Notes on the Materia Medica

Being the Substance of a Course of Lectures

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by

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showing that the bile did not previously exist in the stomach — Dr Darwin supposes vomiting to take place from a diminished action of the stomach this is not true, for certainly the stomach and duodenum are acting more powerfully than usually, they are performing double duty they are in reality stimulated by the substance which excites the vomiting yet a sedative or debilitating effect is produced on the system.

Note It has been said that emetics are violent remedies that they are important, and remedies suggested by nature, is proved by their use among the savages, Dr Barton in his researches concerning the use of this class of remedies among the Indians of our country ascertained that fifteen vegetable emetics were used by them, and one mineral — the sulphate of Iron —

Lecture 12th November 29th

Vomiting takes place in many states of the system as well from stimulating as debilitating causes, all of which act however by stimulating the stomach.

It is excited artificially by various medicinal substances, presently to be noticed, which act as local stimulants. When any of these are taken into the stomach no effect is apparent for some time, in about 10, 15, or 20 minutes some sickness commences; the patient becomes pale; the action of the heart and arteries becomes now feeble, frequent and irregular; a slight chill and coldness is felt; the sickness increases and vomiting ensues, the face and skin now become red and flushed the pulse little more active, this gradually ceases, and the skin again becomes pale, the vomiting is repeated generally 2 or 3 times,

After this sleep takes place, the pulse remains feeble for a short time but gradually returns to its former state; accompanied with a gentle diaphoresis—

In some persons, vomiting is mild & easy ~~very~~ ~~given very early after these articles have been taken into the stomach~~; with others, it is very severe and in some instances is ~~not unfrequently~~ attended with violent spasm ~~spasmodic action~~ alarming and ~~severe~~ hemorrhage. Dr. Bouch^n relates a case in which vomiting was fatal. Some have employed Emetics ~~them~~ in health; this is wrong; but in various diseases they are useful— In some of these, vomiting is easily excited, as in fevers accompanied with increased bilious secretions, in others it is more difficult, as in mania, tetanus croup, epilepsy &c. after large quantities of opium have been taken, they are nearly inert, as the stomach is rendered so torpid

This is also the case with other poisons.

Dr. Cullen, [or Murray which?] thinks, that emetics possess different degrees in their nauseating power— some

some nauseating much less than others, yet exciting vomiting equally well — This will be some practical importance. The action of emetics on the stomach produces by the general law of sympathy; important effects, on other parts of the system; thus by them, debility ~~is induced of~~ the muscles is induced, weakness of the pulse; palness of the skin, sweating &c. All which are important in a medical view and can only be accounted for, by the consent of the stomach with these parts —

Thus Sulph: Zinc: produces just little nausea — tobacco a great deal,

Dr Murray has said, that emetics, if they do not operate on the stomach, produce a laxative effect: this is true, as to the mercurial and antimonial emetics; but I doubt whether it is generally true ~~not as to the others~~; The laxative property of Ipecach &c, has not been clearly shown. Emetics have been used in a state of health.

allows that they may be moderately used

"Cullen ~~is of this opinion~~ but does not advise their frequent exhibition. In perfect health they should never be used ~~It is certain they are hurtful~~ & on this point common sense is the best guide it is certain they are hurtful. & on this point common sense is the best guide ~~but if a person under a fever has stools never be done~~ mod. as prophylactics are ~~now to be only used~~ useless. W. Hodge

Hemorrhage has taken place and the person has died in some instances; besides, if repeated frequently the stomach becomes weakened and digestion impaired. In various diseases they are very valuable. In fevers, they have been highly extolled, & in some are certainly very useful. They are indicated especially in bilious remitting & intermitting fevers, when there is much uneasiness at the stomach, and in the bowels.

They are more demanded in the dis.s of the Tropics than in cold ones, as ~~there~~ is ~~usually in them~~ a greater secretion of bile. If much febrile action, be present VS is to be premised, Dr. Fothergill in cases, where there is much fever, strongly recommends previous bleeding; for the momentary tetanus produced by vomiting is often hurtful

without this precaution; ~~vomiting also frequently~~
by determining the blood to parts too weak to withstand
its impetus, as to the brain producing a Palsey &c. to the heart inducing palpitations
The emetic is most useful immediately after the
bleeding — These observations should be re-
membered and never exhibit emetics in a highly
excited state of the system; See on emetics Dr Cullen
~~Paragraph 171 page~~ Paragraph 171st in his first lines which I think
are the most valuable observations that have ever
been published on the subject.

In the yellow and billious fever in this country
emetics are but little used unless there is a great
accumulation ~~last~~ of bile in the stomach, ~~I often~~ believe they are often injurious,
as this organ is ~~generally~~ generally in an inflamed state, the cure here is entrus-
-ted to bleeding & Cathartics. If there be much pain
in the back and head, & if much nausea be present
without vomiting, then we first bleed & afterwards we may
administer an emetic, In billious fever I use
them, when the bleeding and Cathartics do not

In the proper intermittent & remittent fevers emetics are recommended, afford the expected relief. It is fashionable here to administer them, before the bark; the emetic operates by its own powers, but the bark will cure without premising the use of it. ~~In the proper Intermittent & remittent fevers they have been much used.~~ When there is much inflammatory action; bleeding should be employed, then the emetics. They prove most effectual when the system is a little reduced. In mild cases, the best time is just before the paroxysm; the reason of this, according to Fordyce, is, that the operation of an emetic favours the formation of a crisis. ~~If~~ This be true, the time fixed is no doubt the best. During vomiting, the vessels of the head are greatly distended; on this account, Sydenham usually premises blood letting, ~~& that~~ this emetics may be used with impunity & even also with advantage in diseases of the head as in epilepsy. ~~Intermittent~~ of which when they the fits are regular in their return, may ~~may prevent them by using an emetic before their attack~~ Hoffman often alleviated by admini. an emetic.

Dr Fothergill has even employed them in apoplexy, appearingly to depend on the stomach but not independently of bleeding; I give the preference decidedly to Cathartics in these cases & am rendered more timid by observing in one of my patients who had been trepanned some time previously a dangerous hemorrhage result from the wound during the action of vomiting, which was accidently excited; ~~which~~ this proves, that the distension of these vessels in vomiting is very great.

There is however a case of apparant apoplexy; from indigestable food or excess of food; in which emetics are of great service; this may be distinguished from genuine apoplexy, first, by the cause being occasioned by over-loading the stomach 2 ndly by the absence of stertorous breathing 3 dly by the pulse being low, small, and frequent, very different from the slow laboured pulse of genuine apoplexy, & 4 thly by the distension of the stomach and bowels. These will not fail as diagnostic symptoms.

~~In these cases of apparent apoplexy, Dr. Dewey thinks bleeding is as very proper as in those cases which arise from extravasation of blood in the brain.~~

In this form of apoplexy, emetics with other remedies are of importance; the patient should be kept erect, his cravat loosened and bled very freely; emetics are then to be given, if he can swallow; and if not, the fauces are to be irritated with a feather, & also the intestines by stimulating glysters ~~[the can generally terminate fatally]~~

In hydrocephalus, the use of emetics is to me very questionable; they cannot have any effect in promoting absorption and may prove injurious from exciting a determination to the head; but given so, only as to nauseate, they are useful by diminishing the action of the heart and arteries. Dr. Chapman thinking, that this disease depends upon a disordered state of the stomach, recommends them, but this

condition of the stomach has not been sufficiently demonstrated; my dissections in this disease show nothing of the kind. In the phlegmasia, they have been employed. They act by evacuating the contents of the stomach by removing all irritating matter, by diminishing the action of the heart and arteries, Also often by emptying the bowels, by producing diaphoresis, thus depleting the system. Dr Barton recommends them in acute rheumatism, especially when it arises from marsh miasmatta: in this, he is supported by Dr Chapman: having no practice in this particular form of rheumatism, I prefer you to those authorities: in the common form of rheumatism, however, I prefer gentle diaphoretics, to emetics. In Gout, Dr Barton recommends them from his own experience, especially, when accompanied with vertigo &c. In retrocedent gout I have no doubt, they are very hurtful. In gout, when symptoms indicate the presence of bile in the stomach emetics are then useful. This practice was recommended by Dr Cheyne. Fathergil advised that they should be given between the paroxysms.

In opthalmia I do not much use them as we have many more powerful evacuants I have known a lady to have the vessels of the adnata ruptured by vomiting, of course they must determine the blood very much to the eyes and are therefore to be employed with hesitation. In some chronic cases, they have been very useful. They were very much used with success in the French army, while in Egypt; where they suffered severely from this disease. In the various inflamat^ns of the throat and fauces they have been very useful as in cynanche tonsill^a & cynanch^e Malig^na, were I asked to give an example of a disease which was completely under the power of a med^e it would be the cynanche Trach^ls or Croup which is often immediately relieved by an emetic. In infant in whom this disease frequently occurs, an emetic is first to be given. V. Ipec. is likely to be resorted to; the stomach is usually torpid & little influenced by medicines. Large doses are required. D^r Chapman has given 15 grs Tartr^ emetic

to an infant. I have seen a remarkable exception to this in which vomiting was excited by 1/30 th of a grain.

By these means, the sonorous and difficult breathing quickly subsides, & the violence of the dis^e is speedily subdued. It is of importance, in all diseases, to resort quickly to active remedies & none more than this.

For in a few hours the disease extends to the lungs & the symptoms and treatment becoming the same as in peripneumonia. Bleeding & emetics, with other auxiliary means are to be immediately resorted to; not in my opinion, to evacuate the membrane from the trachea but to relieve the spasm of the glottis; I do not think that a membrane in the trachea is the sole cause of the difficulty of breathing; for in all my dissections I have seldom found it, but once; besides, when it does exist, it never renders the trachea as narrow as the opening of the glottis: ~~this cannot be the case~~ Also ~~the swallowing of~~ large bodies become fixed in the œsophagus ~~[illegible]~~ for they do not close it up, but merely

this impeded respiration, but not inducing the symptoms of croup. distend the membranous portion of the trachea. Here then we have not a sufficient expl.n of the phenomena which ~~irritation causing a spasmodic contraction of the glottis~~ we must refer to a spasmodic constr.n of the glottis ~~thus producing suffocation and finally death~~ excited by some irrit.n equal, perhaps, to suffocation & finally death. That it should be referred to a spasmodic action of the muscles of the glottis is also shown by its being relieved by bleeding, vomiting &c, I am strengthened in this supposition, by the following case, I was called to an infant in this disease who was apparently dying, I commenced the operation of tracheotomy, the pain of the incision relieved my patient in 5 minutes, it breathed as well as in perfect health, this could not be attributed to the blood lost by the incision as that was trifling and the patient had been leached from the same place without any effect no membrane in the trachea could be so easily dissipated ~~Children bear the loss of blood much better than a adult~~

# Lecture 13th December 2d

In the various pulmonary Complts emetics have been much employed & often with great service.

