the exception of some opacity of the arachnoid, and considerable fluid in the ventricles.

The aorta and left side of the heart contained coagula.

The sharp edge of the liver was adherent to the colon; peritoneum natural. When the liver was raised an open cavity was exposed, which occupied the place of the stomach and extended from the duodenum to the œsophagus. The walls of this cavity were formed anteriorly by the concave surface of the liver, the colon and by shreds of the coats of the stomach; posteriorly by gangrenous, dissolved and putrid masses of stomach; to the left, by the spleen and portion of the coats of the stomach. Hence all that portion of the stomach which had formed the anterior wall, smaller curvature and part of the posterior wall had been vomited up several days before death; still the contents of the stomach had not passed into the cavity of the peritoneum.

The whole intestinal canal, especially the transverse colon was filled

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with masses of blood; the entire mucous membrane of the œsophagus was gone, so that the muscular coat was exposed.

A similar cases is reported in Vol. 1. p. 123 of this Journal.

Case 3.—In a somewhat similar case the patient lived three months; after an apparent recovery he relapsed in the sixth week from imprudence in diet; the pains in the œsophagus and stomach returned, also the nausea, vomitings, colics and constipation; he became very much emaciated, his face sunken and altered; putrid eructations and considerable distention of the epigastric region occurred; his tongue was pale and somewhat moist; breath offensive; pulse 66 to 68; skin natural.

Notwithstanding the use of various remedies his abdomen began to swell, especially about the left hypochondriac region, forcing the false ribs outwards, and forming a swelling which extended down to the navel. He lost strength rapidly; his pulse became very frequent and small; his tongue dry, and features pinched.

Notwithstanding his frequent vomitings the patient desired solid food. He finally died suddenly.

PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY.—The stomach was found *enormously distended*, so that it not only filled the whole left hypochondriac region, but the whole left side of the abdomen down to the iliac fossa; still the walls of the stomach were generally not much thinned. There were several quarts of a thick chocolate-like, extremely offensive fluid in the stomach. Beside gastritis, there were ulcers of various sizes and various degrees of cicatrization, near the pylorus; some of these ulcers were an inch in diameter, with very thick and prominent edges.

The opening of the pylorus did not exceed one line in diameter; the walls of the pylorus and upper part of the duodenum were at least half an inch thicker than natural and quite hard; the cut surface of this indurated and hypertrophied portion presented a greyish white, and somewhat bluish appearance; its tissue was porky, and it creaked under the knife; hence it presented all the characteristics of *true schirrus* according to Audral.

Antidotes.—The poisonous action of Nitric-acid may be prevented by neutralizing it, but it acts so rapidly that if much time is lost in seeking an antidote, irreparable mischief may be caused before the remedy is taken. If *Chalk* or *Magnesia* can be administered without delay, they ought to be preferred; the plaster of house walls may be beaten down and made into a thin paste with water and used; a solution of soap is another antidote of no mean value; until either of these articles can be procured the patient should drink freely of any mild fluid which can be obtained, viz., of water, milk, sweet-oil, tea, coffee, in fact anything which will dilute the acid. As soon as MAGNESIA can be obtained it should be used; it has saved several cases in which as much as two ounces of Acid have been swallowed. Carbonate of Potash given in mucilaginous fluids, has the advantage over Magnesia that it may be administered in a small volume.

After the proper antidote has been given to a sufficient extent the use of diluents ought to be continued.

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The treatment of the supervening gastritis does not differ from that of ordinary inflammation of the stomach.—CHRISTISON.

AUTHORITIES.

1. Hahnemann. 2. Orfila. 3. Pereira. 4. *Chrystison.* 5. Perry. 5. Frank's Magazine. (44.) Waring's Therapeutics.

PHENOMENA.

Intellect.—Intellect usually unimpaired; exalted imagination; indifference to life. (2.) Great weakness of memory; vertigo on rising.(1.)

Disposition.—Great anxiety and agitation; inexpressible *malaise*; irritability. (2.) Sadness; anxiety; excessive nervousness and irritability; angry and excited mood; indifference; hopelessness; despair. (1.)

Head.—Headache; congestion of blood to the head; pressure and heat in the head; painful tension in the interior of the head; stitching and darting pains in the left temple; headache as if the head were surrounded by a tight bandage; throbbing pains in the temples; throbbing headache in the left temple. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—This remedy is used very largely by Dr. Gray in the treatment of chronic headaches.—It is to be hoped that he will soon communicate his experience to the world.

Scalp.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In baldness, a liniment of Nitric-acid and sweet-oil is useful; it should be slightly pungent but not acrid. It will also cure Porrigo. (44.)

Eyes.—Conjunctiva injected; eyes animated and haggard; eyes fixed; (2.) *Muscæ volitantes;* short-sighted.

Clinical Remarks.—It has been used successfully against inflammation of the cellular tissue about the eyes, when it has terminated in suppuration and ulceration. In ulceration of the cornea. In gonorrhœal ophthalmia. Opacities of the cornea. For Dudgeon's remarks on Nitric-acid in ophthalmia, see Brit. Journ. Hom. Vol. 6, p. 503.

Ears.—Difficulty of hearing; stitches in the ears; hardness of hearing from ringing in the ears. (1.)

Clinical Remarks—It is a useful remedy against purulent otorrhœa.

Nose.—Soreness and scurf in the nose; violent bleeding of the nose; unpleasant smell in the nose. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—It has been used successfully against scrofulous and syphilitic eczema, and against polypi of the nose. It is especially useful against the terrible affection of the nose which attends malignant scarlet fever.

Face.—Face pale; yellow spots upon the edge of the upper lip; convulsive motions of the muscles of the face; countenance pale and cadaverous. (2.) Small pimples on the face, especially on the forehead; pimples on the hairy border of the temple. (1.) Face pale and cold; face sunken. (6.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is useful against acne and erysipelas of the face.

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Mouth.—Tongue of a light yellow color, dryness of the tongue; tongue yellow at its base and on its sides, and brown in the centre; tongue humid and natural. (2.) Throbbing toothache; looseness of the teeth; ulcers in the mouth and fauces; copious flow of saliva; soreness of the tongue; putrid smell from the mouth; bitter or sweetish taste in the mouth; great thirst. (1.) Violent pains in the mouth and œsophagus; mucous membrane of the mouth and tongue pale; ulcers in the mouth covered with yellowish-grey scabs emitting an offensive odor. (6.)

PATHOLOGY.—Mucous membrane of the lips, mouth and tongue of a very pale color, and much shrivelled; mucous membrane of the tongue detached in several parts. (6.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is homœopathic to salivation, ulceration of the mouth, cancrum-oris, and aphthæ.

Throat.—Severe pain in the throat, extending through the œsophagus to the stomach; burning heat through the œsophagus, into the stomach. (2.) Ulceration and dryness of the throat. (1.) Tonsils swollen; difficult deglutition; violent pain in the throat, with burning thirst; ulcers in the mouth and throat covered with yellowish grey scabs, emitting a foul odor; mucous membrane inflamed, swollen and painful; increased pain during deglutition in the œsophagus; rough voice; breath offensive. (6.)

PATHOLOGY.—Mucous membrane of the œsophagus detached in patches, and the muscular coat much inflamed. (6.)

Clinical Remarks.—The writer has cured one case of obstinate ulceration of the throat of long standing, with the 30th dilution of the acid. This case was non-syphilitic, and had resisted the venal allopathic routine of mercurials, Iodide of potash, &c., for many years.

It is especially useful against the horrible affection of the nose and throat which attends malignant scarlet fever. In chronic inflammation and ulceration of the throat. It is especially homœopathic to quinsy sore-throat. In syphilitic ulceration of the tonsils, uvula, root of the tongue and inner side of the lips, when the parts look as if lard or starch had been infiltrated into and beneath the mucous membrane. Aphthæ of the mouth and fauces. Acute and chronic pharyngitis and œsophagitis, even of the membranous or croupous kind. Chronic inflammation of the palate, uvula, tonsils, mouth and fauces, attended with burning, stinging, soreness, and more or less follicular ulceration. Chronic inflammation of the mucous membrane of the fauces, with soreness, redness and dryness of the throat, aggravated by every change of the weather. In obstinate ulceration and phagadæna of the throat, more or less diluted acid must be applied locally. (11.)

Stomach.—Dull pains in the stomach, becoming very intense upon the slightest pressure; repeated nausea, and vomiting from time to time; vomiting of a dark and glairy liquid, and finally of a liquid more clear and of a citron color; burning pains in the stomach; violent pains at the epigastrium; vomiting of a mucous and yellow fluid. (2.)

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Great thirst continually; sour eructations; nausea; heat and burning in the stomach. (1.) Pain in the stomach; retching and vomiting; vomiting of black liquid blood, also of portions of detached mucous membrane; distention of the epigastric and hypogastric regions which are painful to the touch. (6.)

PATHOLOGY.—Stomach very much distended, and covered with dark spots; stomach distended with gas, and containing a yellowish, floculent, non-fetid liquid; darks spots on different portions of the mucous membrane of the stomach; thickening and redness of the walls of the stomach. (2.) Perforation near the smaller curvature of the stomach; portions of the mucous membrane detached from the muscular coat; dark spots on different portions of the mucous membrane; enormous distention of the stomach; stomach containing a large quantity of thick, offensive, chocolate-colored fluid; mucous coat of the pyloric orifice very much thickened; ulcers near the pyloric orifice—some of them in process of healing; mucous membrane of the pylorus bright red, but at the most dependent point, greyish brown, and disorganized; on cutting through the thickened and ulcerated mucous membrane, a grating sensation was felt, like that described by Andral when cutting through cancer of the stomach. (6.)

Clinical Remarks.—Cardialgia, and heartburn, and pyrosis, which have resisted the use of alkalies are often curable by Nitric-acid.

It is one of the most homœopathic remedies for chronic ulceration of the stomach, even against the perforating ulcer. Unfortunately the symptoms of perforating ulcer are exceedingly obscure, owing possibly to the most frequent seat of the ulcer being in the upper portion of the anterior wall of the stomach, so that food, drinks and irritating substances rarely touch it. The symptoms are those of chronic gastritis or mere dyspepsia, although many of these cases are remarkable for the slight inconvenience experienced previous to the completion of perforation. Young women with more or less anæmia and disordered menstruation are most subject to it, although it sometimes attacks males. The attacks of perforation are often sudden; a young woman apparently in good health may be attacked while putting up her hair; but many cases occur soon after a hearty meal; when perforation actually occurs, the symptoms are those of acute peritonitis, viz., incessant vomiting, hiccough, tension, tenderness and swelling of the belly, quick, thrilling pulse, and clammy perspirations. After perforation has taken place, the pain and distress never cease; the severe pain at the epigastrium or right hypochondrium and the extreme anxiety and distress of the patient's countenance are more pathognomonic than the vomiting, or state of the pulse. The attacks are often so sudden, that suspicion of poisoning is often excited. (11.)

If perforation has been diagnosed, not a particle of food or drink should be swallowed—beef tea injections—suppositories of Opium and Arsenic may be used—bits of ice may be held in the mouth, but the fluid should be spit out again. (11.)

Nitric-acid is also homœopathic to hæmatemesis. (11.)

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It is the only known, absolutely homœopathic remedy for hard cancer of the stomach, especially of the pylorus. (11.)

Abdomen.—Abdomen distended and painful to the touch; tearing pains in the abdomen; violent colic; severe pains throughout the entire abdomen; pains increased from the lightest pressure upon the abdomen. (2.) Frequent pinching in the abdomen; cutting pain in the abdomen, in the morning in bed; excessive flatulence; rumbling in the abdomen; suppurating swelling of the inguinual glands. (1.) Muscles of the abdomen contracted; distention of the hypochondriac region, which is tender to the touch. (6.)

Pathology.—Increased thickness and redness of the upper portion of the jejunum; dilatation of the calibre of the duodenum; inflammation and thickening of the peritoneum; adhesion of the peritoneum to different parts of the walls of the abdomen; duodenum and jejunum covered with a thick layer of a yellow serous substance, which can be readily detached; slight injection of the vessels of the peritoneum. (2.) Peritoneum healthy; mucous membrane of the duodenum destroyed; small intestines somewhat contracted and atrophied. (6.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is homœopathic to true peritonitis; to ulceration of the bowels with diarrhœa, and hæmorrhage occurring during typhus fever, dysentery, chronic diarrhœa, or phthisis. In habitual constipation Dr. Graves has occasionally derived remarkable benefit from it. In cholera Nitric-acid, largely diluted, has been used successfully by Sir James McGregor and Dr. Hope; when largely diluted and sweetened they say that it may be used as an ordinary drink in this disease. Injections of dilute Nitric-acid are very useful in chronic diarrhœa and hæmorrhage from ulceration of the bowels.—In puerperal intestinal irritation where diarrhœa is a prominent symptom, Nitric-acid with or without opium is often very useful. (11.)

Liver and Spleen.—It is supposed to exert more direct action upon the liver than the other acids, and to affect the stomach more quickly and severely. In *chronic hepatitis*, the symptoms will frequently be ameliorated and subdued by dilute Nitric-acid; if persevered in, it will cause slight soreness of the mouth; sponging the body and the surface of the liver particularly, with the dilute acid is also often very useful.—In chronic affections of the spleen Amnesley recommends the internal and external use of this acid. (10.)

