

Treatment.—The premonitory symptoms denote congestion of the brain, and it is all-important when such symptoms appear, without fever, to attend promptly to them, so as to prevent an attack of apoplexy if possible. The patient should live on vegetable food, eat moderately, and avoid stimulants. When such symptoms occur in an individual of full habit, give a dose of *Aconite* every hour, especially when there seems to be a determination of blood to the head, with redness and fullness of the face, sensation of fullness in the head, and dizziness, especially when stooping. If the patient improves, lengthen the intervals between the doses. If *Aconite* alone fails to relieve such symptoms, alternate it with *Belladonna*, at intervals of one hour.

Dose, see page 7.

Belladonna should be given either alone, or alternately with *Aconite*, when there is fullness and pressure in the head, with redness of the eyes and face, derangement of sight or hearing, sleepiness, pricking or numbness in various parts, difficulty of speaking, or other paralytic symptoms.

Nux Vomica: This remedy is perhaps as frequently required as any other, especially when there is neither heat nor redness of the face, and the patient is addicted to the use of coffee, fermented or alcoholic drinks, and if there is an aggravation of the symptoms in the morning, and in the open air; also when there are great heaviness of the head, and sleepiness; painful sensitiveness of the brain, when walking, dimness of sight, dizziness during or after a meal, with a sensation as if the head were turning, with danger of falling; buzzing in the ears, fainting, or temporary loss of consciousness, numbness, pricking, with difficulty of moving parts of the body. Give a dose every hour, until the severe symptoms are removed, then two or three times a day, to prevent their returning.

Give *Arnica* when there is dull pressure in the brain, buzzing in the ears, dimness of sight, and dizziness after or while eating.

Give *Lachesis* when there are pale face and absence of mind.

Give *Pulsatilla* when there are pains in one side of the head, which are relieved by pressure, dizziness on lifting the eyes, or when sitting or stooping, buzzing in the ears, and dimness of sight

Give *Opium* to old people, when there is stupor, sleepiness, dizziness, heaviness in the head, pressure in the forehead, throbbing in the temples, dry mouth, nausea, or vomiting. If the symptoms of congestion of the brain have been caused by grief, give *Ignatia*.

When you have selected your remedy, give it every hour until the severe symptoms are removed; then give it before every meal, and a dose of *Sulphur* every night.

Treatment of the Apoplectic Attack.—Place the patient in a recumbent position, with the head and shoulders elevated by pillows; remove everything that is tight from around the neck, unbutton his shirt collar, admit fresh air, and make warm applications to his feet in all cases. If the patient's face is red, his head hot, and the pulse full, apply cold water to the head, but if his face is pale and the pulse is feeble, do not apply it.

Belladonna: Give this remedy at the commencement of the disease when the face is red or bloated, the pupils of the eyes dilated, or the mouth is drawn to one side with paralysis of the right side; also if convulsive symptoms occur. Give a dose every hour. *Nux vomica* is often required after this remedy, or alternately with it.

Nux vomica: Give this remedy when there is snoring respiration, hanging down of the lower jaw, or when the attack was preceded by headache, dizziness, buzzing in the ears, nausea or vomiting. Give a dose every hour until there is some improvement, then lengthen the intervals to three or four hours. Give *Opium* when the attack is severe, the pulse slow and irregular, snoring respiration, red bloated face, hot head covered with perspiration, dilated or contracted pupils, or convulsive movements.

Give *Pulsatilla*, especially in the case of females, when there is violent palpitation of the heart, small pulse, and bluish red face with loss of consciousness.

Give *Arnica* when the pulse is full and strong, and there are involuntary discharges from the bowels, and of urine, and there is paralysis of the limbs on the left side.

If the bowels remain costive, give a free injection of warm water. If the urine is retained it must be drawn off at the end of twelve hours, and afterward at least once in twenty-four hours. Any physician can perform this operation.

PALSY (PARALYSIS).

This disease frequently results from an attack of apoplexy, or rather from the diseased condition which causes the apoplectic symptoms. In some cases, we have an attack of paralysis without its being either preceded or accompanied by an apoplectic attack, owing to the pressure on, or change in the brain, being so slight, or coming on so gradually, as not to cause insensibility or stupor. In other cases, there may be slight symptoms of apoplexy at the commencement of the paralytic symptoms. Paralysis may also result from inflammation of the brain or spinal cord, and from the pressure of bone in cases of fracture of the skull or spine.