I have lately received a letter from a pract^r in Ving^a stating that he has found an emetic a specific remedy for Catarrh, that he never fails in the use of it. I believe it will ~~however not always succeed~~ In asthma, pertussis and in certain stages of Consumption these med^s have been useful, but in the more advanced stages, when debility is very great they are hurtful. In pulmonary diseases it will generally be found to be most advantageous to give emetics in nauseating doses only so as to act as diaphoretics – In mania they have been much used & as a depleting remedy with advantage, in these cases larger doses are necessary. I had a patient, whom I kept several weeks under a state of nausea & have no doubt, but that it contributed greatly to the recovery which took place.

In Mania apotu, Dr. Klapp has lately introduced the use of emetics & with marked success, he has been very successful in quickly relieving all who fell under his care. Note of 30 cases, which were under the care of Dr Klapp every one were cured The doses of tart emetic were large amounting sometimes to 30 grains, I have known 50 grains given in a case of mania potu. J. Woods Stud. at the Alms House

I have no doubt this is a great improvement; but there are certain states of the system, which must preclude the use of emetics, especially, where with great debility or when there is a severe injury to any part of the body as in fracture &c. In a case, which I had some time since of traumatic tetanus in a child of about 8 years of age, by the advice of Dr Physick, I used an emetic ~~for nauseating dose~~ the symptoms which resulted from its exhibition ~~of the emetic~~ were such as to alarm me, the convulsions were at first increased and the relaxation, when it took place was so great

as nearly to destroy the patient. The child recovered but I confess, I should be very unwilling to repeat the practice, as I have seen such ill effects in this disease from the use of evacuants. In a case of Idiopathic Tetanus Dr Chapman has succeeded by the use of injections of antimony &c. I believe that the two forms of Tetanus the apparently similar are really different: the latter being of a sympathetic nature.

In the year 1800 Dr Physick first employed emetics to relieve the rigidity of muscles, which prevented the reduction of dislocated bones. This plan is to be followed when bleeding is from any circumstance contradicted *. In hernia also they have been employed with the same object: they have been very useful, in those cases also in which foreign bodies have been lodged in the oesophagus & retained by a strong action of that tube; when the emetic cannot be swallow'd Dr Physick recommends, that a solution of it should be held in the mouth. In two cases, where a speach

* I would use the tartar emetic or tobacco

stone was fixed in the oesophagus & had resisted the ordinary means, the Dr used this remedy, it produced relaxation and vomiting & the stone in each instance was thrown up.

In one case, it failed in consequence of the tobacco or tart emetic in the mouth not producing any nausea in this case the warm bath & a large dose of opium lay in eth. proved succesful. Upon the same principles Emetics have been employed, to facilitate the passage of biliary & urinary calculi.

In the sick head ache no remedy is so effectual as an emetic, Dr Barton prefered Specach.a.

There is a chronic painful affection of the head originally produced by a blow although there may have been no fracture or concussion which has resisted every mode of treatment, which has hitherto been attempted; nothing however has been so effectual as emetics which have relieved several persons of this tormenting disease: the cures has been speedy and effectual.* They were exhibited at first every day & afterwards every other day.

1818.

* In some late cases this practice has been very succesful

In puerperal Fever at the commencement, when the symptoms require depletion, emetics have been highly useful; this fever has a great resemblance to the Yellow fever and is sometimes attended with a black vomit; under these circumst^s depleting remedies and especially emetics have been serviceable. In Hemorrhagies they have been much used. In hemoptysis, they have been recommended by Dr B. Robinson. Dr Cullen used them once, but not again as the operation appeared dangerous. I am afraid of them in this disease, but make much use of nauseating doses of emetics. Dr Cullen recommends them in uterine hemorg^s. & from the little experience I have had in this case I suspect they are useful. Dr Barton in such cases recommends Ipecac^a with opium as also in hematuria. Some consider the Ipecac^a as acting the especially in this case, but I suspect more is to be attributed to the opium which is given in combin^n.

In Hernia Humoralis, they have been much used, but here bleeding is the grand remedy emetics are valuable auxiliaries.

This disease has been often ~~cure~~ cured by sea sickness; I remember, that frequent small bleedings and occasional catharsis, together with a low diet & rest, ~~the~~ form the grand outlines of its treatment.

In obstinate Buboes, emetics have been serviceable, but blisters are more powerful in dispersing these swellings — In Dropsy, they have been used with the view of promoting absorption; we have not much reason to believe, that this is the case, for when given in small doses they may be serviceable by exciting diaphoresis & diuresis without any direct action on the absorbents. When dependent upon visceral obstructions, they may be more useful. In anasarca from protracted intermittents or arising from Marsh Miasmata, they have been found advantageous, & with the mercurial cathartics ~~have been found~~ are the best remedies.

In Hydrocele, I do not think emetics or any other internal meds to be of any service, this disease is cured only by the surgeon. In the acute inflamm^n

of Testicles & their appendages
~~of the feet~~ they are more useful,

In hydrothorax they are never to be used.

In Diabetes arising in marshy countries, Richter recommends them I cannot judge from my own experience. They have been employed by Sydenham in Dysentery. This I believe to be a febris introversa, & it would therefore be treated as common fever: when there is nausea, pain in the head and back, and other symptoms, which require an emetic give it, disregarding the bowel affection. I have seen dysentary exist as a symptom of yellow fever and have cured my patient with copious bleeding I took 68 ℥ the first day.

In Diarrhoea arising from a foul stomach ~~and~~ or occurring ~~as~~ as a catarrhal symptom, they are very useful, in this last ~~[illegible]~~ To restore & keep up ~~the~~ perspiration flannel should be worn next the skin, ~~[illegible]~~ ~~when the stomach is foul by which is meant in digestion emetics may be used with great advantage~~

In Dyspepsia, they are sometimes to be employed

Dr Fothergill recommends them in weak stomachs & to sedentary persons; this is certainly wrong, they should take exercise not emetics. In Rachitis, they are likely to prove useful, because it is connected with visceral diseases, in which emetics are ~~the proper remedy~~ often serviceable; ~~in most of these cases found spine which is a kind of rickettis in which there is a external curvature of the spine and a projection of the shoulder bone~~. In this country, this disease is very rare ~~in us~~, I should confide in the cold bath, in sea bathing, and in tonics. In fluor Albus & Chlorosis they have been used. The Tic Doloureux [Trismus dolorificus, dolor faciei crucians] has lately engaged much attention: the first case occurred in 1773 & was treated by ~~without~~ venesection. Dr Fothergill is the first, who takes much notice of it, he describes 14 cases all in persons somewhat advanced in life; this conforms with my own experience. It commences with pain near the eyes, ~~and~~ in the palate & sometimes on the temporal bones. It comes on suddenly

cur at intervals; which are very irregular; the pain is very excruciating, but lasts only for a moment; the kind of pain has been variously described: it is excited by the most trifling irritations, as eating, speaking &c. it occurs often during the day and night; it differs from the tooth ache in appearing in persons, who have lost their teeth; in being always above their teeth, & seldom if ever, in the lower jaw, it is generally, in the course of the infra-arbitar nerve; it is different also from rheumatism of the face; by this last being more general and recurring at regular intervals & also at every period of life.

Dr Fothergill has attributed this singular disease to a cancerous condition of the fluids; but on what grounds, we cannot discover: there is no inflammation, never any swelling of the glands or any ulceration, nor indeed any one character of cancer. Various remedies have been employed. Cicuta was the first, but this and the whole tribe of narcotics are of no service.

The French recommend that an operation be performed by the burning of moxa, & an operation performed by Dubois at Paris, but it is cruel & barbarous, & seldom successful. In 1798 Mr Haughton first cut the infra ac-
-cessory nerve; in this he has been followed by most of the London surgeons; in some cases it was completely successful, in others the disease recurred and in many it was of no service.

~~It has been treated by the French surgeons to form a large eschar on the jaw by burning moxa on it a cruel practice and one which ought not to be used.~~ W. H. Hodge.

Mr Abernethy first dissected out ½ an inch of the nerve but to no better purpose. Dr Physick having tried this operation & also the various remedies, which have been unsuccessfully proposed has thought that emetics might prove as useful in this as in other nervous affections: he has made trial of them & has every reason to be satisfied he has not failed in any of the few cases, which he has lately seen in effectually curing this dreadful disease. They are to be given daily for some weeks. Then every 4 or 5 days for two or 3 months.

# Lecture 14th December 3d

Emetics have been used in eruptive diseases with the same object as in fever; there are many of this class which depend very much on the stomach as the urticaria; where the best remedy is, that, which evacuates the stomach of all indigestible matter.

There are some persons, who cannot without great injury eat any particular substance. This Idiosyncracy frequently relates to shell fish: A person who was troubled with this peculiarity as to Oysters; wishing to overcome it he eat a hearty supper of them; he died before morning. When from this or any cause of a similar nature alarming symptoms are caused the remedy is an emetic to evacuate the contents of the stomach. From what has been said, it must be seen, that emetics are a valuable class of remedies & therefore should be well known.

As to the time & manner in which they are to be exhibited,

we must attend to the particular circumstances of the case. When poisonous matters are taken into the stomach, they must be given promptly and in large doses. They are never to be used in hemorrhages, for fear great caution ~~when there is great disposition to hemorrhage or when emp is always an attendant on the st of vomiting~~. They should not be used in the advanced stage of pregnancy for obvious reasons; they are also generally improper during menstruation. I would not employ them during the paroxysm of a fever. In hernia great caution should be used; if they are ever employed, the patient should press on his truss. In many chronic diseases they are to be used daily & for a long time while he is vomiting. They are not to be used in cases of plethora, unless bleeding has been premised.

