

small volume, and the ingestion of large quantities of fluid should be avoided. The nature of the digestive disturbance and the character of the gastric secretions must be taken into account when the choice of food is made. In all cases a milk diet should be avoided. Food slightly laxative should be resorted to, and for persistent constipation enemata of oil, or of glycerin and water, or such purgatives as cascara or rhubarb should be prescribed. For increasing the tonicity of the muscular coat nux vomica or strychnine may be resorted to; some authors even recommend ergot, the use of which should be from time to time interrupted. For the same purpose electrization, massage, and hydrotherapy may be counted among the best means at hand.—*Revue de Thérapeutique Médico-chirurgicale*, 1894, No. 2, p. 37.

THE TREATMENT OF SCURVY IN CHILDREN.

DR. G. A. SUTHERLAND considers that the preventive treatment of scurvy consists in the employment of a proper diet, and that the breast milk in the case of infants is the best and safest food. A teaspoonful of the juice of oranges, lemons, or grapes twice a day with the food is recommended. All varieties of preserved milk, along with the different proprietary infant foods, are to be absolutely forbidden. In older children a more liberal diet is allowed, attention being paid to the condition of the digestive system, but no salted or preserved foods of any kind are to be given. The more special part of the treatment in all cases consists in the free administration of fruits and vegetables, as oranges, lemons, grapes, potatoes, and cabbage. The juice of the fruit may be expressed and added to the milk in the case of infants. Potatoes and other vegetables may be conveniently administered in soup made from meat stock. In the convalescent stage cod-liver oil is of great service in restoring the general health. The local treatment is unimportant because, under proper diet, all manifestations clear up rapidly. If the gums are ulcerated and bleeding they may be painted with a solution of glycerin of tannic acid. When the limbs are swollen and tender, support and rest by means of sand-bags and the application of cold compresses will give relief. The general hygienic treatment must be attended to; sunlight and fresh air are of great value. Since fatal cardiac syncope sometimes occurs, rest in bed ought to be maintained until the patient is free from pain and breathlessness, and has been under antiscorbutic diet for some time.—*Practitioner*, 1894, No. 308, p. 81.

[In a case of scurvy in an infant seen in consultation, we advised removal to the country, fresh cow's milk properly modified, the use of the juice of oranges, and an acid preparation of iron. Complete recovery was secured within three weeks.—R. W. W.]

SALOPHEN.

DR. H. KÖSTER has found in about thirty cases of acute articular rheumatism the pains rapidly diminished, generally within four days completely disappearing after the ingestion of fifteen-grain doses. The effusion diminishes and the temperature falls, and this occurs without the appearance of unpleasant symptoms. In spite of its use in two cases other joints were invaded, and in four there was noticed an onset of pain after it had already

disappeared. In acute muscular rheumatism in a few cases favorable results were obtained. In chronic articular rheumatism the pains were lessened in some cases, but in the few cases under observation the results were generally negative. As an antipyretic it was useful, but it could not be depended upon for producing a marked depression of temperature. Better results were obtained in neuralgic and similar affections—headaches, hemicrania. In six cases of exudative pleuritis it seemed to have no marked effect upon absorption of the effusion. He concludes that, although it is a powerful remedy in acute rheumatic diseases and a useful one for neuralgias, it is not of importance as an antipyretic.—*Therapeutische Monatshefte*, 1894, Heft 1, S. 17.

THE TREATMENT OF ACUTE ARTICULAR RHEUMATISM.

DR. DUJARRIN-BEAUMETZ recognizes the fact that we have in the salicylate of soda a specific treatment for this condition, which it is necessary to distinguish from pseudo-rheumatismal manifestations and from chronic rheumatism. The former may be considered the joint manifestations of pathogenic microbes of various origins, gonococci of leucorrhœas, microbes of scarlet fever, staphylococci of purulent infection. The latter should be classed among the disorders of nutrition. Acute articular rheumatism is an infectious disease; its cyclical progress, the temperature curve, always the same. Were it contagious there would be not a doubt as to its infectious nature. Although the salicylic acid has been abandoned, for it is ordinarily not well borne by the stomach, and salicine has been rejected, yet medical opinion is in harmony in regard to salicylate of soda, not only as to dose, but that it should be administered in solution and in divided doses, according to the intensity of the disease and its resistance to the remedy. The minimum dose is one drachm; in acute cases we can exhibit twice this quantity, or even to two and one-half drachms in the twenty-four hours. Given at intervals of from two to four hours in aqueous solution, the nauseous taste can be avoided by the addition of sweetened water, or a small quantity of brandy, kirsch, or rum. For dyspeptics who do not tolerate its administration *per os*, the rectum offers a perfect substitute, for Lemanski has shown that when given in rectal injection, it will appear in the urine in fifteen minutes. It is well to produce diuresis, and in this way to hasten its elimination. A milk diet is advisable, and when the dose exceeds two drachms it is necessary, although Paul and Lohé prefer the alkaline mineral waters of Vichy, Ponges, or Vals. When the symptoms disappear the remedy should be continued for two or three weeks in small doses, to avoid the danger of relapse. This remedy does not jugulate the disease; it masks its evolution, so that it reappears if the drug be omitted. If the treatment is commenced at the onset it prevents complications, so that we see less frequently than formerly the heart manifestations. Although it does not cure all cases, it cures the great majority, and the exception proves the rule. Certain individuals present an almost complete intolerance, either showing toxic symptoms, intestinal troubles, or cerebral symptoms, even to delirium; these symptoms may be produced by small doses even. The reason of this intolerance is well known, it is insufficient elimination, which is readily determined by treating the urine with perchloride of iron, which gives rise to a violet color if only minute traces of