Local palsy may result from injury or disease of individual nerves. We may have palsy of one half of the body laterally, the other half remaining sound; this is called hemiplegia. The palsy may be confined to the lower extremities, or the lower half of the body; this is called paraplegia. When a single part is paralyzed it is called local palsy. Both sensation and motion may be impaired or lost, or sensation may be impaired or lost, and the power of moving the part remain; or the ability to move may be impaired or lost and sensation may remain. Palsy may come on suddenly or gradually. In aged persons we sometimes have what is called paralysis agitans or shaking palsy. Lead palsy sometimes occurs from the poisonous influence of lead.

Treatment.—When this disease results from apoplexy, the remedies named under the head of that disease are useful; especially *Belladonna*, *Nux vomica*, and *Arnica*. Give a dose of *Sulphur* every night at bedtime, and if the paralysis is on the right side, give a dose of *Belladonna* before every meal, and if it fails to relieve, give *Nux vomica* in the same manner. If the paralysis is on the left side, give *Lachesis* before every meal, and if it fails, give *Arnica*, and afterwards, if necessary, *Nux vomica*. When the lower half of the body is paralyzed, give *Nux vomica*. Give *Arnica* when the disease results from rheumatism, and if it does not relieve, give *Sulphur* at night and *Bryonia* in the morning. If the fingers are paralyzed, give *Calcarea carb.* night and morning,

and at the end of two weeks give *Silicea*. *Rhus tox.* is often useful when there is paralysis of the extremities, especially the lower extremities. If paralysis causes difficulty of swallowing, give *Lachesis*, *Belladonna*, or *Silicea*. If it causes loss of voice give *Belladonna*, *Hyoscyamus*, or *Lachesis*. For paralysis of the eyelids give *Belladonna* or *Sepia*. Electricity is a very uncertain remedy, and never should be used except under the direction of a skilful physician.

If the paralysis has been of some standing, and all pain, dizziness, or irritation in the head, has been removed, regular exercise of the part paralyzed becomes not less important than medicine. Let an assistant two or three times a day for a few moments bend and extend the paralyzed limb or part in every direction, if the muscles are contracted, gradually stretch them out; also with the open hand slap repeatedly the palsied part or limb over its entire surface. After thus exercising the part for a few days, the patient by an effort of his will, may try to assist in moving the weak part or limb, but he should never attempt to move it except when the assistant is moving it, until he feels that he has gained sufficient control over the part to be able to move it readily without assistance. As soon as the patient is able to move the part without assistance, let him exercise it regularly himself two or three times a day, but never to the extent of fatigue, or until there is increased feeling of weakness. His assistant may continue to rub and slap the part; and, as strength returns, he may offer a little resistance to the movements of the patient, and this may be cautiously increased until the part becomes strong.

HEADACHE (CEPHALALGIA).

Headache is a general attendant on all febrile affections, also on congestion and inflammation of the brain, and other inflammatory affections. In this section, headaches, which are independent of all such diseases, will be considered. Often headache is external to the brain, being seated in the scalp or cranium. Such is the case with many rheumatic, gouty, and neuralgic headaches;

also with the pains which result from various inflammatory affections of the external coverings of the skull; and this is true of syphilitic affections of the periosteum or covering of the bones, and of the bones themselves. Headaches are of every variety as to severity, location, extent, and duration. The pain may be on both sides of the head, or on one side; it may be over the eyes, in the forehead, temples, on the sides, on the top, or in the back of the head. It may be confined to a small spot, as if a nail were driven in, or it may extend over the entire head. It may last but for a single instant, or for hours, days, and weeks. Sometimes it is periodical or intermittent. The pain may be shooting, darting, aching, throbbing, tearing or burning; it may be superficial or deep-seated; there may be simply pain, or it may be mingled with dizziness, fullness, lightness, a sensation of emptiness, heat or coldness, noises in the ears, and perversions of vision. Temporary dimness of sight, or even blindness, sometimes precedes the attack of pain. Occasionally headache depends on disease of the heart, and it may be sympathetic with derangements of the stomach, constituting sick headache, or with derangements of the liver, constituting bilious headache; ulceration and chronic inflammation of the uterus, frequently cause headache in the back of the head, extending up to the crown, perhaps with a numb sensation. Nervous headache is common. Coffee causes a headache, which commences in the morning, grows worse until noon, and then gradually abates. Tea, tobacco, and decayed teeth, frequently cause this affection.