Care should be taken to regulate the violent operation of emetics. This is to be done by exhibiting them in divided doses. It is however not always practicable, and their excessive operations are to be remedied by mild drinks, fomentations, opium, blisters & sinapisms to the epigastric region,

injections of stimulating substances, especially of laud.

In urgent cases opium is very valuable.

In administering emetics drunk are very much used, they render their operation more mild. ~~[illegible]~~ — they should not be given till after the contents of the stomach have been evacuated by the first vomiting; then they are useful in filling up the stomach, & rendering the following efforts easier. ~~[illegible]~~ Children can not be induced to swallow large quantities of warm drink & it is seldom necessary, as they generally vomit very easy. Large portions are better then small ones, when we wish that the emetic should act powerfully on the stomach and system no drink is to be allowed. We now come to speak of the individual articles under this head. Of these, some are much more mild in their operation, than others; from which circumstance the writers on the Mat. Med. have arranged them under many different heads; this I believe is of no practical utility ~~[illegible]~~ I will simply

consider them, under the heads of vegetable & mineral emetics, and first of the vegetable Articles.

It may be proper previously to observe, that there are many other methods of exciting vomiting; such as by giving warm water, and Teas of various kinds; also water sweetened with honey; by irritating the fauces, [~~by nauseating drugs~~] by motion, as in a ship carriage &c. &c. The first vegetable emetic to be noticed is the ~~Calicocca~~ Callicocca or Cephaelis Emetica Ipecacuanha; it is somewhat singular, that this medicine should have been so long employed without its natural history being known. Botanists now generally call it, the cephaelis emetica, of the class pentandria. It is procured from Brazil & Peru.

Dr Lewis has given the best account of this plant; he says, that it is a slender root consisting of several short pieces which are ~~very crooked~~ variously bent & contorted, marked by numerous wrinkles & fissures —

Our apothecaries do not consider it, as good when covered with a number of filament. It is composed of two parts the cortical & ligneous; the cortical is of a greyish colour, brittle & of a smooth resinous fracture, that from the Brazils is brown, that from Peru of an ash colour: this last is supposed to be the best.

Dr Cullen attributes its emetic properties to the resin in the cortical part; but it is so involved in a gummy matter, as to be taken up by a watery menstruum, Dr Lewis prefers a mixture of one part alcohol to 2 or 3 water; wine therefore affords a very excellent menstruum ~~on this account~~.

Dr Cullen does not think, that the ligneous or medullary part is emetic; but it certainly is, but in a less degree, being in proportion of 2 to 1. Its active properties are taken up, by proof spirit, wine, water, and vinegar; it is however most used in powder. Its medicinal properties appear to be ~~are very~~

volatile, therefore it is never to be given in decoction; & it should also be kept in bottles well closed.

The dose of this medicine is variously directed. Some have stated it at gr. 1. Dr Cullen at gr. x. In S America, the inhabitants take from ℥ss to ℥j. I never use it in small doses to vomit, but always give at least grains xv.

Dr Chapman gives xx.

Dr Barton — xii. This is too small, as it is mild in its operation; to render it more powerful it is usually given with gr. i. or ii. of tart emetic, so that a more permanent impression is made. Warm water is very useful after nausea has commenced in pacifying its operation.

Sir Geo Fordyce observes that the reason why authors differ as to the dose of Ipec. is, that no matter how large the dose, the effect is much the same as the whole is rejected during the first vomiting

& that the stomach has not been ~~so affected~~ strongly affected, as to act after the cause ~~ceases to act~~ is removed. But, this is not always as the impression made sometimes produces distressing consequences. In the case, Ipecacuanha is useful, in those cases of disease, where we do not wish violent vomiting. Dr Cullen & Sir Geo. Baker have stated, that it is often laxative & to this attribute its good effect in dysentary; some say, that it has an astringent power, which renders it useful in this disease. It is no doubt true, that this medicine has sometimes a constipating effect. In this disease, it has been much used in Europe; & in America, it is considered as an infallible remedy. Dr Mosley who practised considerably in the West Indies & in England, says, that it acts by producing a diaphoresis; this may possibly be the case: he gives it in doses of grs. xv. xx. xxx. while the patt is in bed & finds it most useful, where sweating is excited; thus frequently curing his patient at once.

This practice ~~of the Lion~~ however successful in Europe will not answer in this country. I think, that it is useful in this complaint by combining the several properties mentioned & I have employed it in small doses of one or two grains frequently repeated. Dr Clark recommends ℥iii of the root to be boiled in a quart of water down to a pint to be given as an injection twice or thrice a day. This has an advantage over the powder. Dr Barton used it often in dysentary in the following way -

~~℞ Ipecac: grs xii.~~ ℞. P. Ipecac: gr: xij
~~Opii~~ " ii. P. G. Opii. gr: ij
Cret: Pp^z gr: xxiv.
~~Creta~~ M divide into xii.
one to be given every 2 hrs.

Procidentia. In Diarrhoea, where the bowels are very much irritated it is as useful ~~in dysentary~~ as in a dysentary. Dr Fothergill has recommended it in a chronic form of this complt. ~~very useful~~. Many persons have an habitual diarrhea arising from a ~~consequent with~~ weakness of the bowels, & attended with lassitude, a slight fever by which they are greatly exhausted, tongue, a little fever &c. In these chronic cases a speedy cure has been effected by giving 1 or 2 grs of

which often acts as an emetic & as a laxative

Ipecac. every morning & ~~will~~ operate at night.

~~The Ipecac~~ & opium are, at first, to be repeated

every day & afterwards every other day.

In Hemorrhagies Ipecac. has proved beneficial.

In Hemoptysis, uterine hemorrhages &c.

small doses of this medicine have been very useful

taken in nause only was produced if vomiting ensued, the discharge inc.

It is ~~very useful~~ advantageously combined with sacch sat. & Opium

as in the following ℞ sacch sat. gr: iii.

Opii — gr: ss ipecac gr i. m

to be taken q. s. h when there is much fever present

Opii & Ipecac are useful in exciting diaphoresis.

Dr Cullen has employed it to keep up nausea

in intermitting fevers, It is also useful in consump-

tion, according to Drs Fuhn & Barton: the latter

gave a gr, with 6 or 8 grs of Chalk I do not see the

use of chalk & have my self preferred the nitre.

~~[Dr Darlington recommends it in Dyspepsia given~~

~~in small doses as an Alterative]~~

In Dyspepsia it is sometimes advantageously

in the dose of gr: j. every 2 hours.
employed with other remedies, it operates without
producing any sensible effects, like the mel
allii emetics; many suppose it acts as a tonic - which
is probably correct.

In Asthma during during the paroxysm
Dr Alderson recommends grs xx to be given in the
chronic form of the disease. It is dose
from gr: iij to v. only. Five grains usually produces
vomiting but after nausea only - when it is equally
effectual as relief does not depend on the vomiting.

In Dropsy I have no experience of its virtues. In small doses
it has relieved the dyspnoea of H. G. Drs Pharmac.
Over powder has been useful in ano
sarca. In cases where poisons have been taken
from its quick operation it is useful; dose ℥j to
℥jv. or ℥j with plenty of warm water. It should be given in
gr: iij to xv. with jalap. It is also use
ful in facilitating the operation of purgatives, jalap renders this fact twice as powerful.
The
preparations most frequently employed are the powder,
the wine, and the infusion; the dose of the wine is
from ℥ss to ℥j; it is made in the proportion

of an ℥ j to the pint: the infusion is ℥ij to ℥iv; one fourth being given every 15 minutes, I always prefer the powder, there are various mixtures with other substances which will be noticed,

Stipulacea

Gillenia Trifoliata or Spiraea Trifoliata, Indian Physic grows in all parts of our country from Canada to Florida; chiefly in shady and mountainous places. ~~chiefly~~. It is of the class Icosandria, & is known by the name of Indian physic as well as several others, It is an herbaceous plant growing to the height of 16 inches or 2 feet; the root is the part employed, which is small, slender and irregular. Its medicinal properties reside chiefly in the cortical part, Dr. Barton thinks it very similar to the Ipecac of the shops from which it is difficult to distinguish it, its dose is from ℥ss to ʒj, which is a serious objection to its use. It has no advantage over the Ipecac, so far as has yet been discovered & therefore is only to be

employed when the latter cannot be obtained

Dr Dorsey spoke of another species the gitonia stipulata, this however in its medicinal properties resembles precisely the one already spoken of, it is said to be more powerful in its operation, it is very similar to the gitonia trifoliata.

Hugh L Hodge. 1818. Pennsylva.

# Lecture 15th December 15th

Nicotiana Tabacum Tobacco, this is a very active emetic & as it possesses many other properties I shall defer speaking minutely of it, till I shall notice it under some other head,

It is a most powerful emetic. Dr Cullen is opposed to its use, as being very harsh in its operation, but its effects, the violent and continued, for a long time, Dr Thomson considers grs vj of snuff or the powder of the leaves as equal to grs ij of tart emetic; & being in want of this last article at the late of

Good Rope. He prescribed the tobacco to the Attendants, in their intermittent fevers with success. In small doses it has been employed among maniacs, who are generally fond of it; but the stomach soon becomes as much reconciled to it as the nose, & I hope, it will never be employed in such cases. My two predecessors recommend it, when poisons have been swallowed; but I have always found the system in such cases too much prostrated for its use. The Lac. or the Sulph. of Zinc is preferable.

[~~I have seen the narcotic poisons have been administered in cases where the vegetable poisons have been taken, than the tobacco if given is supposed to cooperate in increasing the narcotic effects already made on the system.~~]

Its operation is similar to the digitalis, leaving the patient much debilitated. Dr Barton often prescribed it in the form of cataplasm to the pit of the stomach, which is perhaps the best method; but as I will hereafter tell you, we have much more effectual means to evacuate the sto

much when poisons have been taken.