Rectum and Stool.—Very frequent and urgent desire for stool, but without the ability to accomplish any thing; obstinate constipation, with constant desire to go to stool; (2.) Long pressing when going to stool; itching and pressure in the rectum. (1.) Painful and bloody stools, with tenesmus and prolapsus of the rectum; prolapsus of the rectum. (5.) Discharge of a large quantity of offensive, black blood; constipation. (6.) Dr. Walter's drank accidentally and quite heartily of dilute Nitric-acid; some time after vomiting freely he had pain, griping, and flatus, followed by tenesmus and bloody stools, with headache and fever; the dysentery lasted two days.

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Chapman thinks that colic preceding the

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stool, itching of the rectum and hepatic disorder are indications for its use in diarrhœa and dysentery. Dr. Perry has cured four cases of prolapsus-ani, with the 30th dilution of Nitric-acid in alternation with the 30th dilution of Ignatia. We have cured one case of *prolapsus-ani* with the acid (30th dilution), given every night for six weeks. We have also cured one case of *fistulu-in-ano*, (complete) of two years' standing with the acid and Ignatia at the 30th dilution, giving them on alternate weeks, once a day. The strong acid may be applied to that soft, red, strawberry-like elevation which Houston of Dublin calls a vascular tumor of the rectum. (10.)

Urinary Organs.—Frequent and ineffectual attempts to urinate; after several attempts to urinate, he passes a few drops. (2.) Fetid urine, nightly desire to urinate. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—It seems to have of all the acids the most decided and specific action upon the kidneys. From a chemical position Nitric-acid has been advised in albuminuria, from the known fact that Acidum-nitricum is a most delicate test for albumen.—After taking Acidum-nitricum pain in the lumbar region and kidneys is observed, and from there to the bladder, attended with great urging to pass urine, followed by diminution, even suppression of the secretion of urine for some days, and enuresis. The urine burns when passing the urethra, is very turbid, has a bad smell and is very dark, even brown in color, depositing fibrous nubecula, and much brown-red, greasy sediment. The mucous membrane of the urethra is likewise affected as in the first stage of blenorrhœa; pains in the orifice of the urethra commence very soon after the use of the remedy, as in case of stone in the bladder. It is not known whether albumen in the urine is produced by taking Acidum-nitricum. (Reil.) (10.)

In calculous diseases, more especially in the alkaline and phosphatic diathesis, Nitric-acid may be employed with advantage—Brodie speaks highly of its value—In extreme cases large doses must be given; the the effect of these large doses in correcting the alkaline quality of the urine is very remarkable—he also employed it as a direct solvent of stone, by injecting the dilute acid into the bladder. In chronic inflammation of the bladder Brodie also used these injections. (11.)

In diabetes Dr. Bardsley found it generally productive of benefit, mitigating the thirst and heat, and diminishing the secretion of urine.

Genital Organs.—*Clinical Remarks.*—Frank, in Vol. 1. No. 4 of his magazine reports six cases of rheumatism and gout, brought on by colds following syphilis, either cured, or greatly relieved by baths slightly impregnated with Nitric-acid. The same gentleman reports several cases of suppurating syphilitic bubos, and of secondary syphilitic ulcers upon the genital organs, cured by the internal use of Nitric-acid baths; many of these cases having previously resisted the use of Calomel, &c. (10.)

Mr. Ely S. W. (March 9.) Irritation of that portion of the urethra traversing the glans. Twenty years ago Mr. W. caught a severe

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gonorrhœa, which was cured in a few weeks. A month after the cure of the gonorrhœa, he felt the first symptoms of the irritation, which manifested themselves by a distracting titillation in the part, which was soon followed by burning on micturition. No signs of stricture existing, and his assurance that several physicians had already passed bougies into the bladder, without much difficulty, led us to suppose his case one of simple irritation of the urethra which could easily be removed by homœopathic remedies. March 9. Canthar. $1\frac{1}{10}$. March 12. somewhat relieved. Canthar. again. March 19. No improvement. Stitching in the glans-penis in addition. Intense feeling of formication in the urethra. Cannab. $1\frac{1}{10}$. March 23. No change of itching, pain in the glans at intervals. Acidum-nitricum $1\frac{1}{10}$. Now decided improvement commenced and continued by the uninterrupted administration of the remedy until the last week of May, at which time the patient was discharged and having had no symptoms of disease from that time to this, may be considered as permanently cured, in spite of the great length of duration of his affection. (Füllgraff.)

Female Sexual Organs.—Leucorrhœa of greenish or pinkish mucus; fetid leucorrhœa; profuse menstruation. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—At the first dilution, Nitric-acid is one of our most valuable remedies against obstinate, leucorrhœa, with acrid, greenish, or yellowish, and fetid discharges. We have found it especially serviceable in cases of universal mucous derangement, catarrh, dyspepsia, chronic diarrhœa and leucorrhœa. (10.)

Larynx and Trachea.—Voice hoarse and weak. (2.) Hoarseness; dry, barking cough, worse in the evening; yellow expectoration; cough with bloody expectoration. (1.) Difficult respiration. (6.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most useful remedies against chronic laryngitis, ulceration of the larynx, and chronic aphonia.

Chest.—Rapid, difficult, and painful respirations. (2.) Shortness of breath; panting respiration; palpitation of the heart when walking; stitches in the right side of the chest and scapula; cramp-like drawing in the chest; congestion of blood to the upper part of the chest. (1.)

Pathology.—Blood coagulated in the left ventricle of the heart, and in the aorta. (6.)

Clinical Remarks.—It has been used very successfully against chronic asthma, and hooping cough. (See Vol. 1. p. 131 of this Journal.) In pneumonia in old or very feeble persons, when the cough is either dry, or attended with copious green and bloody expectoration, violent stitches generally on the left side, excessive difficulty of breathing, soft, intermitting pulse and profuse perspiration. (11.)

Superior Extremities.—Coldness of the extremities; feeling of coldness in the hands and arms. (2.) Pressure on the right shoulder; drawing pain in both arms; very cold hands; sweaty hands; the hands go to sleep; swelling of the fingers. (1.)

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Inferior Extremities.—(2.) Coldness of the extremities; feet and legs feel quite cold; legs feel weak and heavy. (2.) Coldness and feeling of coldness in the right leg; heaviness of the lower limbs; copious sweat of the soles of the feet; drawing in the muscles of the thigh; bends of the knees stiff and swollen; cramp in the calf of the leg; drawing and tearing pains in the feet; chilblains on the big toes; redness, inflammation and swelling of the big toes. (1.)

Sleep.—Drowsiness in the day-time; frequent waking in the night; unrefreshing, restless sleep; nose bleed at night; anxious sleep, with moaning; anxious dreams; after waking in the morning,—trembling of the whole body. (1.)

Fever.—Surface of the body cold and covered with sweat; coldness more marked in the extremities; pulse small and frequent; cold sweat over the entire body, with an almost imperceptible pulse; slight chills; accelerated and difficult respiration; great agitation and anxiety; pulse small, frequent and irregular; delirium; continual anxiety, general feeling of chilliness, small and almost imperceptible pulse. (2.) Chilliness especially in the evening; cold skin over the whole body; frequent flushes of heat in the day-time; night sweats; fetid sweat during the night. (1.) Pulse small and frequent. (6.)

Clinical Remarks.—We have often used the 2d dilution of Nitric-acid, in malignant scarlatina, with excellent results. We have seen it especially serviceable for the following symptoms: greyish ulcers in the throat; exceedingly fetid and offensive odor from the mouth and nostrils; acrid glutinous, fetid discharge from the nostrils; stupor; dry, dark, red tongue; nightly delirium; redness of the conjunctiva; pulse small and quick, or slow and intermittent; glandular swellings. The same dilution has likewise proved serviceable in our hands, for the cure of the following symptoms occurring in typhoid fevers: Coldness and moisture of the extremities; frequent, small, and irregular pulse; rapid, difficult, and irregular respiration; dry and dark tongue; lips dry and black; moaning; delirium; lethargic sleep; tenderness of the abdomen on pressure; frequent and sudden desire for stools; constant, but ineffectual desire to pass urine.

It has been used very successfully in fever and ague. (10.)

Skin.—Skin cold and covered with a cold perspiration; skin pale, and bloodless. (2.) Itching of the skin. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Edward Cooke used the acid successfully in several cases of inveterate *elephantiasis*. We have employed the 1st dilution with marked benefit in numerous cases of eczema occurring in persons of gouty diathesis. (10.)

General Symptoms.—General depression of the vital force; great sense of lassitude, and prostration; intellectual faculties unimpaired; great anxiety and agitation; coldness of the whole body, but most notable in the extremities; burning pains in the mouth, throat, œsophagus and stomach; abdomen distended and painful, especially

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when pressed upon; constant vomiting of darkish, glairy, yellowish and other fluid. (2.) Frequent drawing pains in every part of the body; tearing in the upper and lower limbs; proneness to take cold; heaviness; emaciation; excessive thinness; great lassitude and debility. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Old school physicians say that the dilute acid is tonic, alterative, and refrigerant.

Characteristic Symptoms.—The symptoms increase toward evening; slight pains produce violent constitutional effects. (1.)

From the property which Nitric-acid possesses of *coagulating the blood* when introduced into the circulation, we infer that it must prove a valuable remedy in *cholera asphixia*, and in certain stages of yellow fever. (10.)

ACIDUM OXALICUM.

OXALIC ACID.

TOXICOLOGICAL EFFECTS.

According to Christison when the *concentrated* acid is injected into the stomach of a dog or cat it causes exquisite pain, expressed by cries and struggling; in a few minutes this is succeeded by violent efforts to vomit; then by sudden dulness, languor and great debility; and death soon takes place without a struggle.

Pathological Appearances.—The stomach is found to contain black extravasated blood, exactly like blood acted on by Oxalic-acid out of the body; the inner coat of the stomach is of a cherry red color, with streaks of black granular warty extravasation, and very brittle; the subjacent stratum is *gelatinized*. This gelatinization is somewhat peculiar to Oxalic-acid, as this agent has no chemical action on any of the common animal principles, except *gelatin*, which it dissolves rapidly; and this solution is of a peculiar kind not being accompanied with any decomposition either of the acid or gelatin.

The *dilute* acid, viz., 1 part to 20 of water, like the mineral acids under the same circumstances, ceases to corrode; nay it hardly even irritates; but unlike them it continues to be a deadly poison, for it causes death by acting indirectly on the brain, spine and heart.

The symptoms vary with the dose: when the quantity is large, the most prominent symptoms are those of palsy of the heart, and immediately after death the heart is found to have lost its contractility and to contain arterial blood in its *left* cavities.

When the dose is *less*, there are several fits of tetanus, which affect the respiratory muscles of the chest in particular, causing spasmodic fixing of the chest and consequent suffocation.

When the dose is *still less*, the spasms are slight or altogether wanting, and death occurs under symptoms of pure narcotism like those caused by opium: the animal appears to sleep away.

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It is the most rapid and unerring of all the common poisons: death may take place in from ten minutes to one or a few hours; several cases have lasted about thirteen hours, the patient then dying of exhausting fever, with dyspepsia and hiccough.

When the dose is large and concentrated, the first symptoms have been immediate burning pain in the stomach and generally also in the throat. When it is much diluted, pain may not set in for six or more hours.

In general, violent vomiting soon follows the accession of pain, and continues until death; when the acid is much diluted, vomiting, is not so common; the vomited matter is sometimes bloody. The tongue and mouth occasionally become inflamed if the patient lives long enough; the tongue then becomes red, swollen, tense and tender. Death commonly takes place so soon that the bowels are seldom much affected, but if the patient lives several hours they are much irritated, with severe pain in the bowels, frequent inclination to go to stool, or constant involuntary discharge of fluid fæces, occasionally mixed with blood.

The signs of depressed circulation are always very striking; in general the pulse fails altogether; it is always very feeble, and the skin cold and clammy; violent palpitation from irritation has been noticed, however, in one case.

In the slower cases various nervous symptoms have been observed, such as pain and great lassitude and weakness of the limbs, followed by numbness and weakness in the limbs and back, so that the patient could hardly walk.

In another case the first thing complained of was: acute pain the back, gradually extending down the thighs, occasioning ere long great torture, and persisting until death. In a third case there was headache, extreme feebleness of the pulse, and a sense of numbness, and tingling, or pricking in the back and thighs. In a fourth case: violent irritation of the bowels soon followed by a feeling as if the hands were dead, loss of consciousness for eight hours, then lividity, coldness and almost complete loss of the power of motion in the legs. In a fifth case, there was first violent vomiting, then severe pain in the stomach, and finally clammy perspiration and convulsions. In one case an eruption or mottled appearance of the skin in circular patches, not unlike the roundish red marks, on the arms of stout children, but of a deeper tint. In another case, the first appearance of the symptoms in ten minutes, was in the shape of vomiting of fluid of a dark bloody color; on the ninth day an eruption appeared over the body, similar to the maculæ of typhus. In one case, the patient lost her voice for eight days.

CASE.—An officer took took half an ounce of Oxalic-acid by mistake for Cheltenham salts, and at once became aware of his error; but twenty minutes elapsed before he took Tartar-emetic, four grains.

He experienced immediately, great irritation of the throat and stomach, followed by a little vomiting; great pain in the throat and

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œsophagus. Magnesia in full doses relieved instantly the burning pain in the stomach, and was vomited off in a few minutes in a mass like coagulated milk. Two ounces of magnesia were taken and aided by emollient clysters, followed by several natural stools. The tongue became swollen, and thickly coated, as if it had been boiled; respiration oppressed; he complained of general rigidity of the body; a sticky perspiration broke out over the whole surface; the pulse at the wrist and temples was scarcely perceptible; extremities cold; nails brown; vomiting of blood; general rigidity; progressive debility and threatening of speedy dissolution. A profuse venesection from the arm, was followed by wine, opium, diluents, hot foot baths, fomentations to the epigastrium, and rubbing of the limbs, and in three hours the patient seemed out of immediate danger.