Treatment.—If the patient is subject to rheumatism or gout, and the pain seems to be external to the skull, if the scalp is sore to the touch, and the pain is dull and tearing, or shooting, give *Bryonia* once in two hours, especially when the pains are aggravated by walking, stooping, or contact, and if such pains are confined to one side of the head. If *Bryonia* fails to relieve, give *Rhus tox.*, especially if the pains are burning or beating, and if there is wavering of the brain when stepping, and creeping in the head, or if the pains are excited by walking in the open air.

Dose of these remedies, see page 7.

Belladonna will perhaps relieve more cases of headache than

any other remedy, especially when the pain is aggravated by light, also when noise increases it. Shooting, darting pain, or aching and throbbing over the eyes, especially over the right eye and through the forehead, worse on motion, or on moving the eyes, red face and eyes, perversions of vision and of hearing, and temporary dimness of sight before the attack, are all indications for this remedy. Give a dose once an hour until the pain is relieved, unless it aggravates the symptoms; in that case discontinue the remedy and give *Hyoscyamus*.

Pulsatilla: Next to *Belladonna*, this remedy will perhaps relieve more cases of headache than any other, especially with females; also with males, if the following symptoms occur. Aching, beating, tearing, or shooting pains, especially when the pains are aggravated by heat, hot air, hot applications, and also by sitting up; and when the symptoms are relieved by cold air, pressure, and lying down. If there is a sour stomach, or acid vomiting, or pale face, with little or no thirst, *Pulsatilla* will be still further indicated. Give a dose every hour.

Nux Vomica: Give this remedy when there is constipation, with a tendency of blood to the head, especially with individuals of sedentary habits, or those addicted to the use of alcoholic and fermented drinks, or coffee. Also if there is sensitiveness of the brain, with contusive pains, headache every morning, on walking, after eating, or in the open air, while stooping, or during motion, or pain as if a nail were driven into the brain, or pain in the top or back of the head. Bilious or sick headache is often relieved by this remedy. Give a dose once in two hours.

Aconite may be given when there are violent, stupifying, compressive, contractive, drawing, or burning pains, through the brain, with red face and eyes, and especially if the pain is worse on the left side, over the left eye, and is aggravated by talking, raising one's self, drinking, and moving, and relieved in the open air. Give a dose every hour.

For sick headache, select, from the remedies already named, either *Pulsatilla*, *Nux vom.* or *Belladonna*, according to the symptoms, and give a dose every hour during the attack, and give the same remedy every night, to prevent a return; also give a dose of

Sulphur every morning, especially if the pain during the attack was most severe on the left side of the head, but if it was worse on the right side, give *Sepia*; if it was alike on both sides, give *Sulphur* for one week, and *Sepia* the next, and so continue.

If the headache is intermittent, give *China* once in four hours during the intermission, especially when the pains are aggravated by contact, and whenever the hair of the head is very sensitive. If *China* fails to relieve intermittent headache, or those in which the patient has a return of the pain regularly every day, or every other day, give *Arsenicum* once in four hours, when the patient is free from pain; *Nux vom.* or *Belladonna* may be given during the pain.

When the headache has been caused by grief, give *Ignatia*; when by anger, give *Chamomilla* or *Nux vom.*

Give *Calcarea carb.* for chronic headache, especially when it occurs either through the upper or the front portion of the head, and when the pains are stupifying, throbbing, or boring, aggravated by mental efforts; also if there is a sensation of coldness in the head, or if there is falling off of the hair.

In addition to the use of remedies for headache in nervous and chronic cases, let the patient, or what is better, an assistant, rub briskly with the ends of the fingers of both hands, from the root of the nose over the top of the head, to the neck, back and forth, for a minute or two; then rub from the centre of the back of the head, sidewise, in the direction of the lower part of the ears; also gently slap or percuss the head with ends of the fingers, or palm of the hand, for a few moments.