Scilla Maritima comes from Portugal, Spain, and from all the borders of the Mediterranean. It is a bulbous root & should be chosen when large, fresh and containing a clammy juice; the surface is reddish, the inner part white. It is more frequently met with in the dry state; as a general rule, it should not be chosen when the cortical part is large, irregular & black; this is full of impurities; but the cortical part should be small and the other white. As it is much used as a diuretic &c. in Hydrothorax by our physicians, it is of importance to obtain it pure and active; this is very difficult, as a great deal found in our shops is almost inert. It is nauseous, bitter and acrid, the juice when much handled will excoriate the skin; on this account the Turks use it as a rubefacient & in form of a cataplasm

to phlegmonous inflam^n. In its dried state it has lost 4/5 th, of its weight, Its medicinal properties are not volatilized, but are condensed by drying; so that according to Dr Lewis grs: iv. of the powder is equal to grs XX of the recent squill. It is given in substance, in infusion, in water, wine, brandy, alcohol, and vinegar, of which we shall say more hereafter. It is prescribed in consumption, asthma, Catarrh, & and other pulmonary diseases, especially hydrothorax, not often as an emetic, but with the view of obtaining its diuretic and nauseating effects, with the last view its dose is from grs ℘ to grs: ij. generally given in form of a pill. However prefer it rubbed up, with nitre. Four grains will generally excite vomiting.

## The mineral emetics.

Antimony. This is a semi metal, found in Germany, Hungary, France & England. It was used

many centuries ago, as an eye water, and to stain the eye brows black. In the 15th century, it first attracted the notice of Chemists, from whose experiments we have obtained the valuable preparations of this metal. Its ore is a Sulphuret of antimony; formerly called crude antimony, when seperated from the sulphur, it is of a leafy texture, having a specific gravity of 7. it is quite brittle. The pure metal or regulus has active medicinal properties as is evinced by the perpetual pill, which always act as a cathartic — It loses very little in its passage through the bowels, which portion is perhaps dissolved by the fluids of the canal & is thus rendered active — Dr Cullen thinks that the crude antimony is inert: ~~Dr Cullen~~ he means the sulphuret of antimony. What is the mode of its operation, I cannot determine but he is certainly mistaken —

Hugh L. Hodge

The preparations of antimony are very numerous I will not even enumerate them, but confine myself to the few that are now used, and

First the Tartar Emetic, antimonium tartarizatum, otherwise, Tartar stibiatum, tartrate of potass and antimony, &c. There are several methods of preparing this; but the best is, to take 3 parts of the ox: ant. pulvrit: potass; 4 parts of the crystals of tartar & 32 parts of water, boil for 15 minutes, strain & set aside to chrystalize; a triple salt is obtained Cont. Ant. & Tart. acid & potass. It is of a yellowish color, soluble in 20 times its weight of cold water but much more readily in hot water, which is the best method. Its dose to an adult is from gr. ii to v; but it is best to exhibit it cautiously & in divided doses as some persons are more easily affected by it than others, let v gr be dissolved in ℥ii ℔s of hot water & ℥ℹ ℔

be given every 10 or 15 minutes till vomiting is excited. So great is the uncertainty of the dose, that when given to children great care is required, from 2 weeks old to 2 months grs ⅛ should be dissolved in 10 ℥ss & ℥j. & be given every 10 minutes, so that no more than ⅛ of a grain is administered at a time. After the first year ¼ of a grain may be given every 10 minutes, and after the fourth year, ½ a grain. To show the necessity of attending to these minutia, I had ordered to a child 6 months old a few drops of antimonial wine, double the dose was given, the child was nearly killed; it vomited for five or six hours continually, was covered with a clammy sweat, pulse depressed & extremities cold, under these circumstances laudanum was given, fomentations were applied to the abdomen, & sinapisms to the feet: the child recovered. Nearly the same phenomena accurred to a lady, who took grs xv. of tart emetic instead of Ipecac. The antimonial wine is now

much used, it was formerly prepared by dissolving the glass of antimony in wine, but this was found to be too uncertain in its operation – It is now prepared by dissolving ℈ ii of tart emetic in ℔ ij of warm water then adding ℔ viij of white wine. This is the formula of the London College so that ℥ij, contains 4 grains: but the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia directs ~~Edinburgh~~. but half the quantity or gr: ij. to the ℥.

I prefer the solution in water, as it can always be made at the time; is of a certain strength, and moreover does not possess any of the stimulating power of the wine; which under certain circumstances would prove injurious – The wine is sometimes convenient where only a small quantity is to be given, as it can be kept ready prepared. Where an emetic is of importance it should be given in solution in water only. The dose of the wine to a child a few days old is from gtt: 1 to ij. to an infant of 3 or 4 months is gtts: 4. to 8., but ~~4 to 8~~ in croup, the solution in water is always to be preferred, as the wine is too stimulating. Dr Chapman has

gr iiiss ℥j every 15 minutes - to a child six months old
~~for with success and very successful in croup~~ I
with success in an obstinate case of croup.

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Tartar Emetic possesses all the powers attributed to emetics,
of which articles, it is the most certain & permanent. It usually
acts as a Cathartic & occasionally as a diuretic & diaphoretic.
~~Hitherto Emetics have been used as many diseases~~
In some cases it also expectorant. Hence it is useful in those
cases where evacuations are demanded, particularly
~~Fever~~ in fevers, whether Intermittent, Remittent or Continued.

In these, it was first employed by ~~empirics~~ the Chemists, and its utility
was confirmed by regular practitioners. All its effects
are attributed to ~~emetic~~ its evacuating properties; especially by
vomiting and stool. But it is no doubt useful when
it neither vomits nor purges.

Dr Hardyce says, that when it excites
vomiting, it produces a state similar to the crises of fever,
and ~~Dose~~ in ~~narcotic~~ small doses ~~[illegible]~~
It produces sympathetically an action on the heart & arteries, by
which great changes are ~~often~~ induced in the circulation
~~[illegible]~~
which are usually attended by some perspiration.

This Medicine was for a long time, in the
hands of ~~empirical practitioners~~ empirics & Dr Cullen was

probably the first regular practitioner who employed it in continued fevers. He administered it so as to induce nausea, ~~usually gave it in nauseating~~

Dr Fordyce observes, that it answers better when it does not nauseate, ~~the I cannot think correct~~ (Between any remedy produces vomit & it cannot specific effect)

Dr Rush of this city, says, that it is best when it produces nausea, without vomiting. In small, repeated doses, the tartar emetic produces a gentle perspiration which continues, for 3 or 4 hours and leaves the Skin moist, it is slightly laxative and generly induces sleep. Drs Young ~~[illegible] to the coat in an ambiguous in dysentery~~ Lind attribute to it a specific febrifuge power without any evacuation whatever. I do not think, that this is ever the case; some evacuation is always produced, & I cannot think that these gentlemen have been sufficiently attentive to the effects of their medicines.

In all the phlegmasiæ, it is a very impor-

tant article, It is generly given with nitre & should never be trusted to without the more active remedies of bleeding purging &c.

In hemorrhages, It does not act directly, in stopping the flow of blood: but it is useful by relieving the febrile symptoms. ~~[illegible] by diminishing the action of the pulse~~. In bleeding from the nose from plethora it is useful – However prefer Ipecac.

In Small pox. Emetics & particularly tart: emetic has been much employed to accelerate the tardy eruption, & in small doses during the violence of the fever. It was very much used to prepare the system, for Innoculation & generally with very good effect. In Eruptions depending on the state of the stomach & arising from errors in diet it is useful. Urticaria is of this kind, however Richmond not as described by Dr Heberden but appearing in elevated spots

sometimes pale, especially at first & afterwards red-
raising the skin in wheals; they are
& a severe itching
accompanied with fever. It arises often from eating food
to which we have not been accustomed; here an
emetic is highly important and quickly cures the
disease. In Leprosy & in Syphilitic Blotches it
is of no use. In some chronic eruptions of the skin
it has been employed as an external application,
by Dr Willan. I have found the Mercurial preparations
so useful in such cases, that I have never tried this.
Dr Rosseau dissolves a portion of Tartar emetic in a
quantity of water, and bathes his patient with it he
has employed it effectually in many cases of chronic
eruptions. Sir John Pringle & Mr Baker have
recommended it in dysentary, but with no advan
tage over Ipecac. indeed in many cases I think it must

prove hurtful by its irritating properties. In chil
Fatteroll, recom^d it in diarrhœa after evacuat^ns.
dren it is never to be used. In cases of Spasm or mus
accur^g in luxations - fractures when bodies are fixed in the
tular rigidity ~~the tartarized is very~~ useful, ~~in cases~~
~~of obstructions in the oesophagus, in luxations~~ &c.
Perhaps inferior only ~~to the tobacco~~.

When poisons have been swallowed it is very
useful. ~~If the patient cannot swallow it~~ If the patient cannot swallow it
~~where deglutition is impossible~~ it may be
injected into the rectum. ~~It has not the depressing effects of tobacco but~~
~~vomits~~. Dr Chapman first employed it as an enema. He
dissolved ℥j in a quantity of
water & produced a violent vomiting & purging. I have
tried it in this way, but never succeeded in exciting
vomiting but it purged freely. The injection ~~It~~ may be used in ob-
-structed bowels with good effect; ℥10 grains may be
~~given~~ thus administered every 10 or 15 minutes, till it ~~operatory~~ operates. For
traumatic tetanus, I have found it of service. In a
case of Idiopathic Tetanus, Dr Chapman ~~by rare~~
~~injection~~ by an injection of it cured his patient;
the locked jaw had taken place. It is an excellent

Chapt. 1. Body 2.

irritant to the skin in many chronic diseases. In consumption, I have found it very useful; I apply it by dusting the powder on the common adhesive plaister & find it ~~very useful~~ beneficial as an application intermediate between the blister and burgundy pitch.— Of the preparations of antimony, Tartas emetic is almost the only one now employed in this country & England. ~~as emetic~~, In France, they still employ the Kermes mineral, which acts powerfully in the dose gr j to i ℈. There is also the golden sulphuret of antimony which is very similar to it; its dose gr. ij or iij the cerated glass of antimony has no advantage and often operates very violently.—

The Sulphas Zinci is of a white colour & is best prepared by the direct union of its constituent parts. ℞ ~~Zinci ℥ iii~~
~~Acid Sulph ℥ x~~ ~~misce~~

~~Dr Cullen says~~ The white vitriol of the shops is usually adulterated with iron, lead and copper; but its emetic effects are unaltered & therefore may be used for the more expensive but the more pure salt. Its dose is from 6 to X grains. But it is generally used, when poisons have been swallowed & then given in doses of ℥ss or ℥j the stomach being ~~is~~ rendered very torpid ~~after~~ by the narcotic poisons, I once gave an ℥j after ℥iv. of laudanum had been swallowed & where Ipecac & Tart emetic had been prescribed with no effect.

