

loid, the malady continues, and in such circumstances the bromide of potassium appears to be beneficial as a subordinate agent. A case seen by Dr. Vallin in the hospital of Batna, in Algeria, first drew his attention to the subject. A patient suffering from ague had been treated in vain by the sulphate of quinia, given by the mouth, in injections, and hypodermically; notwithstanding these and other similar measures the disease returned every morning at the same time and with great and extraordinary violence. Dr. Vallin was therefore induced to ask himself whether in such a case there was not an unusual complication of disorder of the nervous system together with the ordinary paludal cachexia, and hence he thought of employing the bromide of potassium, which appears to have the power of allaying spinal irritation, and is therefore used in epileptic and other kindred affections. At the end of three days after employing the bromide the fever disappeared for the first time for three weeks and did not reappear for a week. In six other cases he employed the same remedy, with results somewhat different, but generally satisfactory. He thinks that the bromide probably acts less against the periodicity of the fever than against some concomitant disorder of the cerebro-spinal functions; that perhaps an exaggerated sensibility of the spinal cord or some nervous exhaustion may favour the return of the paroxysms; and that the bromide may in such cases, by calming the nervous excitement, assist the action of the quinia. Whatever may be the explanation, the results were satisfactory in several cases which are recorded by Dr. Vallin; four were instances where the treatment was certainly beneficial, but in two others the results were doubtful, and in three more the treatment failed altogether. In an additional case mentioned, a ward attendant, who had suffered previously from attacks of fever, and subsequently had an attack of neuralgia which resisted quinia and hypodermic injections of morphia, was relieved most materially by the use of the bromide of potassium in large doses, which not only seemed to cut short some of the paroxysms, but to render others more supportable, and to allow the renewed use of the sulphate of quinia and thus complete the cure.—*Brit. and For. Med.-Chir. Rev.*, April, 1874, from *Bull. Gén. de Thérap.*, Nov. 30, 1873.

27. *Carbolic Acid in Intermittent Fever.*—Surgeon McNALLY states (*Indian Med. Gaz.*, April 1, 1874) that he made trial of carbolic acid in the treatment of uncomplicated intermittent fever during an extensive prevalence of this disease in the 3d Regiment, at Secunderabad. "These trials," he says, "prove at least that carbolic acid is much inferior to any of the other remedies employed. It is now my belief that this medicine is of no value whatever in the treatment of intermittent fever, and that the patients would have got well as soon with the usual aid of a purgative, rest, and a blanket. In some cases (not recorded) a few doses of quinia or of quinidia were sufficient for cure after the marked failure of carbolic acid. I am not in a position to speak positively with regard to the reputed diaphoretic action of carbolic acid, but I think it is very doubtful. Abundant diaphoresis certainly did occur in the patients who were taking it, but also occurred in the patients who were not. Irritability of stomach was a common accompaniment of the fever which prevailed in this corps during the past year; and, contrary to what might be expected, carbolic acid did not seem to alleviate it in any case. These observations are, I think, sufficient to establish that carbolic acid cannot be relied upon in the general treatment of ague, and that its value in any case is, to say the least, exceedingly problematical."

28. *Hypodermic Injection of Carbolic Acid in Erysipelas.*—Dr. AUFRECHT, of Magdeburg, having last year lost four patients of advanced age who were attacked by erysipelas of the extremities after injury, determined to try the effect of carbolic acid, and in a short paper in the *Centralblatt* for February 21, he communicates the results which he obtained in two cases. If (he observes) it be true that erysipelas in such cases as these arises from the penetration of organisms into the subcutaneous tissue, and their multiplication there, and if carbolic acid possess the power of destroying such organisms or of impeding their injurious influence, this substance should be able to prevent the