DELIRIUM TREMENS.

This is a disease which follows the suspension of the habitual use of alcoholic or fermented drinks. It occurs more frequently with steady drinkers than with those who only occasionally get drunk; and persons of sedentary habits, or inactive life, are much more liable to have the disease than those who take active exercise. If habitual drinkers receive a mechanical injury, or are attacked with an acute

disease, they are very liable to have delirium tremens; and this is one reason why injuries and acute diseases are so much more fatal with rum-drinkers than with others. This disease is said to sometimes follow the sudden omission of opium, or tobacco, where individuals have been long addicted to the use of these poisons.

Trembling of the tongue when the patient attempts to protrude it, and twitching of the tendons or cords in his wrists, are among the first symptoms of this disease; and when such symptoms occur without fever, with an individual who is in the habit of using stimulants, we always have reason to suspect the commencement of delirium tremens. Anxiety and agitation soon follow, the pulse is soft, feeble, and generally frequent; the mind weak, and sooner or later the perceptive faculties begin to take cognizance of matters and things which do not exist, in the natural world at least. The patient seems frightened, and begins to see the most grotesque, frightful or disgusting objects, such as serpents, rats, mice, toads, and other loathsome reptiles and vermin, crawling over his bed or person, or running about his room; he hunts them among his bed-clothes. The sufferer is always afraid; robbers, officers, or creditors, he imagines, after him; he hears them conspiring against him; he sees knives, swords, and firearms, pointed at him, and strives to escape from his tormentors, and may injure himself or others, in striving to protect himself or escape; although patients in this disease rarely make a malicious attempt to injure others, for they have enough to do to attend to the affairs of their own spiritual household. This disease under proper treatment is attended with very little danger, except when it is complicated with mechanical injuries, or other severe diseases. Patients may die from exhaustion resulting from over-exertion, and this should be guarded against. Without treatment the patient either gradually becomes exhausted from over-mental and physical exertion, and the want of sleep, and dies, or, after from three to seven days, he falls into a quiet slumber from which he awakens after sleeping from a few hours to twelve, eighteen, twenty-four, and, in some instances, it is said, thirty-six hours, feeling weak and feeble, and looking pale, but free in a great measure from his tormentors.

Treatment.—He who shuns the use of alcoholic and fermented

drinks, opium and tobacco, as every one should do, has not to fear this disease; but no man who uses them can count himself safe. The only sure preventive measure, then, is total abstinence.

We have seen that this disease is caused by leaving off suddenly the use of stimulants. The appetite for the accustomed stimulant fails, and it is omitted, when symptoms of delirium tremens make their appearance. To prevent the full development of the disease, or cure it after it is developed, in most cases we have but to give the patient moderate, but regular doses of brandy, and then withdraw it as the disease abates. There is no danger of cultivating an appetite for it, by giving it during the disease, as the patient has no desire for it, although he will generally take anything which is offered him. A tablespoonful of brandy in water, sweetened, once in two hours, will, in many cases, be sufficient, but if the patient has been a hard drinker he may require two tablespoonfuls once in two hours, or even more frequently in some rare cases; and the brandy should be continued until the patient falls into a quiet sleep. When he awakens it need not be repeated unless symptoms of the disease return, and it should *never* be continued longer than is absolutely necessary to relieve the visions and sleeplessness. To relieve the debility never give stimulants, but beef tea, chicken broth, mutton, and beef; and *China* night and morning.

Nux vomica: This remedy will sometimes relieve the disease if given early. It is indicated when there are trembling of the tongue and limbs, frightful visions with desire to escape, and also when there is nausea and vomiting at any stage of the disease. Give a dose once in two hours. Give *Belladonna* when there are frightful visions, also visions of mice and rats, and when the face is red and bloated. Give *Arsenicum* when there are great weakness, cold extremities, with fear of thieves and desire to hide. Give *Opium* when there are symptoms of convulsions or approaching stupor. Give a dose of either of the above remedies every hour.

LOCKJAW (TETANUS).