Dr. Cullen says, it has no advantage over Anti ℥ & objects to the magnitude of the dose & that it is likely to keep back the vomiting. But the use of a larger quantity of water under its operation greatly lessens its inconvenience if no violent effects are produced & which is the case with this medicine. It does no harm & is necessary as the vomiting must be quickly induced. It is verry often of service to give a table spoonful of mustard much diluted in the water to assist its operation. I prefer it to any other emetic, in the cases of narcotic poisons.

Dr Mosely says, that it has also a tonic effect, that its operation quickly commences & soon finishes & that it never induces spasms as antimony sometimes does. Allowances should be made for the bias of this gentlemen.

but it has been much employed as a tonic astringent,
I only use it in cases of poisons, ~~I have been much~~
~~used~~ in pertussis & in certain cases may be useful. In
Croup, I prefer the Tart. emetic & Squill to excite vom-
iting; Mosely recommends the white vitriol in solution, wherever
it is to be used; his vitriolic solution, as it is called, con-
sists of ℥iv of the sulph, ℥i of rock allum, & grs iii of
cochineal ~~grs iii~~ & lbs j. of boiling water, to be rub in a
mortar, till cool, then filtered. To this, Dr Mosely attribu-
ted many virtues, which his prejudice induced him
to believe: ℥ss of this mixture containing grs: ~~xxiii~~ alterates
~~operates~~ as an emetic. In the active stage of dysentary, he
used it, but omitted the allum as to astringent, in
the chronic stages, the allum was added: he also
recommends it, in diarrhea, but I have not found
it useful; his treatment is to give a dose every
morning and evening. I have never used it in
Colica pictonum, but Dr Mosely recommends
it highly as always preventing paralysis. He also

uses it in the various pulmonary affections, in oppressed respiration, in hemorrhagies; in these I have had no experience of its effects. Upon the whole the sulphate of zinc is a very valuable emetic, where a sudden and powerful impression is to be made as in the case of poisons, But in other cases I decidedly prefer the emetics which are more mild ~~and~~ ~~certain~~ in their operation,

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# Lecture 17th December 9th

Of the preparations of Copper. the sulphate is the only one much employed as an emetic. It is of a fine blue colour; its crystals are very elegant and slightly efflorescent. They are much more soluble in boiling water, then in cold: ℥ij of the former taking up ℥j of the salt; this should be recollected

in prescribing a saturated solution of the blue vitriol as an escharotic, as it is so much stronger when made with hot, than with cold water. As an emetic it operates powerfully and promptly; Dr Hartshorn is in the habit of prescribing it, in those cases, where opium has been swallowed and always with success. he gives ℥j in such circumstances; but in ordinary cases it will vomit in much smaller doses; the average dose is from gr. ij to v. but I have known even gr. j. produce violent vomiting; it should therefore always be given in small doses, gradually increasing, till the effect is produced. Dr Simmons who condemns the antimonial preparations, has recommended this, in consumptions, as superior to every other remedy; he gives it, in doses of from gr. ij to ℥j: when given in such large doses, it may sometimes produce an escharotic effect on the sto

-mach, this may be obviated by dissolving it in water in proportion of gr. iij to ℥ij. & administer-
-ing it, in divided doses, till vomiting is excited which will always take place before any exhar
-tion. It would also be very useful to drink ½ a pint of warm water before swallowing the medicine.
-ter effect. Cullen has particularly recom-
-mended it in tubercular consumption, he unites it with the tart. emetic, to produce vomiting.
But this sulphate sometimes prevents the operation of the tart. emetic & upon the whole its combina-
-tion with the Ipecac. is the best; 5 pills containing 7 to 10 grains of each are to be given in the mor-
-ning and to be repeated every 2 or 3 days; ~~from~~ by this, he has cured more persons of hectic fever in tubercular consumption, than ~~cast~~ any other remedy, & it is certainly entitled to some attention. Dr Cullen thinks, that it is harsh and unmanageable & does not recommend it;

Geo. T. Bedford

he has had no experience of it in the commencement of consumption. I certainly think that it is an uncertain medicine, and therefore should object to its use. It operates without producing much nausea or relaxation of the system & on this account I would reject it, ~~in preference~~ as this relaxing effect is generally the chief object in the administration of emetics. Some of the physicians, in our southern states have recommended it in croup, but it is not used in this disease by any of our practitioners, of its value in this case I have no experience.

It was formerly much employed in Colic pictonum but it is now neglected. Dr Marriat has recommended an emetic consisting of equal parts of blue vit. and Tart emetic, which has been called the "dry vomit" as he did not allow any liquid to be taken with it: its dose is grs: v. It is very harsh & severe.

Many of these emetics possess other properties, which prevent our employing them exclusively as emetics.

Of the Mercurial preparations. ~~Dr Rush~~

Dr Barton recommends the corros: sub: in croup; but it is harsh and dangerous in its operation, especially in young children. & We cannot increase the dose, with a view of pulking for in large doses it produces inflam~~ation~~mation of the stomach & even gangrene. Calomel has also been employed as an emetic, but it is very uncertain, ~~in its operation~~ generally ~~purely~~ operating as a purgative. The Sub. Sulph. Hydr. flav: or the Turpeth mineral is the only and to be used of all the mercurial preparations as an emetic. It is prepared by ~~dissol~~ dissolving ℥ss of mercury in ℥vj of sulph. acid, boiling it to dryness & then throwing the white powder into boiling water; by which it is changed to a bright yellow colour. It is an acrid medicine and is given in the dose of gr ss to ~~ss~~ ℥j. It is very apt to salivate, unless it produces a cathartic effect or some purgative be administered afterward. Dr Cullen condemns its use, especially when

given with an intention to salivate as in hernia humoralis. Independent of the present opinion, that hernia humoralis is to be cured without mercury, the turpeth mineral is an improper medicine, either to vomit or salivate; we have better emetics and better sialagogues. It has also been used as an errhine (when used as an errhine it has also salivated) I have no experience of its virtues in this respect, as this is a class of medicines I never employ.

This finishes my list of emetics many more might be added without any trouble, but these are the only ones of real efficacy & are all which are at present deserving of proper attention.

The next class of medicines to be considered are Cathartics or those medicines, which evacuate the contents of the Intestines. The importance of evacuating the Alimentary canal

in various diseases was early noticed, and we find that cathartics, were among the first medicines, employed in the cure of the numerous maladies of the body. It would be useless to recount the many theories, which have been advanced to account for their operation. All that I shall observe, is, that an increase of the peristaltic motion is excited by a direct action on the muscular fibres, ~~by an increase of the contractility~~ & by some, which act on both ~~through the bowels~~ also ~~Contract~~ by cold, applied to the extremities and by powerful emotions of the mind. These last probably operate by increasing the peristaltic motion, as they act ~~to~~ promptly ~~that there~~ is no time for secretion as fear &c. The best division of cathartics is into Milina & Acriana as Dr. Cullen has translated them into laxatives and purgatives — As a general distinction this ~~Division we will follow this, and~~ but I believe it will answer, that any division is unimportant. in following this ~~but~~ it should however be remembered; that an increase dose of a laxative may operate as a purgative

and, that a purgative may only produce a laxative effect. To this, there may be some exceptions, ~~as well~~ jalap generally ~~generally~~ operates severely, however small the dose may be. & magnesia cannot be given in a dose sufficiently large to produce a purgative effect.

The immediate effects of a purgative when it is exhibited to we may observe, ~~on~~ a person nearly or altogether in health. At first it stimulates the stomach exciting ~~a sensation~~ not uniformly but commonly ~~a~~ a slight nausea; by this stimulus the stomach generally empties its contents, into the duodenum; sometimes however vomiting is excited – The duodenum is now irritated, ~~as~~ also probably the hepatic ducts, the gall bladder and even the liver; producing an increased discharge of bile. How much the pancreas is also affected is doubtful. At the same time the mucus & other fluid secretions

by direct stimulus - & by an increase of their contents are increased ~~also~~ the peristaltic motion of the bowels is accelerated.

~~And these effects are propagated throughout the alimentary tube, the actions giving evident proofs of being affected.~~ The griping, which so often occurs, is merely an inordinate and irregular increase of this action.

These are the immediate effects of a purge but there sometimes amounting to spasm. ~~The effects of the purges~~ are other consequences of greater importance. ~~They~~ Cathartics act on the ~~liver~~ system by ~~caught in gently~~ increasing the fluid secretions into the intestines; thus emptying the blood vessels and proving a powerful method of depletion.

To me it is strange that Dr. Cullen does not think, ~~that they gently moderate~~ them very useful in removing the phlogistic diathesis; I do not imagine, that they are so effectual as blood-letting; but I do believe, that next to this, they are the most powerful evacuants we possess, superior to any other class of medicines. They also operate on the absorbents. It is only of late years, that the importance of these vessels

has been ascertained, but they are now considered as having great effect in curing diseases. Cathartics affect them, either by emptying the blood vessels, and thus rendering it necessary, that they should be replenished by an increased absorption, or by a sympathetic action, communicated to these vessels; this last is rendered probable by this, that the absorbents are not excited by bleeding,

I however think, that they operate by each of these methods, in as much as the action of the art.ᵒ absorb.ᵒ are in an inverse ratio. I have on a former occasion stated my ideas of the incompatibility of two morbid actions existing at the same time. I therefore attribute many of the effects of cathartics to their inducing a new action in the intestines; which, altho' it does not actually destroy, yet it to a certain extent suspends, intercepts or lessens the existing disease, hence cathartics should therefore be considered in the light of alteratives.

