

although for continued relief the treatment must be based upon iodide of potassium. It is useful in angina pectoris, because its vaso-dilating effect extends to the coronary arteries, and it should be used by inhalation for fifteen minutes each morning and night. Daudier has reported benefit from its inhalation in subacute traumatic tetanus. Although it is best used by inhalation for twenty minutes from a napkin upon which is poured several drops, it can be administered by the mouth in capsules. If used for urethritis, a tampon moistened in one to ten per cent. aqueous solution can be applied to the meatus, or an injection of the same strength can be administered.—*Revue de Thérapeutique Médico-chirurgicale*, 1894, No. 1, p. 20.

[Although we have used this remedy with brilliant success in several cases in which the symptom of asthma demanded immediate relief, we have never been able to induce a patient to inhale it for a second attack because of its abominable, penetrating, and lasting odor.—R. W. W.]

#### FREEZING THE VAGI FOR ASTHMA.

DR. ERNEST B. SANGREE, having made a patient comfortable by the use of one-half drop of a one per cent. solution of nitroglycerin every half-hour, found that when the remedy was exhausted the attack immediately regained its former severity. If the remedy was continued the patient could not lie down and was able to obtain only a few minutes of fitful sleep. Small pieces of ice wrapped in a towel and applied over the course of the pneumogastric in the neck was successful within five minutes in relieving the attack.—*The American Therapist*, 1893, No. 5, p. 143.

#### THE TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS BRONCHITIS.

DR. HENRI HUCHARD divides these cases into three classes: 1. The infection takes place from contagion, that is, by direct contact of microbes already virulent; then isolation is necessary. 2. The infection takes place by exaltation of the virulence of microbes pre-existing in the upper air-passages; here it is necessary to attack early and energetically the fermentations of the mouth, which so frequently exalt the virulence of the streptococcus; for example, frequent washings of the mouth with solutions of boracic acid, carbolic acid, or resorcin. 3. In the bronchi the microbes of suppuration or putrefaction exalt the virulence of the streptococcus; here it is necessary to obtain bronchial antiseptics by means of creosote, eucalyptol, camphorated guaiacol (guaiacol, 5; camphor, 20; sterilized oil, 100); the creosote in oil (1:15), and the camphorated guaiacol are used subcutaneously. If the infection has done its work, with the camphorated injections those of ether or caffeine should be used in addition.—*Revue gén. de Clinique et de Thérapeutique*, 1893, No. 42, p. 659.

#### THE TREATMENT OF THE FEVER OF PHTHISIS.

DR. SAVIGNY distinguishes three forms in this disease: 1, the initial or continued; 2, the hectic or concomitant; 3, the aëptic. In the last form the purely symptomatic treatment is powerless. The administration of the new antipyretics is not favorable, for all of them diminish the energy of the

heart, only influencing the fever as a symptom, if indeed they have any notable effect, and they are only used in rapid tuberculosis, and when humanity demands only that the patient shall be made more comfortable. Hochhalt, after much research, has come back again to arsenic, but with the exception of recent initial apical catarrhs it has no influence upon the course of the disease. Hectic fever is manifestly influenced by this remedy, but it has no action upon the initial fever and upon the rapid forms of phthisis. Fowler's solution is recommended, in commencing doses of one to two drops, and increasing, day by day, to five or six; rarely more, for ten drops is quite likely to produce symptoms of poisoning. Other beneficial effects besides the lowering of temperature are the suppression of night-sweats and an increase of appetite and body weight. The continued fever offers considerable resistance to the treatment by arsenic, for this fever is a manifestation of caseation, and is an expression of the clinical form of *phthisis florida*. By building up the system one can best combat the tendency to caseation. In these cases the condition of the heart and circulation is important; Brehmer and Dettweiler recommend the prolonged application of ice-bags; others use alcohol. Kühle and Liebermeister advise digitalis, which, however, should be used with caution; but more advantageously the ten per cent. tincture of coronilla, in ten to twenty-drop doses, can be employed. In cases of initial fever without grave lesion of tissue, in association with fifteen grains of quinine, Hochhalt has seen this fever transformed into the intermittent type, where arsenical treatment is useful. In apyretic phthisis creosote is used; if at the outset it is not well borne by the stomach, it can be administered in cocoa-butter suppositories—with steady increase of all doses; in commencing with large doses there is danger of exciting the fever. In general the antipyretic treatment consists less in reliance upon the antifebrile remedies, properly so called, which have only a slight and transitory effect, as in the use of remedies which act directly upon diseased pulmonary tissue, than upon arsenic, the cardiac tonics, and nutrition by every means which can stimulate it.—*Revue de Thérapeutique Médico-chirurgicale*, 1893, No. 22, p. 598.

#### GUAIACOL AS AN ANTIPYRETIC.

M. L. GUINARD has made use of this remedy by painting it upon the skin. His work has been very carefully carried out, and from it he has reached the following conclusions: The lowering of temperature which is determined by the painting of this drug upon any region of the body is not the result of absorption, because this fall takes place too rapidly. Experiments upon animals show that it acts upon the centres of thermogenesis by exciting the peripheral nerve terminations, and thus reflexly upon the functions of the centres. The presence of the drug in the urine shows that it has entered by way of the respiratory passages, because, if it is excluded from them, it is not found in the urine. The quantity of vapor which can be absorbed in this way is not sufficient of itself to produce this fall of temperature. In the local or general effects of the remedy it is necessary to consider its quality, the individual susceptibility of the subject, and the condition of his health. In febrile cases the diminution of temperature is more