This, although not very frequent, is one of the most formidable and dangerous diseases when it does occur. It sometimes follows wounds, even slight wounds, and occasionally attacks newborn infants, especially colored children in hot climates. It may occur without any assignable cause, perhaps depending on atmospheric changes or states. In this disease the muscles are in a state of constant spasmodic contraction, with periods of partial relaxation; the body may remain straight, it may be bent backward so as to rest on the head and heels; or, less frequently, it may be bent forward or even sidewise. As the disease progresses, in addition to the permanent rigidity named above, paroxysms or spasms make their appearance, at first light, but at length they may become terribly severe, throwing the body about in different directions. This affection generally commences either with stiffness in the muscles of the jaws and throat, or of those on the back of the neck, which more or less rapidly extends to other muscles. Swallowing becomes difficult, respiration more or less hurried and anxious, the pulse is often quite regular until late in the disease, except during active spasms, the skin is moist. The mental faculties remain unimpaired throughout the disease, or until very near its close, when there may be light wandering. Tetanus is more common with men than with women. Patients most frequently die between the end of the first and fifth days; if they live until the ninth day they generally recover.

Treatment.—When the disease is caused by a wound or mechanical injury, if the patient has previously taken *Arnica*, give a dose of *Belladonna* every hour; but if he has not taken *Arnica*, give a dose of *Arnica* one hour, and *Belladonna* the next. *Belladonna* is often useful when the disease occurs with young children, and when it arises from unknown causes, or atmospheric changes, especially if *Hyoscyamus* fails to relieve such cases. If *Belladonna* does not lessen the severity of the symptoms at the end of twelve hours, give *Nux vom.* every hour. If, at the end of twenty-four hours, this remedy does not lessen the severity of the symptoms,

give *Hyojocyanus* for twelve hours at least. *Ignatia* or *Lachesis* may follow the latter remedy if necessary. Do not discontinue any remedy until the patient has taken it at least twelve hours, and if there is the slightest improvement continue the remedy without fail, or even if the patient ceases to get worse under its use, continue it.

If the disease has not been caused by a wound, and commences with stiffness of the jaws, give *Hyojocyanus* every hour. If this fails at the end of twelve hours, follow it with *Belladonna*. If the last remedy fails, give *Nux vom.* *Ignatia* and *Lachesis* are also remedies which may be required in lingering cases.

HYDROPHOBIA (RABIES).

This disease is usually caused by the bite of a dog, cat, or some other animal, suffering from this affection, although it may be caused by the saliva from an animal suffering from the disease coming in contact with a raw or abraded surface of the skin, and possibly with the mucous membrane of the lips or mouth. In the human species it is estimated as the result of observation, that only one in ten or fifteen of those who are actually bitten by rabid animals, contract the disease. If the bite is through garments, the saliva is generally wiped from the teeth, so that none enters the wound; but if on an exposed surface like the hand or face, there is far more danger. The disease rarely if ever appears within the period of eighteen days after the reception of the wound; and in cases where it follows at all, it is rarely delayed beyond three or four months, although in rare instances it is said to have appeared at the end of twelve or eighteen months after the bite, and even at a later period.

Symptoms.—Often the first warning of an approaching attack, is pain, or an uneasy sensation near or in the seat of the wound, perhaps nothing more than burning, coldness, tingling, aching, or stiffness. If, in such cases the wound is unhealed, it assumes an unhealthy appearance, and discharges a thin watery fluid, instead of healthy matter; if the wound is healed, the scar is apt to be

come swollen, reddish, or livid, and sometimes breaks out into an open sore. About the same time the patient becomes restless, irritable, and dejected, light disturbs him, he is restless during sleep, and sooner or later he begins to feel some difficulty of swallowing, with stiffness about the throat; at length swallowing becomes almost impossible; even the attempt to swallow causes great suffering and spasms. There occurs oppression of the chest, with sighs and sobs; there is trembling of the whole frame, mental anxiety, terror, or despair. The attempt to swallow liquids, or even the sight of water, or hearing it running, or anything which brings to his mind this fluid, causes convulsive spasms about the throat, and great agitation and oppression. Sharp pains, like an electric shock, are often experienced through the regions of the stomach, neck, and back. There is a profuse secretion of saliva or spittle, which the patient spits rapidly and indifferently around him. He is generally conscious, although sometimes, at intervals, delirious, in other cases suspicious, and sometimes furious until exhausted. There may be great thirst which cannot be gratified; the pulse is excited at first, but as the disease progresses, it becomes frequent, feeble, and perhaps wanting. The skin, at first warm, becomes cold, and covered with a profuse offensive perspiration. If the patient dies, death may occur quietly or in convulsions; generally between the second and fifth day, or not until the end of a week or ten days.