It is on this principle that rhubarb ~~[illegible]~~ operates in curing diarrhoea, in the same manner, I would explain the operation of these meds. in mania and apoplexy, & not to their producing a revulsion of the fluids from the head. —

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## Lecture 18th December 10th

The number of stools for an adult is usually one in 24 hours, in children they are more frequent. This is the case in the great majority of persons, but ~~I have a gentleman, who becomes sick if his bowels are opened oftener than every fourth day.~~ ~~I~~ ~~a great majority of persons.~~ By habit however there are great variations from this, Haller has collected a number of cases of persons, who have gone a long time without any evacuation and experienced no ill consequences. These cases of Haller's

Tolerable health may exist where there is an evacuation once in 3 days

I consider of doubtful authority, & they are some of them too incredible. Dr Baily records a very interesting case of constipation of the bowels —

A Shoemaker, about 30 years of age, who had generally been of a costive habit; gradually became more so, & had but 3 or 4 evacuations in the week; this continued till the 8th month, when he gradually grew much worse, so that for the last 15 weeks of his life he had no evacuation whatever; during this time, he had severe pain in his abdomen, frequent discharges of air from the stomach but none from the rectum & pain at the umbilicus. After some time, the peristaltic motion of the intestines could be seen through the distended abdomen. His appetite continued very good, till within

a few days of his death, when he vomited every thing in a few minutes after swallowing; his pulse was rather full, but not hard, and had its frequency very little increased being about 84 in a minute. Every thing was done for him, that art could suggest. In addition to the most drastic purges, & glysters which were of no avail; he took ℥ij of quick-silver none of which was discharged by the rectum — Upon examination after death, it was found, that a stricture existed at the Sigmoid portion of the colon; so small as not to admit a quill; the muscular fibres of the intestines were found to be increased in size, the small intestines not enlarged, in proportion to the others; no regurgitation had taken place, through the valve of the colon; the fæces were of the consistance of soft mortar; the stomach and upper

part of the bowels were not diseased. As in similar cases, it has generally been found, that the obstruction has taken place, near the sigmoid flexure; would it not therefore be proper in such desperate cases to establish an artificial anus at the cecum; death otherwise is inevitable.

There are many milder cases of constipation, which can frequently be relieved by art. ~~Better, however, generally speaking~~ Even in the case of intussusception, the efforts of nature are very great, portions of the intestine in such instances have been separated and discharged by the anus.[+] The irregularity of the alimentary canal, produces various derangements in the system; of these headache is a very common one, ~~and in which disease and most often [illegible]~~ Indeed headache is a rare disease ~~[illegible]~~ seldom existing ex-

cepting as a symptom of other diseases - particularly of a
~~the functions of the stomach or bowels are deran~~
a derangement - of the stomach & bowels: which is ma-
~~gen, nausea and vomiting are frequently produced~~
nifested by nausea, vomiting ~~&c~~ loss of appetite, vertigo &c.
both. I have a patient, whose sight, is affected by
a delay of his alvine evacuations & immediately
cured by a purge. Dr Physick has ~~a patient~~ one, who
is affected with vertigo, when ever he ~~[illegible]~~ omits for more
than 24 hours, his accustomed discharge. Colic,
hemorrhoids, and various other affections are lik-
wise induced by costiveness.

Costiveness is induced by various
causes; general debility affecting the muscular
fibres of the intestines is no doubt a frequent
cause; hence we see women more prone to con-
stiveness than men. Cullen attributes constive
ness also to a vigour & rigidity of the fibres; by which the
contents of the intestines are carried more

slowly downwards, so that the absorption of the liquid parts is greater; this occurs in the hypochondriac.

I think, that both these causes, viz. debility & also vigour of the fibres, however opposite, frequently operate. It is probable also, that the condition of the bile, and other fluids has some effect; especially as the peristaltic motion is thought to be chiefly excited by the bile. It is not necessary in this place to notice the mechanical means by which costiveness is sometimes induced, as from a - infarcti - the rectum has contributed costiveness also to a torpor of the secretions, into the intestines or to an increased action of the absorbents, so that a less quantity of fluid is present in the bowels. In each of these cases Cathartics are the remedies.

Generally laxatives should be first employed & those should be chosen, which do not destroy the tone of the intestines, as Rhubarb, magnesia, sulphur, but these after frequent repetition

lope their effect; they should therefore not be employed, till diet has been previously resorted to, Where the liver, or other viscera are diseased the mercurial purges are to be preferred — In obstinate cases Salivation has been successful & it should always be resorted to, rather than continue for a long time the exhibition ~~before the cure attempted by the~~ of the drastic purgatives.

~~Drastic evacuation of purgatives~~ ~~Colic~~ Cathartics are useful in various cases of the Stomach & bowels. In the colic they are of great use, but they are not to be relied on entirely; in violent cases of this disease we not unfrequently have great nausea vomiting & cold entire & when ~~but~~ they are to be used in conjunction, with bleeding the warm bath, glysters, ~~and~~ opium &c, Mr Hunter long ago ~~taught~~ taught, that opium purges in Colic; ~~this~~ this I do not think ~~that this ought~~ should be attributed simply to its antispasmodic ~~fever~~ power; some persons are always purged by opium but this must be considered as an Idiosyncrasy. In colic vomiting often prevents the use of opium; ~~it~~ it may then be given as an injection ℥j Laudanum

being mixed with ℥iv of starch mucilage. In colica pictonum Cathartics are very important, even Mosely never resorts to his vesicatoire solution, till he has previously employed purges; Pemberton recommends a mixture of Castor oil, & laudanum, Dr Cheyne recommends opium in conjunction with purges. The only cases, which I have seen, were successfully treated by a proper attention to diet, by Cathartics and by opium.

I shall now notice the diseases in which purges are necessary & where the stomach & bowels are not exclusively concerned. and First. Of Fevers. —

In every form of Fever cathartics are among our most efficient remedies - they operate as evacuants - thus powerfully cooperating with V.S. - & in some cases they remove the remote causes of the disease - when these ~~are~~ ~~cases~~ depend on the bowels. Many fevers depend or arise from the contents of the intestines - Among the powers of the system depressed by fever - the peristaltic motion of the alimentary canal is to be chiefly noticed - this induces a sense of fulness, weight, restlessness & anxiety. which greatly aggravates the ~~fever~~ disease. Hence it is necessary to evacuate the bowels, which should always be done at the commencement of the complaint as the patient can then bear evacuations much better than at a later period. —

In fevers with local determination - or as I would say with local inflam^n I use cathartics

very freely - In my opinion - the fevers of the class Phlegmasiæ are much more numerous, than is generally supposed - dissections bear me out in supposing, that those cases of "congestion" or of "local determination" are in reality cases of local inflammat^n.

In the bilious remittent - the increased secretion of bile indicates the necessity of purges - but in these cases I often think an emetic superior to them - but still cathartics are not the less necessary - after the vomiting.

In the autumnal bilious & yellow fevers - there is in my opinion always inflam^n of the stomach; all my dissections confirm the idea that the yellow fever is a genuine Gastritis. Under this impression I resort to the most active remedies of bleeding & purging - preferring those articles - which produce the most liquid stools. — In some of the milder forms of fever a single purge has effected a cure: when appearing in the forms of Dysentery & Cholera they are equally beneficial. — Of late years - Cathartics have been

recommended in Typhus by Dr Hamilton. Dissatisfied with the ordinary mode of treatment, & considering the state of the intestines loaded with faces & morbid secretions - he was led to the use of Cathartics - he at first proceeded very cautiously - & from his success was soon led to their free employment. He did not confine their exhibition to the commence^t of the disease - but used them more or less thro' its whole course. He attributes their efficacy in some measure to their acting on so extensive a surface, as the whole alimentary canal. I have no doubt - that this has been justly observed - & I also agree that glysters are insufficient - as acting upon a much smaller surface. The extent to which this purging has been carried, is greater, than could have been authorised. it may however be carried to an excess - & therefore should always be regulated by the state of the System.

In Gout. Cathartics were employed by the Antients - ~~till~~ but were discontinued - by the advice of Sydenham. Since ~~th~~ his time their use has again revived. In the regular Podagra - they were forbidden

under the idea - that this form was safe - but that by purges - it would be driven from the feet & fall upon some vital parts. The patient was therefore directed to wrap his limb in flannel - & to live well. Another reason for this advice - was the ~~[illegible]~~ idea, that the disease was incurable. Lord Bacon long ago declared, that nothing was more harsh & cruel than fixing the character of a disease - it destroys every hope of the patient & renders the physician negligent & inactive. - Dr Cullen has been hasty - in giving too much credence to this opinion - as he soon after allows, that much may be effected by a proper regimen. Since Sydenham - purges have been laid aside too much - Dr Shapman - places the origin of it this disease in the alimentary canal - & has great confidence in our remedies: Cullen says that it may be prevented by restoring the tone of the stomach - In a regular attack of gout in the foot - where the constitution is not debilitated by intemperance - purges are important & are safe -

but sometimes the disease suddenly ceases in the foot & instantly appears in the head - lungs - stomach or some other important organ. This is called the Retrocedent - gout - & in all such cases purges are to be cautiously used. I have seen patients ~~are~~ who are frequently affected in this way - & in such - purges are certainly injurious - often ~~to~~ inducing a retrocession. Sometimes however we have various premonitory symptoms - such as nausea - indigestion, colic &c - Here a purge timely exhibited will often prevent the paroxysm - but bleeding is more safe & certain. — When the disease is fully & regularly formed & ~~it~~ is not usually retrocedent - being accompanied - with fever - with pain & swelling of the feet - &c - purging is very valuable. The saline cathartics are not to be employed - being less safe than rhubarb & its kindred articles - we should avoid also the drastic articles - it is often necessary to repeat the purges frequently - & not be content with a single exhibition. In this way they are as safe as beneficial as in other inflammat

Cases of retrocedent gout have however rendered Physicians very cautious & timid - so that Bleeding was for a long time discontinued. Lately the practice has been revived - it has been extensively resorted to & with great advantage. I only fear - that a good remedy will be again abused.