But in half an hour more chills with rigidity of the body sat in, followed by reaction, so that the pulse became hard and 96, followed by fever and profuse diaphoresis. Then the pulse rose to 120 and became weaker; the pain in the stomach was aggravated, but no more vomiting ensued; itching about the fingers followed, attended with unusual acuteness of the mind. Sago, with chalk powder, and clysters were now given. The perspiration lasted eight hours and then ceased; pulse 100 and weak; skin cold; neither pain nor tension of the abdomen; general quietude; tongue natural at the edges, rest coated. Beef tea, gelatine, milk and castor oil were given; in two hours more patient was quiet and slept half the night: towards morning he vomited and purged freely and fainted; stools were dark; violent eructations, cramps, and excessive hiccough: pulse 100 and weak; coldness of right arm, and chilliness of the feet. These symptoms persisted with great violence, and pain in the stomach again set in; opium was again given, followed by relief for three hours, when pain again commenced; an enema was followed by a scanty, blue colored passage; the cramps became more violent and attended with eructations and hiccough; the pulse was not quite so weak; the tongue became clean and moist at the edges only; inclination to stupor, alternating with restlessness. Alkalies, opium, clysters and fomentations were used from time to time.

He slept well on the second night; face swollen; pulse 90; no vomiting; quiet; *hoarseness;* during the night he had several small passages and an involuntary discharge of urine; tongue became coated with a white crust; frequent hiccough, and painful hawking; several doses of Castor-oil and one ounce of Sulph.-Magnesia were followed by increased pain in the œsophagus, more hiccough, vomiting and great anxiety; still two more one-and-a-half-ounce doses of Castor-oil were given and a stimulating injection, followed by stools.

For three days more the patient seemed to improve, then relapsed; the hiccough became more troublesome; the throat and tongue dry, and covered with spots; tongue reddish and brown; emaciation; weakness and anxiety; sleep more and more disturbed; then delirium; a *wart-*

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like itching eruption broke out, followed by a general *redness* over the body; death, on the 11th day.

Post-mortem.—Eruption entirely gone; body emaciated; inflammation of the stomach and of a small portion of the bowels; a small quantity of dark fluid in the stomach; the villous coat almost entirely destroyed in the stomach and œsophagus; in a few places where it seemed sound it was soft and easily brushed off with the finger or a sponge; muscular coat of stomach and œsophagus much thickened, injected, and of a dark gangrenous appearance; the circular and longitudinal fibres were very distinct and easily separated; the cardiac portion was more inflamed than the pyloric. The small bowels were similarly, but less diseased.

Numerous fatal cases of poisoning have occurred from the resemblance of its crystals to those of Epsom-salts; but they may readily be distinguished by their crackling noise when dissolving in water; by the intensely acid taste and reaction, as compared with the nauseously bitter taste of Epsom-salts. The crystals of Oxalic-acid also resemble those of Sulphate of Zinc.

Oxalic-acid is now obtained in the largest quantities from the action of Nitric-acid on several substances of the nature of starch and sugar, including these substances themselves. Hence it has been called the *Acid of Sugar*. It is very probably that it is often developed in the stomach of young children, and in dyspeptic subjects who use much sugar.

It is also a final product of oxidation of the most animal and vegetable bodies, and hence may be formed in various parts of the body. When the respiratory process is in any way disturbed, we most frequently observe a copious excretion Oxalate of Lime; it is most common in fully developed pulmonary emphysema, or when the pulmonary tissue has lost much of its elasticity after repeated catarrhs. It is not common in inflammatory and tuberculous affections; but is frequent in the convalescence from typhus. (11.)

Principal Sphere of Action.—The primary action of this acid is upon the spinal marrow and brain, and the secondary effect upon the heart and lungs. The vertex and forehead are the portions of the brain most decidedly impressed. It has a marked action upon both the mucous membrane of the respiratory apparatus, and the substance of the lungs. In the abdomen, the most powerful impression is produced in the region of the navel, in the form of colic and difficult emission of flatulency.

It appears to exercise a specific influence over the urinary and genital organs, but we are inclined to believe that many of the symptoms in this region, are due to an irritation of some portion of the cerebellum rather than to any *direct* action upon these organs. When taken internally, says Waring, it is absorbed into the system, and has been detected in the blood, in the substance of the heart, and in the

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urine it is found in combination with an alkali. Dr. Prout says that it passes through the kidneys unchanged. (10.)

Antidotes.—To large doses, Dr. Christison prefers Magnesia. This gentlemen also advises Ammonia, Ether, and Chalk, as antidotes.

Mr. Thompson recommends Chalk as an antidote, and has given it successfully in several instances after serious symptoms of poisoning had manifested themselves.

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PHENOMENA.

Mind and Disposition.—Disinclination to engage in any mental occupation; inability to accomplish any intellectual labor. (29.) Unusual exhilaration; increased power of concentrating the mind (secondary effect); disinclination to converse; cheerfulness, exhilaration, and unusual activity of thought and action; diminished power of centreing the mind (primary effect). (5.)

Clinical Remarks.—Patients with the Oxalic-acid diathesis are apt to have general debility, nervous irritability, dyspepsia, tendency to boils, and scaly or impetiginous eruptions; or are apt to be irritable, extremely sensitive, dyspeptic, feeble, emaciated, and full of hypochondriacal notions and gloomy apprehensions. (11.)

Head.—Dizziness, confusion, compressing pain in the forehead; pains in the forehead and eyes as if a catarrh would set in; hammering headache in the temples. (29.) Dull pains in the forehead; pain in the vertex; giddiness the whole day; headache; pains in the occiput, with erections; constant dull pain the forehead and vertex; fullness and heaviness in the forehead. (5.)

Pathology.—Arachnoid and pia-mater filled with a considerable quantity of a clear liquid (in men). (29.) The medullary substance of the brain more white than natural, and the choroid plexus than is usual in cerebral congestions. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Neidhard reports several prompt cures of dull pains in the forehead, with the 2d trituration of the acid.

Eyes.—Pupils dilated, even in a bright light; congestion of conjunctival vessels; eye-sight weak; dryness of the eyes; eyes fixed (in animals) pupil inactive. (29.)

Clinical Remarks.—It will probably prove as useful in scrofulous ophthalmia as Nitric, and some other acids. (11.)

Face.—Distortion of features; face cold, and covered with a cold perspiration; pale face; lips and face pale; death-like expression.

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(29.) An internal sensation of heat, especially in the face; pain in the temple, extending as far as the lower jaw. (5.) Face inanimate and melancholy; eyes closed. (2.)

Mouth and Throat.—Acid taste; scraping in the throat, causing cough; sensation as if the uvula were swollen; difficulty of deglution, with a sensation of scraping in the throat; tonsils and uvula redder than natural and covered with tenacious mucous; pains in the throat as if inflamed; burning pain in the mouth and throat; tongue and throat red and swollen; dysphagia with burning in the throat and œsophagus; tongue swollen; tongue red, swollen, stiff and sensitive; tongue clean and moist; tongue brown and dry. (29.) Tongue swollen, covered with a thick white coat; feeling of burning in the mouth, œsophagus and stomach. (4.) Burning pains in the mouth and throat; tongue clean and humid. (2.)

PATHOLOGY.—Mucous membrane of the œsophagus easily detached; mucous membrane of larynx and trachea very livid; mucous membrane of œsophagus disorganized; muscular coat thickened and very red.

Clinical Remarks.—Oxalic-acid at the 3d trituration has been useful in chronic inflammation of the mucous membrane of the throat and tonsils, and in obstinate scorbutic disease of the gums and mouth. In a case of glossitis, after the acute symptoms had been partially subdued by Aconite, Belladonna and Mercurius, the cure was completed by the 3d trituration of the acid. (10.)

Stomach.—Appetite good at first, notwithstanding the increasing pain in the stomach; increased appetite gradual diminishing to complete anorexia; clean tongue; griping pain in precordial region; feeling of emptiness in the stomach, obliging him to eat; sickness at the stomach with inclination to vomit; sensation of burning in the stomach; pressure as of a weight on the stomach; gulping up of tasteless air; pain in the stomach; pain in the stomach obliging him to bend forward; sugar increased the pain; sickness at the stomach with frequent vomiting; pain and vomiting; vomiting of blood; eructation and hiccough; violent burning in the stomach; stomach very painful to the touch. (29.) Feeling of irritation in the stomach; vomiting of blood; burning sensation in the stomach. (4) Burning pain in the stomach; eructation and discharge of flatulence by the anus; eructation of tasteless wind after each meal; pyrosis every evening; pain in the stomach; stomach sensitive to the touch; unusual thirst. (5.)

PATHOLOGY.—Inner coat of the stomach pulpy, dark, or red; outer coat of the stomach inflamed; villous coat of the stomach soft, pale and brittle, but here and there injected with vessels; stomach contains a dark and bloody fluid. (5.) Superficial inflammation of the cardia, pylorus, duodenum, and part of the ileum; muscular coat of the small intestines thickened and very red; colon contracted without inflammation; mucous membrane of the throat and œsophagus appears as if scalded; intestines highly inflamed and distended with gas; spleen disorganized. (29.)

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Clinical Remarks.—The 12th dilution has quite recently proved curative in a case of long-standing dyspepsia, with burning in the stomach, eructations tasting of food, after every meal, great distention of the stomach and bowels with wind; pressure at the pit of the stomach, and sour taste soon after eating. (10.) Dr. Nardo of Turin has employed this salt with uniform success for many years in inflammation of the mucous membrane of the stomach. He prescribes one grain three times daily in solution. In these doses this gentleman observed from its use powerful antiphlogistic properties, and direct sedative effects.

It is perhaps the most homœopathic remedy for gastromalacia, or gelatiniform softening of the stomach. Oxalic-acid has been discovered in the blood in a case of chronic hiccough and vomiting, and in several cases of gout. (11.)

Abdomen.—Painless rumbling in the abdomen; distention from flatulence; discharge of bad smelling flatulence; griping pain in abdomen and umbilical region; rumbling and cutting pain; violent cutting pain as if diarrhœa would set in; pain in the abdomen and intestines; abdomen painful to the touch. (29.) Pains around the navel like colic; sensation of soreness in the abdomen; pain in the left hypochondrium; flatulent colic; colic pain around the umbilicus and in the right iliac region, coming on in paroxysms; pain in the region of the navel, with painful pressing down towards the anus, and difficult discharge of flatulency; severe pain in the bowels and frequent inclination to stool. (5.)

Pathology.—Ileum much inflamed to within a few inches of the colon; inner membrane of the intestines pulpy, or dark or red; colon contracted throughout its entire extent, but without any appearance of inflammation. (2.) Oxalic-acid is often present in the mucus of the gall-bladders, especially in hypochondriacal subjects. Donné thinks that after the use of sparkling wines the quantity of oxalic is increased in the urine; also from the use of beer containing much Carbonic-acid, and of the alkaline bi-carbonates and vegetable salts. Lehmann then supposes that the superfluous Carbonic-acid which has entered the blood, obstructs the absorption of oxygen and the perfect oxidation of certain substances in the blood, especially in pulmonary emphysema, pulmonary compression during pregnancy, &c. (11.)

Stool and Anus.—Sluggish stool; hard stool; fæces enveloped in mucus; stool loose, and tenacious with tenesmus; discharge of mucus after stool; large discharge of soft stool with griping pain in the abdomen previous to it; yellowish, slimy, serous thin stool with tenesmus; burning in the rectum, also light serous discharges streaked with blood and tenesmus; watery discharges; tenesmus without stool; frequent stools; constant discharges of liquid fæces, sometimes mixed with blood; blackish stool; constipation. (29.) Evacuation puffy and of a light brown color; severe pain in the bowels, and frequent inclination to stool; colic pains in the umbilical region,

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followed by discharges of hard, dark brown fæces; flatulency in the right side of the abdomen after stool. (5.)

Urinary and Genital Organs.—Diminished inclination to pass water; pain in the regions of the kidneys; urine, acid; deposit of oxalate of lime in the urine. (29.) Frequent inclination to pass water, which is large in quantity, clear, of a straw color, and causing a burning sensation during the discharge; increase of the sexual desire, with voluptuous dreams for several nights in succession; pain and heaviness in the testicles, shooting along the spermatic chords, worse on the right side. *Mulberry calculus.* Deposit of Oxalate of Lime.

Pathology.—Bladder distended with urine; much urine in the kidneys. (29. 4.) Oxalic-acid is scarcely ever absent from the mucous membrane of the impregnated uterus, and in the urine of pregnant women, especially in nervous, dyspeptic and hypochondriacal females who suffer much with leucorrhœa and difficulty of breathing. Since the discovery that Uric-acid is decomposed by Peroxide of Lead into Urea, Allantoin, and Oxalic-acid, it has been pretty generally assumed that the Oxalic-acid of the urine is due to an oxidation of the Uric-acid; the Oxalic-acid in this case *not* being converted into Carbonic-acid, as usually occurs in the healthy organism. Lehmann thinks that it is unquestionable that the formation of Oxalic-acid may be in part thus explained. (11.)