Treatment.—This disease is so frightful in its character, and fatal in its tendency, that in case a person has been bitten by an animal suffering from it, every possible means should be used to prevent an attack. Experience has shown that if the skin and wound are washed, and the entire wound is removed by a knife so as to remove every part which has been in contact with the animal's teeth, when this is practicable, it is very sure to prevent the disease. The sooner the operation is performed the better; immediately if possible; but it has been urgently recommended even after the commencement of premonitory symptoms, especially when there is swelling, discoloration of the scar, or an unhealthy appearance of the ulcer if the wound has not healed. After the operation, or when the latter is not practicable owing to the extent, depth or

location of the wound, the following recommendation of Dr. Herring may be followed. Apply radiating heat, by the means of a hot iron, or a live coal, held as near the surface of the wound as the patient can well bear without causing too great pain, or burning the part, and continue it for half an hour or hour, or until chills set in. This may be repeated two or three times a day until the wound is healed. Also give a dose of *Belladonna* once in three days, and continue it for three or four weeks, then alternate this remedy with *Lachesis* at intervals of three days, for three or four months.

If symptoms of the disease already exist, give *Belladonna* every hour, especially if there is difficulty of swallowing, spasms in the throat, and later in the disease, if the patient is furious, or frightened and disposed to strike, spit and bite. Give a dose every hour. If at the end of twelve hours there is no improvement, omit *Belladonna* and give *Lachesis* every hour for twelve doses; if the patient improves under its use continue it; but if there is no improvement, return to *Belladonna*. If neither of the above remedies check the onward progress of the disease, give *Hyoscyamus* every hour for six hours; then if there is no improvement give *Belladonna* for six hours; afterward *Hyoscyamus* again. *Cantharis* is sometimes useful. Dose of either of the above remedies: six globules, or one drop of the tincture on a little sugar dry on the tongue.

EPILEPSY (FALLING SICKNESS).

Very little is known in regard to the causes of this disease. It is supposed that a predisposition to it is sometimes transmitted from parents to their children, although it often occurs where there is no evidence of a hereditary taint. It is more common with the young than with the old. It sometimes results from an attack of inflammation of the brain; it may be caused by a fracture of the skull, and depression of a portion of it; also by fright, and the present method of forcing or cramming children in our schools, the suppression of eruptions on the skin, the sudden healing up of old ulcers, worms, and irritation of the stomach and bowels from other causes, self-pollution, and sexual excesses. When the disease

is fully developed it is characterized by attacks of convulsions with loss of sensibility and consciousness, and usually followed by stupor; but the paroxysms are without fever.

Sometimes this disease commences with very slight paroxysms of giddiness, confusion of mind, inability to stand, although without loss of consciousness; but, as the paroxysms continue, they become gradually more severe, until the patient becomes unconscious during them, and finally convulsed. In other instances the first paroxysms manifest distinctly the character of the disease. Sometimes the paroxysms are preceded by certain premonitory symptoms, such as unusual states of temper or feeling, failure of memory, confusion of thought, dizziness, drowsiness, fullness, or emptiness in the head, dimness or perversions of sight, ringing in the ears, unpleasant odors which are not real, &c. In rare instances a sensation of coldness, heat, pain, itching or tingling commences in one of the extremities, or some other part of the body, and proceeds toward the brain. When the sensation reaches either the stomach or head the paroxysm commences. After the continuance of the above premonitory symptoms for a longer or shorter period, or without any of them, the patient falls down in convulsions, sometimes uttering a fearful cry at the moment of the attack. There is generally more or less rigidity of the body, and one side is frequently more convulsed than the other; the head is twisted round and the face is drawn to one side, and the limbs are violently convulsed by sudden contractions and relaxations of the muscles. The eyes and face twitch and are often greatly distorted, the face is generally swollen, and of a reddish or purple hue, respiration is difficult, there is frothing at the mouth, and the pulse is small, frequent, and often irregular. The paroxysm may last from a few moments to several hours, and even with occasional periods of relaxation, for twenty-four hours or more, the patient being either convulsed or in a state of stupor all the time. A state of stupor follows the paroxysm, but gradually passes off and the patient awakens, perhaps a little confused at first, and soon returns to his usual state. In some instances headache, paralytic symptoms, or temporary insanity follows the paroxysm. At first the paroxysms may only occur at