While upon this subject I may properly notice a remedy which in the last few years has been introduced as ~~a cure for~~ effectual in the ~~cure~~ cure of the Gout. I allude to the Colchicum Autumnale - This is a native plant of England. Germany & France - growing usually in a rich soil ~~[illegible]~~ Being a poison - it with other articles of the a similar nature was investigated by Baron Stoerk - He found that every part was active - but chiefly the root - & highly recommended it as a powerful & efficacious medicine. Nothing can exceed the contradictory accounts which have been given of its properties. Some contend for its active & valuable powers - others declaring it to be absolutely inert. Its virtues are said to depend very much on its age - on the soil - in which it grows & on the season at which it is gathered. - Stoerk declared, that

the more application of it to his tongue render that organ rigid & paralytic. ~~& that exhibited~~ his accounts are no doubt very unfounded: in this country it is not near so active. That it is poisonous to animals, there can be no doubt — as has been well ascertained by Professor Murray of Gettingen — this Gentleman exhibited it to several animals which it destroyed by inducing a violent dysentery ~~with~~ a ~~the~~ discharge of blood & wind. It is also recorded, that two boys who had eaten of it died. —

Stork employed the oxymel in the dose of ℥j. to ℥j. as an expectorant & also as a diuretic — & the Germans consider it useful in Asthma & other pulmonary affections.

Specifics in medicine have always been the object of pursuit & ~~the Gout has~~ notwithstanding ~~the~~ innumerable disappointments, ~~which have attended the~~ in ~~pursuing, the~~ the inquiry is still made as if success could be reasonably expected. All the reputed specifics for the Gout have of late years yielded to the celebrity of the "Eau medicinale d'Husson". By some its virtues are attributed to its cathartic — by others to its emetic powers. There ~~either~~ can however be no doubt as to the active powers of this

article. In the year 1771. ~~it~~ the plant was discovered by Rufson, who pretended that it was a new article never before used in Medicine. The Chemists have analysed the preparation, but all that could discover is that it is a vinous tincture of some vegetable substance. It is nauseous & bitter to the taste - the smell is vinous - but has also something peculiar - if suffered to ~~[illegible]~~ stand for some time it becomes transparent. The dose is from a half to a whole of a bottle - (contain about ℥ij.) taken in water on an empty stomach. In 1808. it was introduced into England & ~~to~~ soon became very famous - it no doubt produced very powerful effects. but still the easy faith of the British no doubt enhanced its virtues: ~~but~~ at the present period we ~~&~~ can decide more correctly on its real value. The Eau Medicinale - is certainly an active medicine when given during a paroxysm of the Gout. in 4 or 5 hrs: it lessens the pain, induces sleep - causes some nausea, ~~&~~ vomiting & finally purges - the pulse is reduced 20 or 30 strokes. & it usually operates also as a diuretic & diaphoretic - the gout abates & after two or three days, only a little stiffness remains. This is a very moderate account of its virtues,

~~In England~~ I have given it to some of my patients - in ~~them~~ Rem it operated as a narcotic - in a few hours as a cathartic & diuretic. — In England it has been recommended by many highly respectable characters - at the head of whom is Sir Jas Banks. This gentleman tried it in his own case - & was highly gratified with its operation. By the physicians of London it has been very extensively employed - but its use has in some measure declined - owing to its high price - to the ignorance of its composition - but especially to a dread - that it might eventually prove as deleterious as the Portland powder — In an excessive dose it induces ~~syncope~~ great depression syncope, cold sweats - violent vomiting & purging, a sinking of the pulse & insensibility. Rein records a case in which violent pain was produced as in Gastritis - Vales a black vomit. My experience has been confined to a few cases - ~~but~~ and these were most unequivocally in favour of this celebrated remedy.

To discover the plant - ~~which~~ which is the basis of this preparation, has been the object of much labour — from

its sensible & obvious effects the Elaterium was ~~and~~ selected but at present the weight of testimony is in favour of the Colchicum Autumnale or Meadow Saffron. This was first proposed by Mr Want. This gentleman prepared a vinous ℞ which had a very remarkable coincidence with the cam. medicinale. ℥iv. of the root is infused in ℥viij of wine. The details of 6 cases in which this preparation was successful in curing the Gout, so that ~~in which there had been~~ there was no recurrence of the paroxysms for several months. Home has lately made many experiments on himself. He concludes, that the Colchicum is the ~~in~~ basis of the cam. medicinale. That it is a specific for the Gout, which it cures as certainly as mercury cures the Venereal. As to the term Specific I frankly confess, that all I ~~can~~ ~~could~~ mean by this expression is that by the action of a medicine a healthy is substituted for a diseased action, or at least, that a temporary morbid action is induced, which overcomes & eradicates the preexisting disease, even without producing any sensible warning.

I also have made some experiments with the Colchicum last Spring. I ~~had~~ procured some of the root, of which

a saturated vinous Tincture was made - ℥j. being infused in ℥ij of Madeira wine ~~&c~~ which was the proportion used by Mr Waunt. This I administered to several gouty Patients & in no instance did it fail to produce a sudden & considerable amelioration of all the symptoms. In a severe case which had lasted for several weeks I gave - gtts: xxx. & after 4 hrs: I repeated the dose - by which the patient was speedily cured. I have also given it successfully in a case of retrocedent gout. The plant must however be collected in the spring of the year, as otherwise it is absolutely inert - a knowledge of this fact will explain the reason why there have been such contradictory statements. There is another remarkable property in this article; ~~it~~ with the exception of the Digitalis it is the only medicine which suddenly & powerfully affects the pulse - On the 10th of June - I gave 10 gtts: to a person in health - the pulse ~~being~~ beating 80 strokes in the minute - in 5' it

In another

In each the force as well as the frequency of the pulse

was reduced & in half an hour the gentlemen complained of being very sleepy. —— From every thing that has been discovered there can be but little doubt, that the Colch.m is the plant, which gives activity to the Cau medic.e - & that at all events it possesses strong cathartic & other evacuating properties - which on further trials - will no doubt render it highly useful not only in the Gout - but also in many other dis.s

In Eruptive Diseases, from the sympathy which exists between the Stomach & bowels - & the Skin - purging is of primary importance. In the Small pox I have not had much experience - as this disease is now prevented by the Vaccine - but it was formerly customary to prepare the system for inoculation by exhibiting cathartics - which was also continued slightly thro' the course of the disease - & probably with considerable advantage. In Erysipelas active purging & depletion with the lancet are necessary in this country. In Scarlatina purges have been much recommended by Dr Hamilton - but they had been long employed in this country - before where this disease has prevailed as an epidemic - & in which bleeding & purging were freely

employed. A late writer has recommended cold water as the best remedy for Scarlatina & one which should supersede all others. It is no doubt useful in some cases, but in all instances I would resort to purging, as the bowels are torpid & the fæces dark & offensive, so that large & repeated doses are demanded. Œdematous limbs are frequently the consequence of this complaint, but this symptom may be removed by purges & by their timely exhibition its occurrence may even be prevented. — In Measles purges have been longered. They reduce febrile action, & prevent the pulmonary system from suffering. Some practitioners hesitate as to the propriety of employing cathartics in this disease, for fear of the bloody stools which sometimes occur, but this is never a dangerous symptom & as Sydenham observes may be checked by the losing a few ounces of blood. — In Chronic Eruptions a long course of purging is very advantageous, but many of these are purely local diseases & are only to be attacked by local remedies. —

I have, on a former occasion, observed, that it is proba-

-ble, that all fevers depend on local inflam^n & that in all of them purging is an important remedy. This is more evident in those fevers termed Phlegmasiæ, in which the local inflam^n is a prominent symptom. Local inflammat^n of the viscera would be more manageable if we could resort to local means, so that the mode of action might be ~~called~~ altered. the efficacy of which may be seen in scarifying the eyes in ophthalmia? —

In Ophthalmia ~~bleeding &~~ purging is highly important in chronic cases. the patient should be placed on a low diet & be bled & purge every day alternately.

In Nort: Coxarius & analagous affections no plan is more serviceable than a course of purging. Cathartics given every 24 or 48 hrs: & assisted by a carved diet will effectually stop the progress of this complaint. What is remarkable the patient is not weakened by this treatment but in reality grows fatter & stronger. When a course of purging is undertaken in chronic diseases the patient at first complains of ~~sic~~ nausea & sickness is pale & languid this is sometimes the

case for the first week or two - after which he evidently improves - & the treatment becomes less disagreeable.

In Rheumatism - Page 2 - Tis very important - in the Acute case its advantages are prominent - & in the chronic forms of the complaint - it is no less beneficial. In many instances it becomes necessary to omit the lancet - & it is in such instances that purging is useful by evacuating the blood vessels & by making a revulsive impression on the bowels.

It will not be necessary to specify all the local inflammations in which Cathartics may be employed - They all demand their employment - even Ataalgia & odontalgia - for which a purge is the best remedy. Some have thought that the inflam.d of the viscera of the Chest formed an exception, but this is not correct - in Pneumonia they may be used with decided advantage.

In the Neuroses Cathartics are useful. In Apoplexy - which consists in a loss of sense & voluntary motion, they are very necessary. I have already noticed the Apoplexy, which is produced by a disordered condition of the Stomach & bowels, which is to be cured by emetics & Cathartics - & in all cases

such is the sympathy between the brain & the bowels - that they prove effectual - by evacuating the blood-vessels, by inducing a new action & by exciting the absorbent. On the same principles they are useful in Paralysis. -

By Hydrocephalus - I have no doubt, originally, arises from an inflammat^n of the brain - which terminates in effusion of Serum - I have examined the brain in different conditions of this complaint - & in all - there have been indications of preceding inflam^n. The serous collection is sometimes ~~in some~~ very great. I have known the brain so compressed, as not to be more than ¼ an inch in thickness. In this state the disease is incurable: in one instance I tapped the brain ~~[illegible]~~ with some advantage. the repetition of the operat^n relieved the symptoms for a short time - but the patient finally died. It is only in the forming stage, that a cure is to be expected, which is to be attempted by purging in conjunction with other remedies - detailed in other parts of our course.