Larynx, Thorax, Heart, Pulse.—Feeling of oppression in the lungs; breathing slow; Pulse hardly perceptible; pulse small and quick; trembling, intermittent pulse. (29.) Difficult breathing, pulse hardly perceptible; small quick pulse. (4.) Slight cough from tickling in the larynx and trachea, also sensation of soreness in the trachea; expectoration of thick, yellow mucus from the throat; sharp, shooting pain in the left lung and heart, extending down to the epigastrium; stitches in the left breast, worse when walking.

Pathology.—Bright red spots in the lungs, without any trace of effusion; a few minutes after death, the heart ceases pulsating, and looses its power of contraction; blood in the right cavities of the heart, black; and in the left cavities, red. (2.)

In Animals.—Cavities of the heart distended by coagulated blood; contractility of the heart lost immediately after death; Lungs as red as scarlet, with black spots here and there; blood in the cavities of the heart *reddens* blue lithmus paper. (Acid.-oxal. injected into crural vein.) Liquid in thoracic duct does *not* redden blue lithmus paper. (Injection Pleura.) (29.)

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Dubs of Philadelphia reports a case of chronic sore throat cured by the 2d trituration of the acid.

In the "London Lancet" of March, 1855, page 232, Dr. John Hastings records three cases of tubercular phthisis with cavities in the lungs, very materially benefited by the use of half-grain doses of Oxalic-acid three times a day. Under the use of this remedy the expectoration gradually diminished, flesh and strength slowly returned,

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until after the expiration of a few months the cavities in the lungs became dry, and the patients restored to a comfortable state of health.

In our own practice we have prescribed the acid in numerous cases of chronic bronchitis, and tubercular phthisis, and generally with favorable results. Where cavities have existed in the lung, we have several times observed the expectoration to diminish, the respiration to improve, the strength and flesh to return, and the cavity to dry up. But in all of these examples, there has remained great shortness of breath upon the slightest exertion, and other symptoms which indicated that the malady had only been temporarily arrested. (10.)

We have usually prescribed the acid at the 12th dilution. (10.) Dr. Nardo, of Turin, commends the acid very highly in inflammation of the mucous membrane of the lungs. Oxalate of Lime has been discovered in expectorated matter; it is common in emphysema and chronic catarrhs; also in convalescence from typhus fever; it is rare in inflammation in the lungs and tubercles. (11.)

Back.—Pain in the back; feeling as if the spinal column could not bear the weight of the body; acute pain in the back extending down to the thighs; sensation of stiffness and prickling in the back. (29.) Acute pain in the back; numbness and weakness in the back and limbs; weakness in the loins and hips, extending down to the lower limbs; sense of numbness, tingling and prickling in the sacrum, back and thighs. (5.)

Pathology.—Although the primary specific action of this acid is upon the spinal marrow and brain, we are not aware that any morbid changes of the spinal marrow have been recorded, in consequence of poisoning with it. That morbid changes are produced by poisonous doses of this active substance cannot be doubted, and we trust that the microscope will in future reveal to us their character. At present we must rest satisfied with pathogenetic phenomena and clinical observations. (10.) It seems to exert a most specific action upon the small of the back; upon the lumbar and crural nerves. (11.)

Upper Extremities.—Coldness of the upper extremities; feeling of lameness in the arms; fingers rigid. (29.)

Nails of the fingers brown. (4.) Sharp, shooting pain in the right shoulder joint; the right wrist painful, as if it were dislocated or strained; sensation as if the hands were dead. (5.)

Clinical Remarks.—Oxalic-acid is distinguished by its powerful affinity for *Lime*, separating it even from Sulphuric-acid; in consequence of this property its use has been suggested in exostosis, hypertrophy of the bones, and various morbid growths of the bones. (11.)

Lower Extremities.—Coldness of the feet and legs; difficulty in going up-stairs; pain extending from the thighs downwards; (29.) extremities cold. (4.) Violent contracting pain in the external tendon of the knee; lividity, coldness, and almost complete loss of the power of motion in the legs, which symptoms were not entirely removed for fifteen days. (5.) Weakness and numbness of the limbs, extending down the thighs, and, towards the end, convulsions. (3.)

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PATHOLOGY.—Among the first symptoms observed in animals which have been poisoned with the acid, is a rigidity, and paralytic condition of the hind legs. These symptoms are due to the impression made by the drug upon the spinal marrow, since no morbid appearances are observed in the legs of the animal after death. Phenomena of this description demonstrate the importance of looking *beyond* mere *visible* symptoms, in order to obtain a correct idea of disease, as a painless disorder of one structure may give rise to serious symptoms in distant parts. In such instances, we must appeal to pathology to enlighten us, in order that we may strike at the *cause* as well as the *effect*. (10.)

Sleep.—Restless; sleepiness; prolonged sleep. (29.) Disturbed sleep; sleep disturbed by frightful dreams; unusual inclination to sleep; frequent waking from sleep. (5.)

Fever.—Delirium; restlessness; headache; great thirst; great chilliness; shaking chills. (4.) Internal sense of heat, particularly in the face; flushes of heat and perspiration all over the body; hands, feet and face cold, and covered with a cold perspiration; pulse increased in frequency; pulse small and frequent, with deadly coldness, clammy sweats, and sometimes lividity of the nails and fingers. (5.) Pulse small and frequent, or moderately full and only thirty-two in the minute. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—On several occasions, when administering this medicine to consumptive subjects, we have observed a marked diminution of the hectic symptoms. Under its influence we have seen the pulse become more slow and full, the night sweats and expectoration diminish, the diarrhœa cease, and the strength and flesh gradually improve. In a single case of hip-disease, accompanied by emaciation, much pain in the hip, disturbed sleep, feeble and rapid pulse, diarrhœa and night sweats, we have prescribed the 12th dilution of the acid with unequivocal benefit. (10.)

It has been used in some forms of fever; it is apparently homœopathic to some of the stages of petechial typhus, especially when hæmorrhage from the bowels occurs, although Nitric and Muriatic-acid may have to be used in addition. (11.)

Skin.—Skin cold and pale, and covered by a sticky sweat; Skin wrinkled on raising it and remaining so, without elasticity; eruption over the whole surface; red, round spots on the skin. (29.) Smarting soreness around the neck, as if chafed by a collar; itching on the neck; circular patches of an eruption of a mottled color upon the surface; violent itching on the right side of the neck and hairy scalp, and on the left side of the trunk. (5.)

Clinical Remarks.—We have employed the acid at the 6th, 12th and 30th dilutions in *crustea lactea* with violent itching, and in two cases of eczema also, with intolerable itching and burning, occurring in persons of a gouty diathesis, but without any benefit. These results are unfavorable; but none the less worthy of notice. (10.)

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It is homœopathic to eruptions of a mottled appearance occurring in circular patches; to the maculæ of typhus; to wart-like eruptions, and general redness of the body, such as occurs in many nervous women with uterine and ovarian disorder. (11.)

General Symptoms.—Burning pains in the mouth, œsophagus, neck, chest, stomach, abdomen, and anus; feeling of coldness and prickling in the back and thighs; exhaustion; general malaise; stupefaction; fainting; twitching of the limbs; general convulsions; increased by friction on the back; opisthotonos (in animals); paralysis of the lower extremities (in animals.) (29.)

Complaining of coldness and numbness of the body, which is covered by a sticky cold sweat. General trembling of the body; convulsions; sinking of strength. (4.)

Christison asserts that "*the primary action of the poison is on the spinal marrow and brain, and the heart and lungs are affected secondarily, through the injury done to the nervous system.*"

The pains are increased and excited by movement; the acid affects the joints: ankles, knees, hips, wrists, and shoulders; nervous symptoms; convulsions; general numbness and tremor of the limbs. (10.)

ACIDUM PHOSPHORICUM.

PHOSPHORIC ACID.

Phosphoric-acid is an important constituent of the brain and nervous system. Nearly fifty per-cent. of the *ash* of an ox's brain proved to be Phosphoric-acid, and more than forty per-cent. was obtained from the ash of the brain of a hospital patient. It is evident from this extraordinary quantity of Phosphoric-acid in nervous matter, that it must play an important part in the diseases of the nervous system.

It also has an important relation to the urine and urinary diseases. It is supposed that a person of 150 lbs. weight, of regular habits, discharges about 4 grammes of Phosphoric-acid in twenty-four hours. Taking an excess of common salt diminishes the amount of Phosphoric-acid in the urine, whilst the use of Potash increases it. The quantity of Phosphoric-acid in the urine is diminished in rheumatism, consumption, fever and ague and cancer of the liver, viz., it may fall as low as 1 gramme and rarely exceeds 2½ grammes—while in apoplexy, epilepsy and mollities ossium it is poured out in excess, varying over 5½ grammes in apoplexy, from 3 to 8 grammes in epilepsy, and from 6 to 8 grammes in mollities ossium.

From its peculiar base it is to be supposed that Phosphoric-acid possesses very peculiar properties, vastly different from those of the ordinary mineral acids. Ordinary acids are described as refrigerant, tonic and anti-alkaline, but Phosphoric-acid besides all these properties

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exerts a peculiar action upon the brain and nervous system, upon the urinary and genital organs, and upon the bones.

It has been found useful in pains, inflammation and suppuration of the bones; against caries of the bones and teeth, rhachitis, softening and bending of the bones; against diseases of the bones in which a fluid and offensive pus is discharged, rather than against carious ulcers which have gone on to true necrosis. Lentin cured a case of caries of the frontal bone by the internal and external use of this acid; also a case of caries of the first false rib. Wolff cured a case of whitlow with caries, where the external application of Phosphoric-acid seemed to hasten in a remarkable manner the reproduction of the ulcerated phalanx.

Like all the acids it is said to be tonic and astringent, checking all excessive liquefacient and colliquative processes. It has been used successfully against colliquative perspirations, excessive pollutions, leucorrhœa, profuse and exceedingly offensive expectoration, obstinate diarrhœa, passive hæmorrhagies.

It has been used successfully against many varieties of hæmorrhage; viz., bleeding from the womb, expectoration of blood, bleeding from the mouth, nose and rectum; especially in actually scorbutic hæmorrhages, in which there is an entire absence of coagulability of the blood, coupled with great atony of the bleeding organ; also where there is excretion of blood in consequence of decay or decomposition of the affected parts.

General sphere of action.—In large doses it acts as a powerful stimulant to the nervous and vascular systems; it is absorbed into the system, and has been detected in the blood; it also communicates a peculiar odor to the breath. In very large doses it is an irritant poison; convulsions and insensibility preceding death. (Waring.)

Hecker asserts that it exercises a specific influence over the nervous system, in virtue of which it possesses the power of allaying pain and spasms.

Lentin ascribes to it a specific action upon secreting surfaces and the bones, thus rendering it a valuable remedy in certain affections of these parts.

Others regard it as aphrodisiac, and have employed it successfully as a tonic and stimulant in debilitated conditions of the sexual organs.

When injected into the veins, it coagulates the blood.

This acid is tolerated by the system better than either sulphuric, nitric, or muriatic-acids; being less liable to derange the stomach, or to give rise to other constitutional disturbances.

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PHENOMENA.

Mind and Disposition.—Sadness. Constantly brooding over his illness. Not satisfied with himself. Indifference. Not disposed to talk. Sad and low-spirited when walking in the open air. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Phosphoric-acid has now and then been useful in cases of despondency and irritability, arising from long-continued involuntary emissions of semen. In a few instances we have succeeded in arresting the nocturnal discharges, and thus effecting a cure, after Phosphorus had been employed without effect. We have seen good effects from its use in one case of profound melancholy in an aged female. In these instances the 12th dilution has always been selected. (10.)

In melancholy from general debility, or from some excessive drain upon the system, such as profuse perspiration, expectoration, leucorrhœa, &c.; in nervous irritation from the same causes, even when attended with dulness of the head, momentary loss of consciousness, in consequence of severe illness and great debility; dullness and weakness of intellect, with great discouragement and indolence of body and mind; and chronic dullness and confusion of the head, it has been found serviceable. (11.)

Sensorium.—Illusion of the senses. Dullness of the head. Vertigo when standing or walking. The head inclines to fall backwards and forwards. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Sundelin speaks highly of this acid as a remedy against hysteria, in young and nervous females. (10.) In heaviness of the head as if it were full of water; nervous vertigo, in greatly debilitated subjects. Chapman recommends it in the cases of literary, professional and political persons who will not believe that the brain is not made of brass, and continue to overtask it. (11.)

Sleep.—Yawning. Great drowsiness in the day time. Deep sleep, so that he can scarcely be roused in the morning. Falling asleep late in the evening. Early in the morning out of humor, weak and drowsy. Sleep disturbed by dreams. Moaning during sleep. Heat in the cheeks and ears before going to bed in the evening. (1.)

Head.—Dull headache, with buzzing in the head, worse on coughing. Excessively violent pressure in the head. Intermittent aching and stitching pain. Crampy,—compressive pain in the whole brain. (1.) Chronic morning headache in very debilitated and nervous persons, arising from so-called nervous debility. (11.)

PATHOLOGY.—In animals which have been poisoned with diluted Phosphoric-acid, no grossly evident lesions are found in the brain, or any other appearances which would indicate any special action upon this organ. The above symptoms therefore, should be regarded as arising rather from some more subtile and profound action upon the nervous substance itself, than upon its blood vessels.

Scalp.—Itching of the scalp; great falling off of the hair. (1.)

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Clinical Remarks.—A chronic eruption upon the forehead and behind the ears, of two years' standing, attended with occasional itching, entirely disappeared in two months, in a lady who was taking the second dilution of the medicine for a pulmonary affection. (10.) A dilute preparation is a useful application when the hair falls out in consequence of the ravages of some scaly eruption of the scalp, such as ptyriasis, or chronic eczema; it should also be used internally, when the hair falls out after a severe fit of illness, attended or followed by great debility; or when the same result follows from great and long-continued anguish and grief; when the hair becomes thin, weak and greyish. (11.)