intervals of months or even years, but they are apt to become more frequent as the disease continues. Sometimes they are very frequent at their commencement. When the disease is fully developed they may occur, only at intervals of weeks or months, or they may return daily, or even several times a day. Patients sometimes, but very rarely, die during the paroxysms. The mental faculties may become impaired from the long continuance of the disease, and even idiocy sometimes results.

Treatment.—This is, in most cases, a very obstinate disease, and sometimes baffles the skill of the most eminent physicians, yet it is often cured by a persevering use of homœopathic remedies, and it is generally ameliorated by treatment.

Belladonna: Give this remedy three times a day, one half an hour before eating, at the commencement of the disease, or even at any stage, if there are severe convulsions, with distortion and twitching of the eyes and face, if the paroxysms are excited by mental emotions, and there are great irritability of temper and sleeplessness between the paroxysms. At the same time, give a dose of *Sulphur* every night. If any change either in the frequency or severity of the paroxysms follows, either for better or worse, give the remedies less frequently, or give but one dose a day; *Belladonna* three nights, and *Sulphur* one, and so continue as long as there is any improvement.

Dose of either of the remedies, see page 7.

Ignatia before meals, and *Calcarea carb.* at bedtime, may follow *Belladonna* and *Sulphur*, and be given in the same manner, especially in the case of children. If the paroxysms occur at night, these remedies may be given before *Belladonna* and *Sulphur*.

Nux Vomica: Give a dose of this remedy before every meal, and *Silicea* on retiring at night, in case the remedies already named fail to relieve or cure the patient. If any change follows, lengthen the intervals as directed for *Belladonna* and *Sulphur*. *Lachesis* and *Hepar sulph.* may follow the above remedies, if necessary. *Hyo-*
cyamus and *Sepia* are remedies which have sometimes been found useful.

Do not change your remedies too frequently, and never change them so long as there is any improvement, either in the frequency

or in the severity of the paroxysms. You will generally have to give a remedy several weeks before you can be fully satisfied as to the effect. If you can cure the disease by administering remedies from six months to two years, you may regard yourself as very fortunate. Look well to the diet of the patient. Read the author's work on the "Avoidable Causes of Disease," and you will find a vast fund of instruction, not less important to epileptics than medicine. If you fail to cure the patient, call on a homœopathic physician, for he may be able to cure, by the use of higher or lower dilutions, or other remedies which you do not have.

CONVULSIONS OR SPASMS, IN CHILDREN AND OTHERS.

It not frequently happens, especially with children, and occasionally with adults, that, from transient causes, such as sudden fright, anger, or other mental emotions, exposure to great heat, mechanical injuries, the irritation from teething, also from indigestible substances in the stomach and bowels, convulsions are caused, which are without fever, and more or less resemble those of epilepsy. There may be starting and twitching, and other nervous symptoms before the attack, or they may come on suddenly. They may last but for a few moments, or for hours, with occasional relaxation, but generally from ten to twenty minutes. They may extend over the whole body, or be confined to one half of it, to one limb, or to the face. The face may be pale or purplish, and often apparently swollen. The patient generally sleeps at the termination of the paroxysm. There may occur but a single attack, or several, at irregular intervals. There is very little danger attending such convulsions, as patients rarely die in them. If the attack is preceded or accompanied by fever, hot skin, headache, or delirium, consult the section on inflammation of the brain, and follow the directions there given. If the paroxysms occur repeatedly, are without fever, and come on suddenly, and you cannot trace them to swollen state of the gums, improper diet, strong mental emotions, worms, or any other cause, consult the section on epi-