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TETANUS FROM A NEWLY INCISED WOUND.

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I WAS called on Monday, the 8th day of April, to Robert Smith, a laborer, aged twenty-five years, whom I found in tetanic convulsions the most severe imaginable. His jaws were set so firmly that it was almost an utter impossibility to move them. His pulse was very full and bounding, but not frequent; his skin was covered with a gentle perspiration, and his pupils very widely dilated.

It appeared, upon inquiry, that he had, about two hours before my arrival, cut his foot upon the instep. The wound was not a severe one, not so much so as to excite any serious apprehension, or even to call his attention immediately to it. He continued at his work a few minutes after he had received the wound, and then went into the house to have it wrapped up; but whilst the bandage was being adjusted, he fell into the convulsions above described. His limbs and every muscle of the body, when I arrived, were in a state of rigid and most extreme extension, except at intervals of about every five minutes, when a slight relaxation in the muscles of the arms took place; but these remissions were of short duration, none of them continuing more than half a minute at a time. His legs and his neck at no time became in the slightest degree relaxed. His respiration was perfectly natural.

Finding him a man of a strong, robust habit, my first object was to take blood from the arm; but I was foiled in the attempt, as at the most I could make but a very little flow. I next had hot fomentations put to the abdomen and feet, and a cataplasm to the wound, after having filled it with spirits of turpentine. The limbs were rubbed briskly with spirits of camphor; ether was applied to the temples, the nostrils, and a few drops put into his mouth, whilst hot bricks were applied to the back. He continued in this state for about two hours, when his limbs became somewhat more relaxed, and he shortly came to his senses, so far as to be able to speak. At this time we were able to get a quart of blood, or more, from the arm, and the convulsions left him entirely. He continued to lie quiet for about two hours, when his jaws again became set, and his limbs as rigid as ever. I again took a pint of blood from the arm, made a free incision at the bottom of the wound, in order to cut off any wounded nerve that might there be found, and applied the powdered nitrate of silver to it, after being well dilated. We then commenced giving him brandy and opium alternately. Of the former we

gave four ounces every half hour, and of the latter five grains during the same time. Under this treatment he continued through the night with only slight convulsions occasionally. At eight o'clock the next morning, they again returned, when I once more bled him, gave a drastic purge, and continued the anodyne as usual. After this he had no more convulsions, and the next morning he was up and about. The wound is well inflamed, and begins to suppurate, with all the appearances of doing well.

This case, which I consider one of decided tetanus, is remarkable only for the time at which it came on, being immediately after the reception of the wound, and for the control which bleeding and stimulants possessed over it.

N. H. ALLEN.

Gray, Me., April 18, 1839.

FOWLER'S SOLUTION IN THE TYPHOID STATE OF SCARLATINA OR CANCER RASH.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

HAVING, in the winter of the year 1836, in an epidemic of canker rash that prevailed quite extensively in the town of Rush, in this Co., witnessed the good effects of Fowler's solution in the typhoid state of the disease, and presuming it has never, or at least not generally, been resorted to in this frequently malignant and fatal complaint, and from your expressing a desire that some more successful plan of treatment might be adopted than that in usual practice, I am induced to report a case or two.

CASE I.—Adeline S., aged 12 or 13, of a decidedly strumous habit, flaxen hair, light-blue eyes, and fair skin, was suddenly attacked, after going to school all day and studying and playing with her usual vivacity, with chills and shivering, soon followed with burning heat, great thirst, nausea and vomiting. I soon saw her and gave an emetic of ipecac. followed by a purge of cast. oil, after which she was put upon a solution or infusion of ipecac. once in 3 or 4 hours, alternated with a solution carb. soda and spt. nit. dulce. Drink, cold water, acidulated with cremor tartar. The ipecac. increased so as to induce moderate vomiting, when there was great difficulty of breathing from the accumulation of viscid phlegm in the throat and fauces. The eruption commenced coming out on the 2d day, and on the 3d was very general over the whole body; the fever running very high, with intense heat of the surface, slight delirium at night, and urgent and constant thirst; considerable, though not very great congestion and soreness about the throat and mouth; the mucous membranes of the fauces and nose covered with the efflorescence; the middle of the tongue covered with a white coat, and the edges intensely red. About the 5th day the fever and efflorescence began to subside. There were a few small ulcers on different parts of the mouth and fauces. A gargle of blood-root, capsicum and muriate of ammonia, sweetened with loaf sugar, was used, and a similar preparation, with the addition of a little ipecac., was di-