Eyes.—Pain, as if the eyeballs were compressed, and pressed into the head. Inflammation of the eyes, and stye on the upper eyelid. Smarting lachrymation of both eyes. Heaviness of the lids. Dilatation of the pupils. Dimness of sight. Black streaks before the eyes. The eyes are dazzled by looking at bright objects. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Mr. Balman has cured many cases of scrofulous ophthalmia with this remedy. This physician has often affected cures of this malady, after years of unsuccessful treatment with other drugs. He is in doubt whether to ascribe the cures to the tonic properties of the drug or to some change produced upon the blood, and through this upon the general system. (10.) It is also used against dimness of sight and great short-sightedness in consequence of onanism. Against ophthalmia with burning pains and great intolerance of sight. (11.)

Ears.—Stitches in the ear. Ringing, whizzing, roaring in the ears. For a long time musical sounds were disagreeable. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is homœopathic to swelling and heat of the external ears; and to boils just within the meatus. It is useful when there is more difficulty in hearing sounds which are made close to the ears than those which are rather farther off, thus: when one does not hear distinctly the ticking of a watch held at a short distance from the ear; the ticking then seems changed into a kind of hissing noise, but it becomes more distinct when the watch is held at the distance of one and a half foot. (11.)

Nose.—Scurfs on the nose. Pimples on the tip of the nose. Swelling of the dorsum of the nose. (1.) Great dryness of the nostrils and suppression of all discharge from them; expulsion of bitter mucus from the posterior nares into the mouth and fauces; purulent discharge from the nose; fœtid smell from the nose; catarrhal fever with pains in all the limbs; violent coryza, with redness and soreness of the margins of the nostrils. (11.)

Clinical Remarks.—Scurfy eruptions upon the nose have frequently been cured with the acid. We saw one case of purulent and fœtid catarrh of the nostrils disappear under the use of the 1st dilution. (10.) In Frank's Magazine we find reported a cure of nasal hæmorrhage in a women of sixty years of age, and where great prostration had resulted from repeated losses of blood, by the 2d dilution of the acid.

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Face.—Pale face and hollow eyes when rising, with disposition to stare; blue margins around the eye. Burning pain in the skin of the cheek. Itching of the whole face. Large pimples on the face. Blotches upon the forehead. Burning and painful pimples upon both lips. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Improvement has resulted in several cases of eczema occurring in persons of a gouty diathesis. (10.) It seems indicated against the acne of the face, so common in young persons about the age of puberty; against red pimples on the face, forehead, chin, cheeks and nose, which subsequently change to pustules; against blotches on the forehead, moist scurf, eczema and herpes on the cheeks, lips and corners of the mouth; especially against obstinate and chronic fissures of the lips, such as occur in many nervous girls with disordered menstruation; ulceration and soreness of the vermillion border of the lips. (11.)

Jaws and Teeth.—Bleeding of the gums from the slightest contact. (1).

Clinical Remarks.—It is a useful local application when the teeth are inclined to turn yellow; in scurvy of the gums, so that they swell and become painful; against retraction of the gums; gum-boils, and painful tubercles upon the gums. (11.)

Mouth.—Feeling of dryness on the tongue and palate, without thirst. Swelling of the tongue, and pain when talking. (1.) A peculiar odor in the breath. (44.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is useful against soreness and rawness of the mouth with great dryness; soreness, ulceration, burning and dryness of the tongue. (11.)

Pharynx and Œsophagus.—Smarting sensation in the throat. *Ulcerative* feeling in the throat; scraping in the throat, when swallowing. Dryness, painful soreness and rawness of the palate and velum; soreness and ulceration of the velum. In tonsillitis when suppuration threatens, and the pains become throbbing and shot up into the ears. Follicular inflammation of the throat with granulations and vesicles. (11.)

Clinical Remarks.—A lady who had been afflicted for many years with what was supposed to be a scrofulous ulceration of the throat, and who had taken numerous remedies without avail, recovered in two months under the use of the 6th dilution of Phosphoric-acid, repeated at intervals of twenty-four hours. (10.)

Taste and Appetite.—Putrid, flat taste. Violent thirst. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Dr. Paris asserts that the use of water acidulated with this acid is more efficacious in allaying the thirst so common in diabetes, than any of the other acidulated drinks. (10.)

Gastric Symptoms, and Stomach.—Pressure in the stomach, as from a load, with drowsiness; nausea, as if in the palate; vomiting of the ingesta, and afterwards vomiting every hour; oppression of the stomach before and after dinner; painful oppression when touching

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the pit of the stomach; stitches with pressure in the pit of the stomach. (1.)

PATHOLOGY.—*In animals.* Mucous membrane of the stomach, in the pyloric region, of a deep red color; mucous membrane of the stomach of a reddish brown color; contents of the stomach fluid and having an acid reaction, in consequence of the presence of Muriatic-acid. (2)

Clinical Remarks.—Distention and acidity of the stomach, with a sense of weight, and nausea after eating, may often be promptly relieved by this medicine. In relaxed and sensitive conditions of the stomach, dependent upon a general failure of the vital force, this drug at the 6th attenuation is an admirable remedy. Dr. Todd commends it highly in *cardialgia.* In weakness of the stomach, with a large secretion of ropy mucus, occurring in individuals of a phosphatic diathesis, Dr. Balman has employed it with decided benefit. (10.) It is especially useful when there is great dullness in the head after meals, with feeling of a load in the stomach, with excessive relaxation of the body and drowsiness. Against belching of wind, rumbling in the stomach and bowels, and such bloating and soreness about the waist that one does not want to button up his clothes. Gastric and bilious conditions with thick white or yellow coating of the tongue, flat, slimy or bitter taste; aversion to meat and soups, with much rumbling and looseness of the bowels. (11.)

Hypochondria.—Pain in the liver during menstruation; feeling of heaviness in the liver; stitches in the region of the liver and spleen; burning at one spot in the region of the liver; deficiency of bile in the stools; whitish-grey, red passages; very light yellow stools.

Clinical Remarks.—It has been used successfully against jaundice; in this disease it generally increases the quantity of urine, and quickly removes the bilious sediment. (11.)

Abdomen.—Pressure in several parts of the epigastrium; crampy pain in the abdomen; rumbling in the epigastrium and abdomen, gurgling in the abdomen; emission of a quantity of flatulence; pressure in the umbilical region; cutting pains across the abdomen, coming on at intervals. (1.)

PATHOLOGY.—*In animals.* Deep redness of the mucous membrane of the duodenum. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—Phosphoric-acid has often been prescribed successfully in chronic enlargement of the mesenteric glands, accompanied with diarrhœa, enlargement of the abdomen, rumbling in the epigastrium, and frequent pains in the abdomen. (11.)

Stool.—Frequent desire for stool; diarrhœa; white-grey diarrhœa; smarting of the anus after stool. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—Good results have followed the use of phosphoric-acid in chronic diarrhœa, and in the diarrhœas of hectic fever. It is also a remedy of great value in the bowel complaints of scrofulous and rickety children, as it often reaches the remote general

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symptoms, as well as the immediate and urgent ones. (10.) It is most homœopathic when the stools are whitish or greyish, or light yellow in color, more or less watery and mixed with indigested food; followed by piles with sweating, tearing, itching and gnawing pains in the rectum. (11.) Drysdale used it with good effects against the consecutive fever of asiatic cholera, and in the second stage where there was not much collapse; he gave it when there was much tossing of the head, fullness and rapidity of the pulse, frequent sighing, semi-stupor with contraction of the pupils, moist and furred tongue, some delirium and yellowish diarrhœa; also when there were whitish watery motions, vomiting every hour, white tongue, quick pulse, pale face, sunken eyes, and skin warm; also when there was restless tossing, semi-stupor, sunken features, frequent sighing and yellowish diarrhœa. (11.)

Urinary Organs.—Desire to urinate, with scanty emission; frequent micturition, the urine being either watery or dark with clouds; painful spasmodic constriction of the bladder, without urging. (1.)

Clinical Remarks. In all instances where there are phosphatic deposits in the urine, this acid is a chemical remedy of importance. Being a solvent of phosphate of lime, and passing from the blood into the kidneys and bladder unchanged, its remedial properties cannot be too highly appreciated. In cases of lithiasis and other maladies, therefore, attended with phosphatic deposits in the urine, it should be ranked among the first articles to be consulted. In diabetes, it sometimes allays the morbid thirst more effectually than any other remedy. (10.) It is homœopathic when the urine is pale, but soon forms thick white clouds; or when it is milky as if flour were stirred in it (phosphatic deposits); also when the urine is offensive and followed by a discharge like that of gonorrhœa, attended with redness and swelling of the orifice of the urethra. It has been used successfully in strangury and dysury, especially in old persons. Chapman has used it in cases of milky-urine in children, of which he has seen many cases, with immediate good effect; the urine has speedily become natural in appearance, and the children who were generally cachectic soon recovered flesh and health. In the diabetes chylosus of Hoffmann, a disease not uncommon in some parts of the West-Indies, he thinks it would probably prove specific. Dr. Sutherland has made some interesting remarks upon Phosphoric-acid and Phosphates in the urine. (11.) (See Brit. Journ. Hom., vol. 6., p. 410.)

Male Genital Organs.—Drawing soreness in the testicles as if excoriated; suppression of the sexual desire; frequent emissions; discharge of prostatic fluid when straining during stool; hardness and tension of the spermatic cord; falling out of the hair of the genitals. (1.)

Female Sexual Organs.—Leucorrhœa after the menses. (1.)

PATHOLOGY.—Uterus very red; sanguineous fluid in the vagina. (2.)

Clinical Remarks.—Homœopathic physicians have occasionally prescribed it against impotency arising from venereal excesses and from

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old age. But whatever virtues it possesses as an aphrodisiac, are probably attributable to the Phosphorus it contains. We have observed curative effects from this acid in cases of this description, but our own experience is altogether in favor of the pure Phosphorus for this class of ailments. (10.)

In thin and acrid leucorrhœas it is often a prompt and satisfactory remedy. It is not so generally applicable in the different varieties of leucorrhœa as the Nitric-acid; but when the discharge is *thin* and *acrid*, it is to be preferred. (11.)

Frank reports a cure of metrorrhagia, in a small and delicate women after confinement, after other remedies had failed to relieve. The complaint had existed one week, and had reduced the patient to a very low condition. A few doses of the second dilution promptly cured her. (10.)

Chapman has found it very useful in the exhaustion from onanism, venereal excesses and nocturnal pollutions. (11.)

Larynx and Chest.—Pressure, oppression in the chest; violent pressure over the whole chest, in the night, shifting to the abdomen, and disappearing after emission of flatulence; violent hoarseness; cough with expectoration, smelling like herbs. (1.) The expirations from the lungs give out a peculiar odor. (44.)

Pathology.—*In animals.* Lungs and heart gorged with blood.

Clinical Remarks.—Phosphoric-acid possesses a marked influence over all secreting surfaces. Its special action upon the mucous membranes as well as upon the nervous system, is *stimulant*, and when homœopathically prescribed, *tonic*. It is therefore quite appropriate in many cases of chronic bronchitis, and sub-acute pulmonary affections. (10.)

It has been highly extolled by many medical men as a remedy in scrofula. Different physicians of eminence have advocated its employment in scrofulous ophthalmia, in hip-disease, in caries of the bones, in scrofulous eruptions, &c., and have reported excellent cures in corroboration of their opinions. We endorse their opinions for the following reasons.

In nearly all cases of pure scrofula, we find a deficiency of phosphorus. In the bones, in the blood, in the urine, in the whole organism, phosphatic salts exist in too small proportions. This deficiency has a direct effect to impair the strength and vigor of the body. As a deficiency of silex tends directly to deteriorate the size, strength, and nutritious properties of the grasses, and of certain other vegetable productions, so a deficiency of phosphates in the human organism tends to impair its stamina, and to operate as a predisposing cause of scrofulous maladies, rickets, &c. The phosphates are to the human body, what silica is to grass, the support, the stamina, the chief sustaining principle. (10.)

In support of my views upon this point I beg to mention the following fact.

My learned friend, Prof. Mapes, informs me that he employs seven-

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ty men in manufacturing the super-phosphate of lime. Of this number, not one has ever died of any membranous, pulmonary, or bone disease, and if perchance any of them are attacked with colds, no coughs or other chronic condition ever results from the exposure. The professor believes with myself, that the constant inhalation of the phosphoric principle, imparts sufficient stamina to the mucous and pulmonic tissues, to enable them to resist the deleterious influence of colds and other morbific influences which might otherwise lead to serious maladies. (10.)

Dr. Hartmann recommends Ac.-ph. in pneumonia of a slow and torpid character, especially when weakness with profuse sweats are predominant; when likewise diarrhœa, insensibility, strong, irregular and often-intermitting pulse with swelling of the veins; also in pneumonia-nervosa of middle aged persons, with purulent expectoration, abundant night-sweats, &c.

Dr. Rosenberg mentions Ac.-ph. in the stage of purulent infiltration, also in pneumonia-typhosa with pale, sunken face, grasping around with the hands, hardness of hearing, dryness and blackness of the nostrils; bad taste in the mouth, diarrhœa, dry cough, hot skin, excessive weakness, oppression and shortness of breath; also in pneumonia-scorbutica.

Trinks has used it in may cases of cough with bloody expectoration. Altschul in profuse hæmoptysis, with burning, piercing pains in the chest, oppression of the lungs, fever and night sweats. (11.)

Thorax.—The following symptoms were relieved in the case of a woman thirty years of age, afflicted with inflammation of the lungs, oppressed breathing, dull pain in the breast, violent cough, sometimes attended with bloody expectoration, all aggravated by motion and when lying on the side, often forcing to her assume an erect position, which however was apt to be followed by vertigo, debility, restlessness; her eyes were staring, hearing hard; she had buzzing in the ears, inability to recollect, and delirium; her nose, mouth and tongue were dry, with violent thirst, pulse small and irregular. Aconit. 30. effected some improvement of the inflammatory symptoms; the remaining cough and nervousness were removed promptly by Acid-phosph., so that the third day the patient was able to be out of bed.

2. A joiner, twenty years old, was attacked with pneumonia, and remained eight days without medical aid, his symptoms were: vertigo, headache, burning in the eyes; pulse 160; profuse night-sweats, sleep attended with heavy, restless dreams; chills alternating with heat; violent cough, with puriform expectoration and pain in the chest. Digit. brought down the pulse in two days to 120; but the other symptoms were unchanged. On the fourth day he relapsed and Ac.-ph. dilut. dr. j. in five ounces of raspberry juice (one teaspoonful every third hour was given). After using up this quantity of medicine he was entirely well.

Back.—Intense pain in the small of the back, drawing, pressing, or

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tearing, and worse when standing. Pinching, or drawing pains in the dorsal vertebræ. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—For the reasons given under the head of larynx and chest, we consider Phosphoric-acid appropriate in caries and scrofulous affections of the vertebræ. In these maladies there is always a deficiency of Phosphoric-acid in the bones, and we know of no better means of supplying this deficiency than by the internal use of substances abounding in phosphates and which can be assimilated and appropriated by the affected parts. As internal remedies then, we suggest the drug under consideration, Phosphorus, and the phosphates; and a free use of milk and other articles containing phosphoric elements. Phosphoric-acid is found in a free state in the blood and urine, and is therefore in a better condition to unite with any alkali which may exist in the organism, than pure Phosphorus. (10.)

Upper Extremities.—Forearms painful as if bruised. Paralytic and crampy sensations in the arms. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—The provings hitherto made with the acid show but few symptoms connected with either the upper or lower extremities; and so far as the arms are concerned, our clinical experience has been quite limited. From analogy, however, we should prescribe it in scrofulous and carious affections of the bones and joints of these organs as a chief remedy. Where there is a general softeningof the bones, especially, should we expect good results from its use. (10.)

It has sometimes been employed successfully in caries of the bones as an external application. (10.)

Lower Extremities.—Itching ulcers on the leg. Dull paralytic pains in the tarsal joint. Boil on the nates. Pain in the hip-joint. Burning heat of the soles. Dull pressure on the thigh. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—The maladies for which we would prescribe it are, hip-disease, white swelling, caries of either of the bones of the lower extremities, and softening of the bones from a lack of Phosphate of lime. Whenever we have administered it in scrofulous diseases of the joints, attended with profuse suppuration, it has had the effect to diminish materially the secretion, and thus enable the system to recuperate somewhat. As a remedy in these maladies we should rank it with Silex in point of value. (10.) In paralysis of the legs from onanism it is also useful.

In Frank's magazine we find the following case:—A lad of 16, scrofulous diathesis, received an injury upon his leg, which caused caries. At the end of four months, a large portion of the tibia, the upper part of the fibula, the patella, and the posterior part of the femur, were nearly destroyed. The cellular tissue was affected in proportion. The patient had paroxysms of hectic fever every afternoon, was very much emaciated, with an irritable pulse, night-sweats, irritating cough, and violent pains in the bones. A cure was effected with Phosphoric-acid in eight months.

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Skin.—Formication of the whole body. Red spots on the upper and lower limbs. Rash over the whole body, more burning than itching. Smarting pain in the wounds, even in those of the bones. Itch-like pustules on the nates and toes. (1.) Great soreness and tenderness of the skin. Red blotches on the face, on the arms and legs, shoulders, abdomen, down to the umbilicus, hips and knees, such as occur in hysterical congestions, and in young women with menstrual, ovarian and uterine disorders. Boils, inveterate ulcers, with flat edges, indented bases, and secreting offensive and dirty pus. In malignant scarlatina and erysipelas.

Clinical Remarks.—At a high dilution this remedy is worthy of attention in several chronic eruptive disorders. A case of petechiæ is recorded in Frank's Magazine as cured by this drug. We have often seen it serviceable in burning, itching eruptions, occurring in old and gouty subjects. (10.)

Fever.—Feeling of coldness, with chilly feeling and coldness in the abdomen, attacks of shuddering, in the evening, followed by exhausting sweats, general feeling of chilliness, coldness, followed by heat.—Profuse morning-sweat. (1.)

Clinical Remarks. In hectic fevers, arising from profuse suppurations, from scrofulous affections and caries, it is a remedy of great value. Under its use in cases of this description, we have often seen both the suppuration and the hectic subside, and even in cases where a cure did not ultimately result, life has been prolonged and the comfort of the patient much subserved. (10.)

In *gastric fever*, with pain and dullness in the head, thick and white-coated tongue, bad smell from the mouth, putrid taste, inclination to diarrhœa, great general languor and prostration, restless and unrefreshing sleep, exhausting night-sweats, thick urine with deposit of a great deal of mucus. (11.)

In *typhoid fever*, especially in not very malignant cases, when there is much nervousness, slight sopor, some fever, with redness of the cheeks, heat and dryness of the skin, followed by profuse and debilitating sweats; in the severest cases Rhus, Arsenicum and Muriatic-acid must be used. (11.)

General Symptoms.—Bruised sensation in the hips, arms, thighs, and nape of the neck, as if caused by too rapid growth. Languor of the body, inactivity of the mind, mental oppression. (4.) Scrofulous affections, caries. Bad consequences of too rapid growth. Bone-pains. Sensitiveness to cool air. Weakness all over—nervous weakness. Tumultuous movements of the blood. Bad effects of grief, chagrin, care, and anxiety. (1.)

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ACIDUM SULPHURICUM.

SULPHURIC ACID.

AUTHORITIES.

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TOXICOLOGICAL EFFECTS.

Tartra considers that four varieties may be observed: 1st, speedy death from violent corrosion and inflammation; 2d, slow death from *a peculiar organic disease* of the stomach and bowels; 3d, imperfect recovery, the person remaining liable ever after to irritability of the stomach; 4th, perfect recovery. (9.)

First Form.

The most ordinary symptoms are those of the most violent gastritis, accompanied with burning in the throat, which is increased by pressure, swallowing or coughing; eructations produced from the gases evolved in the stomach by the chemical action of the acid; excruciating pain in the stomach, such as few or no natural inflammations can excite. The lips are commonly shrivelled, at first whitish, but afterwards brownish; occasionally there are also excoriations, more rarely little blisters. Similar marks appear on other parts of the skin with which the acid may have come in contact, such as the cheeks, neck, breast, or fingers; and these marks undergo the same changes of color as the marks on the lips. Christison had an opportunity of witnessing this in the case of a man who was cruelly burnt on the face, as well as on the hands, which he had raised to protect his face; the marks were at first white, but in sixteen hours became brownish.

The inside of the mouth is also generally shrivelled, white and often more or less corroded; the teeth are apt to become loose and yellowish brown about the coronæ. Occasionally the tongue, gums and inside of the cheeks are white, and as it were polished, like ivory. (9.)

There is almost always great difficulty, and sometimes complete impossibility of swallowing; fluids taken by the mouth may be returned by the nose, for the pharynx may become so much contracted as only to admit a probe with difficulty. (9.)

The matter vomited is generally brownish or black, afterwards this matter is mixed with shreds of membrane, which resemble the coats of the stomach, and sometimes actually consists of the disorganized coats, but are generally nothing more than coagulated mucus. (9.)

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The *bowels* are obstinately costive; the urine scanty or suppressed, and the patient is frequently harassed by distressing tenesmus and desire to pass water. (9.)

The *pulse* is all along very weak, sometimes intermitting, and towards the close, imperceptible; it is not always very frequent, on the contrary, it has been observed of natural frequency, small and feeble. (9.)

The countenance becomes at an early period glazed and ghastly; and the extremities cold and clammy.

The *breathing* is often laborious, owing to the movements of the chest increasing the pain in the stomach; or because inflammation of the lungs is also at times present; or because the admission of air into the lungs is impeded by the inflammation and swelling of the epiglottis and entrance to the larynx; to these symptoms are added occasional *fits of suffocation from shreds of thick mucus sticking in the throat*, and sometimes CROUPY respiration, with sense of impending choking. (9.)

Sometimes, especially when a very large dose has been swallowed, instead of these excruciating tortures, there is a deceitful tranquillity and absence of all uneasiness, as in gangrene of the stomach and bowels; there may be a good deal of pain and vomiting at first, followed by a subsidence of all the usual violent symptoms, except tenesmus and excessive debility. (9.)

Occasionally eruptions break out over the body. (9.)

Death is seldom owing to the mere local mischief, more generally to sympathy of the circulation and nervous system with that injury. Bouchardat supposes that death arises from absorption of a sufficient quantity of acid in the blood to cause coagulation of that fluid. (9.)

Death generally takes place in from twelve hours to three days; sometimes life is prolonged for seven or fourteen days. (9.)

ANTIDOTES. Chalk, magnesia, solution of soap, milk, or oleaginous matters; alkaline bicarbonates, such as carbonate of potassa, provided they be given with mucilaginous fluids and syrup, in rather a concentrated form; Liquor-potassæ. (9.) A solution of carbonate of potash and sugar, followed by an oily emulsion with magnesia has cured very severe cases; milk with potash or lime water, should be the only diet for many days.

Second Form.

It begins with the symptoms already noticed; but these gradually abate:

The patient then becomes affected with: general fever, dry skin, spasms and pain in the limbs, difficult breathing, tension of the belly, salivation, and occasional vomiting, particularly of food and drink. Afterwards *membranous flakes* are discharged by vomiting, and salivation is accompanied by fetor. These flakes are often very like the mucous membrane of the stomach and bowels, and such they have often been described to be; more probably, however, they are of adventitious formation, for the mere mucous coat of the alimentary canal cannot supply the vast quantity that is evacuated. In fact *a true croupous*

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inflammation of the throat, œsophagus, stomach and bowels is often set up. Still, there is no doubt that the lining membrane of the alimentary canal is occasionally discharged; in fact Dr. Wilson has mentioned an instance of the ejection by coughing of about nine inches of the cylindrical lining of the pharynx and gullet. (11.)

Digestion is deranged, the whole functions of the body are languid, and the patient falls into a state of marasmus, which reduces him to a mere skeleton. The patient may live for eight months; the vomiting of the membranous flakes continuing to the last. (9.)

Third Form.

The primary symptoms are mild, but the patient continues for life liable to attacks of pain in the stomach, vomiting of food and general disorder of the digestive functions.

Fourth Form.

This merely comprehends the cases of perfect recovery; these are more frequent than one would suppose; of fifty-five cases, twenty-six died, nineteen of the primary, and seven of the secondary disorder; twenty-nine recovered, and twenty-one of these perfectly.

Fifth Form.

In this variety the injury is confined to the pharynx, œsophagus and larynx. (11.)

In one case the patient was unable to swallow for a fortnight.

In another, there was complete dysphagia from stricture in the gullet.

In other instances there is inflammation and spasm of the glottis and larynx.

In one case there was thickening of the epiglottis, great contraction of the upper opening of the larynx, and inflammation extending down the trachea into the bronchial tubes. (9.)

In other cases, both the œsophagus and larynx may be involved; the first symptoms, besides great general depression, were croupy respiration and much dyspnœa, which became so urgent that laryngotomy was performed. (9.)

Among the other effects of this and other acids *scirrhous pylorus* must also be mentioned; Boulland has related an instance of death *from scirrhous pylorus in its most aggravated* shape, which supervened on the chronic form of the effects of this and nitric-acid. (9.)

A nurse's milk, impregnated with Sulphuric-acid, is supposed to exert the most deleterious effects upon the infant; continued griping, green diarrhœa and fatal marasmus are said to ensue.

When poured into the ear, a large eschar may come away, followed by profuse hæmorrhage, which may recur almost daily for a month; then complete palsy of the arm may follow, succeeded finally by tremors and incomplete palsy of the whole of one side of the body; the whole petrous portion of the temporal bone may be found carious. (9.) It may prove the most homœopathic remedy to caries of the bones of the ear and consequent disease of the brain. It should be used in- and externally. (11.)

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Mind and Disposition.—Loud screaming. Great anguish and restlessness. Not inclined to talk. Happily disposed. Great uneasiness. (4.) Despondency. Melancholy. Ill-humor. Sadness. (1.)

Sensorium.—Perfect consciousness. Fainting. Feeling of faintness. Vertigo. Prostration. Transient delirium. Unconsciousness. (4.) Oppressive dullness of the head. (1.) Mental faculties unimpaired. (2.)

Head.—Headache. (4.) Pressure in the forehead. Constriction of the forehead, first increasing, and then disappearing suddenly. Drawing headache. Sensation in the forehead as if the brain were loose and were falling to and fro. Stitching and grumbling in the temples. (1.)

PATHOLOGY.—Softening of the cortical substance of the brain. Dura-mater, sinuses and pia-mater distended with blood. Pia-mater covered with lymph. Cerebrum covered with red blood-spots. Lateral ventricles contained about a drachm of liquid. Choroid plexus very dark. Under the tentorium and in vertebral canal were found about three ounces of watery exudation. Membranes of the brain very much thickened and opaque. Membranes of the brain here and there firmly adhering to the same. Sinuses filled with black blood. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—The 6th dilution of this acid has several times afforded permanent relief in obstinate constitutional headaches, occurring in cachectic individuals. It has proved particularly useful in those cases which have been accompanied by profuse and debilitating leucorrhœal discharges.

Sleep.—Easily disturbed sleep. Transient delirium. (4.)

Eyes.—Pupils very much dilated. Eyes protruded from their socket,—*without expression*, and sunken. Wild, fiery expression of the eyes. Eyes sparkling. Distorted look of the eyes. Eyes dim. Staring expression. Pupils somewhat contracted. (4.) Lachrymation. Dim-sightedness in the morning. Stinging itching in the lower lids. (1.) If Sulph.-ac. be dropped upon a mucous membrane a coagulated film is produced at once. (11.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most homœopathic remedies for opacities of the cornea; it may be applied externally, when sufficiently diluted. (11.) In *ectropium* the local application of the strong acid to the eyelid has been substituted for the scissors. (44.)

Face and Lips.—Frightful expression. Dark blue appearance of the face. Cold clammy sweat. Pale face. Icy-coldness of the face. Wretched expression of the face. Most anxious expression. Puffiness of the face. Feverish heat. Red face. Changeable color of the face. Lips swollen and inflamed. Blueish color of the face. Convulsive movements of the muscles of the face and lips. Lips pale and shriveled. Hippocratic expression. Face deathly pale and cold. Face red and swollen. (4.)

Teeth.—Crumbling off of the teeth. Covered with a tough black-yellowish mucus. Grinding of the teeth. Naturally white teeth, stained brown. (4.) Pain of the sub-maxillary glands, the pain

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affecting even the tongue. The teeth are set on edge the whole afternoon. (1.)

Tongue.—Mucous membrane of the tongue white; tongue swollen, but moist. Shriveled, puckered appearance of the tongue. Tongue red on the borders. Tongue thickly coated with a grey-whitish crust. Tongue dry, and covered with thick yellow scabs. Blisters on the tongne. Tongue pale. (4.)

Pathology.—The mucous membrane corroded in different places. Tongue very much swollen, and covered a cheesy mass. (4.)

Mouth, Throat and Œsophagus.—Mucous membrane of the mouth and œsophagus corroded. Violent pain in the œsophagus. Violent burning pain in the mouth and the œsophagus. Mucous membrane of the lips, tongue and mouth, white, shriveled and puckered. Inability to swallow anything. Tongue swollen, with puckered appearance of the mucous membrane. Spasms of the pharynx. *Isthmus faucium* and pharynx darkened. Difficulty of deglutition. Foaming of the mouth. Constriction of the œsophagus. Frequent eructations. Painful deglutition. Lock jaw. Painful inclination to swallow all the time. Corners of the mouth covered with a thick slimy crust. Spasms of the glottis on attempting to swallow. Gangrenous appearance of the tonsils. Dysphagia. Constriction of the œsophagus and stomach. Small blisters on the tongue and in different parts of the mouth. Foul smell from the mouth. The interior of the mouth covered with brown and white crusts. Violent inflammation of the organs of deglutition. The inner mouth almost denuded of mucous membrane. Considerable excoriation of the mucous membranes of the mouth, fauces, &c. (4.) Rough and contractive sensation in the throat. (1.)

Pathology.—Membrane of the mouth uncommonly white and indurated, and in some places corroded. Tunica villosa of the œsophagus and stomach detached. Tonsils and soft palate of a yellowish white color and shriveled. The whole mucous membrane of the œsophagus corroded. Behind the larynx a stricture so that the œsophagus presented an opening not larger than a feather quill. Pharynx very much constricted, and denuded of epithelium. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most homœopathic remedies for *croupous inflammation* of the pharynx, larynx, trachea and œsophagus. Also for gangrenous or putrid inflammation or ulceration of the throat; in syphilitic angina; in the malignant angina of scarlet fever; also for stricture of the œsophagus. (11.) In Mercurial ptyalism Mr. Pearson found great benefit from this acid.

Appetite.—Aversion to food and drinks. Want of appetite. (4.) Aversion to food, disappearing in the evening. (1.)

Stomach.—Violent corroding pain in the stomach. Vomiting after drinking. Vomiting. Aversion to any kind of drinks. Vomiting of blood. Vomiting of slime and mattery fluid. Burning in the stomach..

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Choking sensation during the act of vomiting. Vomiting of a large quantity of foamy slime. Regurgitation of food. After eating, pain in the region of the stomach, with swelling of the size of a child's head. Stomach tender on pressure. After eating, pain and pressure in the region of the stomach, relieved by vomiting. Convulsive vomiting of blood. Vomiting of black flocculent fluid. Black vomit. Distention of the stomach. Vomiting of coagulable lymph and destroyed membranes. (4). Coolness and relaxed feeling of the stomach. Sensitiveness in the region of the stomach. (1.)

PATHOLOGY.—Tunica villosa detached. Muscular coat of the stomach and duodenum much inflamed. Posterior part and pyloric orifice of the stomach disorganized. Stomach diminished in size with several cicatrices, and some ulcers in process of healing. *Mucous membrane of the pylorus very much thickened. Puckered, shriveled appearance of the stomach.* Stomach perforated. (4.) It seems to exert a specific action upon the pylorus, causing thickening both of the mucous and muscular coat. (11.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most homœopathic remedies for the most severe inflammations and ulcerations of the stomach; also against scirrhus of the pylorus; excessive acidity and water brash; chronic vomiting and indigestion; perforating ulcer of the stomach; *gastro-malacia;* and perhaps against *sarcinæ ventricula;* it is also homœopathic to hæmorrhagic gastritis. (11.)

Diaphragm.—*Clinical Remarks.*—During a long practice, Dr. Schneider has met with may cases of hiccough, occurring in both sexes, and at all ages, persisting with such obstinacy as to give rise to great suffering and exhaustion. His sovereign remedy in such cases is dilute Sulphuric.-acid; it acts with great promptitude. (12.)

Abdomen.—Epigastrium very tender to the touch. Abdomen soft, without pain or heat. Muscles of the abdomen contracted; with colicky pain. Violent pain in the abdomen. Abdomen very tender to the touch. Distention of the hypochondriac region. Abdomen tympanitic. Cutting pain in the abdomen. Muscles of the abdomen hard and rigid. (4.)

PATHOLOGY.—Inner surface of the intestines were covered with brownish-black thick fluid. The lower part of the spleen blackish-brown and as if corroded by the acid. Mesentery mostly destroyed. Spleen dark red. Liver bloodless. *Liver very much enlarged.* Small intestines distended with gas and inflamed. Omentum, liver, intestines and peritoneum highly inflamed. Mucous membrane of the duodenum thickened. *Gastro-epiploica, dextra* and *sinistra* and its branches, also superior mesenteric filled with dark coagula. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is homœopathic to great enlargement of the liver; to peritonitis. (11.) In colica pictonum and poisoning by lead generally, Sulphuric-acid is supposed by Gendrin to be almost specific; this opinion has been ably supported by Dr. H. Bennett; mild cases yield in three days, severe ones in six; the first few doses may

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be vomited off, but tolerance is soon established; the abdominal pains generally begin to diminish after the first or second day, the constipation gradually giving way when the pains become less intense. The Sulphuric-acid drink will prevent lead colic; in a large establishment not a single case occurred in fifteen months. (44.)

Stool.—Constipation. Diarrhœic stools. Bloody stools. Stools black, mixed with blood. Involuntary stools. (4.) From the first to the seventh day the stools are apt to be hard and like slacked lime; from this to the thirteenth day they may assume an ash color, and finally become natural. (11.)

Clinical Remarks.—In diarrhœa, cholera and dysentery Sulphuric-acid is said to be more efficacious than alkalies, tonics, opiates and astringents, in a proportion greatly exceeding ten to one.

In these diseases its beneficial action, especially in children, is more rapid in a proportion greatly exceeding twenty to one.

It seems to act by increasing the tone of the mucous membrane, rather than by simply astringing its pores. The worse the case, the more rapid and marvellous seems to be the cure.

Dr. Müller reports 27 cases of diarrhœa, some extremely bad and wanting little of the intensity of Asiatic cholera; several were in infants; all of these cases recovered although some of them seemed perfectly exhausted by diarrhœa and vomiting, the eyes were sunken and death seemed near. (13.) Dr. Sheppard treated fifty cases of diarrhœa successfully, many of them severe, some few were the very worst forms of English cholera. (13.)

Dr. North thinks it most useful when the symptoms are severe, with a tendency to lapse into a low fever, when the attack arises without any error in diet, the diarrhœa being profuse, soon becoming like dirty water, with nausea and vomiting of a large quantity of fluid, severe spasmodic pains in the stomach and bowels, cramps in the limbs, often violent, pulse small and frequent, skin cold and clammy, counte nance anxious; these symptoms being followed by a continued fever for a few days or a week or two. (14.)

Dr. Fuller of St. George's Hospital thinks it is a specific against the *choleraic diarrhœa;* in bilious diarrhœa and some chronic diarrhœas it is of little or no avail. It relieves vomiting, purging, and cramps, generally within three or four hours, and convalescence follows speedily; the change is effected with such marvellous rapidity that he who in the morning is utterly prostrate, in the evening experiences little ill effect from his fearful seizure. (14.)

In passive diarrhœa from a relaxed condition of the mucous membrane of the bowels it is very useful; also in puerperal diarrhœa depending upon intestinal irritation; it often effectually restrains the diarrhœa, improves the condition of the tongue, particularly if there are aphthous ulcerations. (44.)

In the Provincial Med. and Surg. Journal of Sept. 15, 1852, p. 471, we find an interesting paper by Dr. Edgar Sheppard, upon the value of Sulphuric-acid as a remedy in diarrhœa and dysentery. During a

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period of six weeks Dr. S. treated upwards of fifty cases, many of them being of a very severe character, and the conclusion he derives from his experience are as follows:

"1st. The treatment of diarrhœas and dysenteries by Sulphuric-acid is more efficacious than that by alkalies, opiates, and astringents in a proportion greatly exceeding ten to one."

"2d. It is more rapid in its action (especially in children) in a proportion greatly exceeding twenty to one."

"3d. It seems to act in a more rational, and (if I may so express myself) scientific manner, by increasing the tone of the mucous membrane of the alimentary canal, rather than by astringing the pores." (!)

"4th. The worse the case, the more rapid and marvellous seems to be the cure — a most striking feature as compared with the treatment by chalk and opium."

An examination of the symptoms of these cases proves that the remedy was in nearly every instance *homœopathic;* and the conclusion forces itself upon us that our allopathic friend consulted Jahr, instead of his own authorities in selecting his medicine. (10.)

Urinary Organs.—Frequent inclination to make water, but passing a few drops only at a time. Urine red, high colored. Diminished secretion of urine. Involuntary emissions of urine. (4.) A boy, aged nine years, took ʒj. of strong Sulphuric-acid; during the first three days his urine was found to contain a large quantity of Sulphuric-acid, amounting to about 133 grains of monohydrated Sulphuric-acid, equivalent to 1¾ ounce of acid.-sulph.-dilut. of the London Pharmacopœia. (11.)

Clinical Remarks.—A weak solution forms a capital injection in chronic gonorrhœa and gleets. (11.) In calculous affections, in the phosphatic diathesis, and when the urine is alkaline, Sulphuric-acid has in many cases proved successful, but it is generally inferior to the Nitro-muriatic-acid. (44.) In those derangements of the system which give rise to alkaline conditions of the urine, the totality of symptoms will often correspond with the pathogenetic phenomena of Sulphuric or some other acid. In such cases, we are in the habit of prescribing the higher dilutions, and for the most part with benefit. (10.)

Female genital Organs.—Catamenia suppressed. (4.) Menses too early, and too profuse. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—In leucorrhœa occurring in cachectic constitutions the Sulphuric-acid is sometimes very successful; (44.) it may also be used as an injection, especially when there are abrasions or aphthous ulcerations of the cervix uteri. (11.) Uterine hæmorrhage, after miscarriage, has several times been promptly arrested by Frank. The same gentleman has likewise controlled severe hæmorrhages, arising from partial detachments of the placenta.

Larynx and Trachea.—Troublesome night-cough. Cough. Inability to speak. Loss of voice. Hoarseness of the voice. Larynx painful to the touch. Cough with rattling in the chest. Cough excited by liquids. Irritating cough. Violent choking spells, with croupy cough. Cough with putrid expectoration. (4.)

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Pathology.—Mucous membrane of the trachea and bronchial tubes much inflamed. (4.) Epiglottis covered with a thick layer *like false membrane;* epiglottis of a deep scarlet red color, intensely inflamed, but not corroded; ulceration of the larynx and trachea. (11.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is one of the most homœopathic remedies against true membranous croup; also ulceration and stricture of the larynx. (11.)

Thorax.—Stertorous breathing, with difficulty of swallowing. Violent burning pain in precordial region. Sighing respiration. Respiration retarded (voix très-basse, soufflée). Tenderness on pressure in the precordial region. Respirations short and frequent. Palpitation of the heart. Great difficulty of respiration. Pain during inspiration. Sensation as if something were boiling in the chest. Cramps of the chest. Whistling, wheezing noise during inspiration. Dyspnœa, great anguish in the precordial region. Violent deep seated pain in the chest. Great pain in the precordial region. (4.) Pressure in the left chest, and pit of the stomach. (1.)

Pathology.—Lungs more pale than natural. Very much collapsed and bloodless. Lungs normal, not collapsed. Pericardium filled with a quantity of yellowish fluid. Right auricle and ventricle filled with blood. Left side of the heart and aorta empty. Veins very much distended with blood. Both pleuræ inflamed with the usual product of inflammation. Both lungs very much inflamed and hepatized. Coronary artery distended with thick coagulated blood. The right side of the thorax contained much bloody serum. *Heart atrophied;* auricles empty. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—It is homœopathic to dropsy of the chest; inflammation of the lungs and pleura; to hæmorrhagic pleurisy; and to dropsy of the pericardium. (11.) In the profuse perspirations and expectorations of phthisis the dilute acid proves highly useful; Elliotson has seen it check the most severe forms; Christison remarks that no internal remedy equals Sulphuric-acid. (44.)

Upper Extremities.—Arms cold, and covered with cold clammy perspiration. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—In paralysis, chronic rheumatism, and chronic affection of the joints, especially in morbus-coxarius great benefit is stated to have been derived from the persevering use of Sulphuric-acid ointment (Acid ʒj.; lard ʒj.) (44.) Against the debilitating sweats arising from necroses of the bones of the extremities, it is an excellent remedy. (10.)

Lower Extremities.—Lower extremities cold, and covered with cold clammy perspiration. General coldness. Icy coldness of the lower extremities. Spasms. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—Sulphuric-acid sometimes proves serviceable in scrofulous affections of the joints, when the cartilages and ligaments have become seriously involved, with profuse suppuration, debilitating

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perspiration, and other hectic symptoms. In these instances, we have derived most benefit from the use of the 6th to the 12th dilution. (10.)

Pulse.—Pulse frequent and intermittent. Pulse small, weak not frequent, hardly perceptible; pulse full, tense; pulse trembling, sometimes slow, then again quick and wiry. Small, weak, trembling pulse; hard, quick pulse. (4.) Small, quick pulse. (1.)

Fever.—Feverish. Feverish towards evening. Internal heat with external coldness. Violent inflammatory fever. Alternately fever and chill. Fever with delirium, and congestion of the head. Fever with great restlessness. High degree of fever. (4.)

Clinical Remarks.—In the advanced stages of continued fevers, and in typhus fever the use of Sulph.-acid appears to be of great service. Professor Huss found that when there was profound prostration with commencing bed sores and persistent diarrhœa, Sulphuric-acid was productive of much benefit. (44.)

We are much in the habit of prescribing this acid against the diarrhœas which occur during the progress of typhoid and scarlet fevers. Experience in these cases induces us to employ the first dilution

Dr. Leon of New-Orleans has found the first dilution of the acid eminently successful, in diarrhœas of infants, and in aphthous conditions, after Sulphur and other remedies have failed. (10.)

In true *petechial typhus fever* the celebrated Rademacher recommends it almost as a specific. It was introduced by Professor Reich in 1799 as a specific against all fevers; but of course it soon fell into disuse; but Rademacher had used it successfully in large doses, as early as 1795, in the true typhus fever; and found it useless against all other varieties, even the typhoid. He had used it previously in small doses in combination with other remedies, but he first gave it alone to a poor apprentice, who had violent fever, large black petechiæ, and constant hæmorrhage from the nose; the bleeding from the nose soon became so profuse that it threatened to kill the patient. Rademacher then gave an entire ounce of Acid-Sulph., dilut. at one dose, in as little water as possible. This checked the hæmorrhage at once; the patient continued to use as much of the acid as he could possibly get down, using about the equivalent of a half ounce of the concentrated acid in a dilute form. This patient recovered in one-third of the usual time required under other remedies.

Rademacher continued to follow this treatment for over forty years, and always with success. He remarks that after the acid has been used freely for three or four days, loose stools are apt to occur, and the fæces have a dark green color. The first passages may be offensive, but the later ones are not at all so; when this diarrhœa occurs the quantity of Sulph.-acid should be diminished to a half or even a quarter the usual quantity; in fact the patients generally become tired of it at this time and are very glad to diminish the quantity. The fever will be found much lessened; the petechiæ become of a lighter

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color. Some few patients could not retain the Sulph.-acid but vomited it off; these received full doses of Tartaric-acid. When the vomiting arose from an affection of the stomach, and not from disgust for the Sulph.-acid, a tablespoonful of spirits was given every one or two hours; this was also given when the patient was very weak; also when there was great delirium or tendency to coma, with or without Camphor. He has relieved the most violent delirium with Sulph.-acid in full quantities, and Spirits of Camphor. The most severe and almost hopeless cases seem to have recovered in Rademacher's hands under this treatment. (11.)

Thirst.—Violent thirst. Thirst with inability to swallow, spasms of the glottis on attempting to swallow; burning thirst. (4.)

Skin.—Skin dry and hot; coldness of the skin; cold clammy sweat; pale and cold skin; skin cold to the touch, with internal heat. (4.) Pain in the outer parts of the head as if from subcutaneous ulceration, the parts being painful to the touch. (10.) A peculiar looking, half-petechial and half miliary eruption on the chest, arms and abdomen is not uncommon. (11.) Itching over the body here and there. (1.)

Clinical Remarks.—In confluent small pox when the pustules are filled with a bloody sanies, and the urine contains portions of broken-down coagulæ of blood, Sulph.-acid is stated by Dr. Thompson to be a remedy of the highest value, and indeed the only one which can be relied upon. (44.)

In scarlet fever it is also very useful. In some cutaneous diseases the internal use of this acid proves highly beneficial; it will cure itch, when other remedies fail; in pruritis it has been used with the best effects; also in lichen and urticaria; in eczema, and tinea-capitis, it may be used internally and externally; in ephelides and freckles the diluted acid is recommended by Bateman. (44.)

General Symptoms.—The whole body covered with cold clammy perspiration. Attacks of epilepsy with congestion of the brain. General paralysis, spasms, singultus; convulsions. Rigidity of the spinal column and lower extremities; patient lying on his back. Great emaciation. Sinking of strength. Trembling of the body. Spasms. Icy coldness of the body. Insensibility. Lock-jaw. Food or drinks seldom reached the stomach, for they were vomited up before getting into this organ. Heat of the whole body. (4.)

Peculiarities.—After the radial pulse had ceased for some time, the pulsations of the heart could be felt distinctly. Pain increased on motion and pressure. (4.)

Pathology.—The blood in all the vessels was found coagulated. Lower extremities rigid, upper extremities limber. (4.)

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ACIDUM TANNICUM.

TANNIC ACID.

The experience with this remedy is mainly clinical and palliative.

AUTHORITIES.

Waring's Therapeutics (44.)—Dunglison's New Remedies (16.)—Wood and Bache (7.)—Peters (11.)

Eyes.—*Clinical Remarks.*—Huter affirms that it is very serviceable in most cases of Egyptian ophthalmia (16.). Hairion speaks highly of the efficacy of a strong solution (one part to three of water), in acute and chronic conjunctivitis, granular lids and vascular cornea, granulating vegetations, corneitis, with or without ulcerations, chemosis and pannus, especially in the latter disease; still much milder preparations are generally preferred, viz., one part of Tannin to twenty, thirty or fifty parts of water. Cummins regards it as preferable to all other applications in the purulent ophthalmia of infants. (44. 11.)

Nose.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In Epistaxis the powder may be blown into the nostrils through a quill (44.) It has also been used successfully against chronic catarrh and coryza. (11.)

Mouth.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In hæmorrhage from the gums it may be applied locally in powder or in solution; also in mercurial salivation and sponginess of the gums. (44.)

Teeth.—*Clinical Remarks.*—Druitt has found it of great service in toothache; a little cotton wool imbued with a solution of a scruple of Tannic-acid and five grains of Mastich in two fluid drachms of ether may be put into the cavity; he says if the toothache is to be cured at all, this plan will put an end to it in nine cases out of ten; although other authorities prefer a mixture of Tannic-acid and Morphine. (44.)

Throat.—*Clinical Remarks.*—Mignot uses from two to ten parts of Tannin mixed with ten parts of sugar, blown into the throat to facilitate the expulsion of false membranes (16.) Allison recommends it in relaxation of the palate and throat. (44.)

Stomach.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In dyspepsia it is said to prove very efficacious, the appetite increases, flatus and sense of distention abate, and in some instances the bowels, far from becoming constipated, acquire a more healthy tone and *actually become more free.* It has also been used against the hyperemesis induced by Ipecac.; and in hæmorrhage from the stomach. (44.)

Bowels.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In chronic diarrhœa which has resisted all ordinary treatment it has proved of surprising efficacy; in severe cases depending on an irritable, relaxed and weakly mucous

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membrane Allison has not known one failure; and of those cases connected with chronic inflammation or ulceration of the mucous membrane, only two proved beyond the influence of the remedy. It has been used successfully against hæmorrhage from the bowels, even when arising from the ulceration of typhoid fever; also against the hæmorrhage of dysentery; in prolapsus-ani, bleeding and enlarged piles. (44.) It is homœopathic to some forms of constipation. (11.)

Urinary Organs.—*Clinical Remarks.* In hæmaturia Rees says, it is the best remedy he knows of. Giadorow details two cases of diabetes cured by it, when given in combination with opium; Dumas extols it in the same disease; a rapid and decided improvement is often obtained in ten or twelve days. Allison has used it successfully in albuminuria. Dr. J. Redman Coxe has frequently used *Gallic-acid* with success in some forms of albuminuria, and as often without success; but the form of urinary disease in which he has found it most useful, is that in which the urine is loaded with a thick, dirty cream-colored mucus, which after standing five or six hours emits a very fetid smell; where the urine is passed with much straining; when the kidneys are very painful (a bruise-like pain), and the distress seems to follow the course of the ureters into the bladder; and when there is a dull heavy pain in the bladder, directly over the pubis; in nearly all such cases he has derived much benefit from *Gallic-acid* in the first, second, and third decimal triturations; when the Gallic-acid failed, he often found Berberis of great use. *Benzoic-acid*, on the other hand has been found most useful in catarrh of the bladder, and in cases where there exists a secretion of granular mucus mixed with phosphates; also in chronic dysuria, incidental chiefly to persons in the decline of life, or in the so-called dysuria senilis; combined or in alternation in the Copaiba, Benzoic-acid has been used when there is vesical irritation and increased secretion from the mucous membrane; it diminishes and often completely removes the muco-purulent deposit. (44.)

Genital Organs.—*Clinical Remarks.*—In gonorrhœa and gleet Record and Allison have used it with benefit; in atonic leucorrhœa it has been used internally with the effect of restraining the discharge and restoring the tone of the system; two or three grains in solution, combined with a small portion of dilute Nitric-acid is a favorite in- and external remedy. In syphilitic ulceration of the cervix-uteri it was first proposed by Ricord and strongly advised by Grandcourt. (44.) In a case of open and almost incurable cancerous ulceration, in which it was applied to arrest the bleeding, it seemed to excite a wonderful effect on the ulcer and cancer itself. In menorrhagia, Porta says: 1. that whenever the womb is the seat of irritation, giving rise to active hæmorrhage, and also when this discharge depends upon chronic metritis, Tannic-acid will act specifically upon the womb; 2. when the discharge depends on organic disease it has no efficacy; 3. when acute inflammation is present, other remedies ought to be used first. Ferrario does not consider it adapted for cases in which either partial

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or general plethora, or local excitement or any organic disease exists; it is indicated only when mere atony is present: then the effect is generally good, the hæmorrhage diminishes and soon ceases, the general strength augments, and recovery succeeds without any disturbance of the stomach or other functions. Richter, however, says he has given it in habitual metrorrhagia without any effect whatever.

Chest.—*Clinical Remarks.*—Cavavia says that of all the effects of Tannic-acid, two of the most surprising are, the cures effected by it in cases of obstinate nervous cough and in phthisis. In the chronic stage of hooping cough it is recommended by Schegondi, in quarter grain doses every two hours, in alternation with Conium; the paroxysms soon ceased entirely. Durr found it very efficacious in combination with equal parts of Benzoin, and fifty parts of sugar. Allison advises it in chronic bronchial catarrh, occurring in weakly and elderly persons, attended with copious and debilitating expectoration; it first greatly and gradually abates the secretion, then relieves the frequent paroxysms of cough and improves the strength. In the second stage of phthisis it is said to be very useful, when there are softened tubercles and much bronchial catarrh; also when large cavities are present, with large quantities of purulent matter mixed with blood; it controls the discharge, and lessens the wear and tear of the system. In the profuse perspirations of phthisis, Allison and Charvet found its efficacy very striking. (44.)

In *osmidrosis* Wilson found it to correct the fetor of the perspiration after other means had failed. (44.)

Breasts.—To sore nipples a solution of five grains to ℥j. of water is spoken of by Druitt as a very efficacious application. (44.); but the Tinct. Benzoin is far more useful. (11.)

In *nervous diseases*, debility, languor and excitability it is said to be a permanent nervine. (44.)

In *rachitis*, Allison has the highest opinion of the internal use of Tannic-acid, in doses of a half or one grain, two or three times a day; he has employed it in numerous cases and thinks that it not only possesses the power of arresting the progress of the disease, but also of correcting or preventing the tendency to it; it appears to have been signally beneficial in his hands. (44.)

In *some obstinate skin diseases*, and to ulcers with copious discharge it has been found of great service; also in porrigo decalvans. (44.)

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