In Mania - purging is one of the many depleting remedies to be employed. ——— In Chorea ac^t St Vi

Dr Hamilton strongly recommends purgatives - he has given a very accurate account of the complaint & clearly shown that in almost every instance it depends on the condition of the prim a viæ. Sydenham recommended B.S. this may occasionally be necessary - but Hamilton has shown that cathartics are the proper remedies. He first exhibits the milder articles - & finally resorts to the more powerful purgatives - In this way a large quantity of dark faces is brought away to the great relief of the patient. I have seen but two cases of this complaint - one was relieved by purges - but in the other they were ineffectual - but the experience of Dr Hamilton is decisive out of 20 cases, 19 were permanently cured. He divides the disease into two stages - in the first the intestines continue sensible & can be acted on by gentle laxatives. In the second stage the intestines are so torpid & the accumulation of faces so great, that the drastic purges are demanded, & they are to be used so frequently as to keep up a constant impression. To render this plan of treatment effectual, the physician must be firm to his purpose, there must be no half way measures -

you have here as in many other instances to encounter the prejudices of your patient & his friends. If they discover that you are not steady to your purpose they will certainly neglect not only your prescriptions but also your attendance. The cure will of course be slow in some instances, where the debility is great some tonic will be required. the best are the Chalybeate preparations. To perfect the recovery Hamilton trusts chiefly to regimen & to exercise in the open air. the bowels should be attended to for a long time after the cure. I cannot however agree with him in attributing the disease to intestinal torpor & the consequent accumulation of faces. he has mistaken the effect for the cause. it is probable that the same morbid action which produces the involuntary motion of the limbs also induces the costiveness.

In Epilepsy Cathartics are important. A correct pathology of this disease is very desirable. It appears to depend very much on the condition of nervous & arterial systems, to which I would add the condition of the intestines. the proof of this last is shown by the disease frequently arising from acidity, from worms

from costiveness & other states of the Alimentary Canal. Dr. Physick had a patient, in whom it was occasioned by a tumour on the Thumb - the removal of which cured the disease. Epilepsy in many instances arises from some internal disease - as tumours in the Cranium &c - in which a cure is impossible - Purging - especially in cases depending on the state of the bowels, is very advantageous - but it is to be lamented that our knowledge of this complaint is so imperfect -

Headache is a very common complaint - is frequently a symptomatic, but sometimes an idiopatic disease. It depends on a disordered condition of the Arterial or Nervous systems or of the Alimentary canal. I believe, it arises from a disorder of the arterial system when it is a symptom of fever, it is more so when the heart & arteries are undisturbed & digestion unimpaired - it is produced by the state of the Canal - when acidity prevails in the Stomach or when the bowels are costive. These views should be attended to in all our prescriptions for this painful affection. There is a great variety as to the seat of the pain, sometimes it is in the forehead - temples - in the occiput

The pain is very diversified - being often dull & heavy - sometimes sharp & lancinating - is attended with remissions & exacerbations - Sometimes may be compared to the creeping of an insect & sometimes to the opening & shutting of the sutures. The pain sometimes resides in the scalp but more frequently in the interior - It is generally a chronic complaint especially when depending on the Nervous system - Occasionally with it - the eyes will be inflamed - the patient cant bear the light - & is troubled with vertigo & vomiting - The duration of the paroxysm varies ~~from~~ to 6 - 24 or 48 hrs: when there occurs a disposition to sleep. Occasionally it is periodical, returning daily, monthly - &c - in some instances it is constant. Dr Rush had a patient who for 40 years had never been free from the headache. The remote causes of head ache are numerous - the most frequent act thro' the medium of ~~[illegible]~~ the Alimentary Canal - as intemperance either in eating or drinking, acidity - costiveness, abstinence &c - Besides these we may enumerate too much or too little sleep - suppression of the menses, blows on the head - rebelled eruptions &c -

The removal of the remote cause forms the most important part of the treatment. Hence as the disease so generally depends on the state of the Canal - Emetics & Cathartics are often useful - I have already noticed the importance of emetics when the pain is the consequence of blows on the head: but in all cases - the bowels, at least, should be kept open - For this purpose a diet of rye-mush is often sufficient - but sometimes the habitual use of laxatives - as rhubarb & magnesia is necessary - so that a new action may be induced. Magnesia is preferable when acidity is present - In chronic cases - tonics are sometimes useful between the paroxysms: & vomits &c. is necessary during the fit.

The Neuroses - generally depend as much on the disorder of the arterial - as of the nervous system. In Hysteria - the arteries are also affected, as the pulse is often hard - & the blood drawn is sizy - the extremities are usually cold - The stomach & bowels are filled with wind - the patient is troubled with acidity, costiveness, fœtid eructations - vomiting &c — Dr Rush considers hysteria as a form of Gout - as arises from the same causes, affects in the same description of persons, has analogous symptoms

& a similar plan of treatment. It has been supposed to depend on the Uterus, but this is not the case, as we have every ~~variety~~ irregularity of the Uterus without hysteria, & we have the disease in the male sex. The Treatment during the paroxysm consists in bleeding & purging - in one case I have taken ℥xx. of blood ~~taken~~ - Sydenham ~~has~~ thought purges of very little consequence during the interval, but Dr Hamilton conceiving the ~~cond~~ complaint to depend on a preternatural state of the Alimentary canal resorted freely to purges - & very successfully. We also employed the fetid articles & tonics as auxillary. This is correct practice & you may remember that a disease is very seldom to be cured by one remedy or class of remedies, but that our end must be usually accomplished by their united operation. This disease is not unfrequently feigned - for what reason it may be difficult to determine, but the deceit may be generally detected by exhibiting noxious medicines - ~~& by~~ pouring cold water in a small stream from a height on the upper lip - by applying sinapisms, blisters &c. &c.

W H Hodge

# Lecture 21st December 16th

In Tetanus Dr Hamilton suggests rather than advises their employment. In that, which arises from wounds I have always found depleting remedies to do harm, purging is never to be used.

I believe, that many cases of reputed tetanus, are in reality affections of the muscular system, essentially different & in these, purging may have been useful.

In Dropsey, they are very powerful, more so in ascites & anasarca, than in hydrothorax; when dropsy is accompanied with a febrile state of the system & when the strength is sufficient ~~system is in that state which has been called an hydropic diathesis~~ active purges are very useful in exciting absorption. There are some cases of dropsy accompanied with so much organic disease, that purges are not sufficient, a salivation in such cases often effects a cure.

Cathartics have certainly no direct effects on the effused fluid, but they act by emptying the blood vessels & thus powerfully exciting the absorbents. The diminution of the effused fluid produced in this manner, is sometimes very great; out of 6 lbs of water poured into the cavity of the abdomen of a dog, all except about ℥iv was absorbed in 6 hours. Those Cathartics, which excite much fluid discharge, also act as diuretics, must therefore be preferable, as the saline articles, especially the cremor tartar. Chlorosis. Dr Hamilton considered this as depending generally on affections of the alimentary canal as is manifested by an irregular & depraved appetite, acid pituity, acidity, flatulency, costiveness &c. There are no doubt many affections, arising about the age of puberty, which are not to be classed under

the head of chlorosis; but when there is a pale face, a soft flabby skin, scanty urine, oedema of the lower extremities, small, quick pulse, acidity, flatulency & depraved appetite, there is reason to believe that the intestines are considerably affected. Dr Hamilton ~~has~~ observes that, as in chorea, a cure may be accomplished by a steady use of purgatives: but here also, you have to combat the prejudices of your patient & his friends, & it is only by previously instructing them in the nature of the case, & by exhibiting a firm confidence in your remedies that you can procure a fair trial of this practice. In its early stage mild purgatives may be sufficient, but the accumulation of fæces in the more advanced periods must be removed by more drastic cathartics. Attention to diet, mild tonics, exercise, ~~and~~ change of air and company will complete the cure. Dr Hamilton mentions the use of purgatives in the Vomiting of blood frequently.

occuring to young females, about the time when the menses should appear & which is generally attended with costiveness. I have no experience in this case - but have used them with advantage, when blood has been discharged into the intestines from the liver.

In a slow remitting fever of children, attended with emaciation, loss of appetite, inactivity, listlessness, swelled abdomen & slow belly, I have found purgatives effect a cure more rapidly than any other class of medicines. Hamilton describes a disease very similar to it, as also does Linnæus and Fordyce before I had seen the work of Hamilton, I had used this method with success; when there was considerable swelling of the belly; constiveness, marasmus &c. The articles should be of the milder kind & use frequently; light diet & a change of air with exercise are very useful auxiliaries.

It would be very easy to increase this list of the diseases in which cathartics are valuable remedies but perhaps not to much advantage. ~~They~~ those which have been mentioned are the important ones, in which their agency is decidedly useful.

It may however be remarked, that the employment of purgatives in Acute and in Chronic diseases must be conducted on very different principles. In the former ~~they~~ are used merely as evacuants, and in the latter as alternatives: on this account in all chronic affections they must be persevered in for a great length of time, in some cases even for years.

Hamilton does not appear to ~~comprehend this subject in his discourse~~, have fully understand the principle on which Cathartics act in curing these chronic complaints.

In many chronic diseases accompanied with g

frequently depending on the constipated state of

the bowels not only purgatives should be employ

ed, but an attention should also be paid to a proper regimen.

~~much rouse a sleep~~ ~~are very apt~~. A resort

to mineral waters is often very effectual. ~~and~~

Those in Europe are more as

ful as purgers than as Tonics: here the mineral waters are not so important

~~but~~ ~~I am very willing to allow, that the change of~~

tant - but allowing for all the advantages of an excursion to the

Springs, for the change of diet, of air, of scene, for the gayeties of the place, the

riding, the relaxation from business &c. &c. ~~and~~

~~tribute greatly to the cure of the patient, but~~

Yet I believe the evacuation from the bowels, usu

ally produced by the waters, is far more serviceable.

The Saratoga waters in this country, owe their repu

tation to this circumstance.

I proceed now to the treatment of the individuals of this class. Of these there have been many scientific arrangement; but as I have no partiality for that display of science, which does not lead to any practical result; I shall arrange them as they differ in respect to their activity, noticing first those which are mild & then the more powerful.

I shall begin with the Vegetable articles.

~~Vegetable Laxatives,~~

Sinapis or Mustard, is a mild medicine. There are two kinds, the sinap, alba and nigra, between which there is very little difference. The unbruised seeds are to be employed, to obtain its cathartic effects, as when powdered it is too stimulating to be given in a large dose. To procure a discharge from the bowels ℥ss of the seed must be given. It is useful in cases of habitual costiveness,

in epilepsy, paralysis, dyspepsia, chronic rheumatism, according to Dr Barton in chlorosis gout &c, I have no doubt that it may be used in other diseases with effect as Bergius observes also in intermitting and remitting fevers. It is one advantage, that it does not leave the bowels in a costive state. The next Substance as to activity is **manna**. This is a concrete juice, obtained from the Fraxinus Ornus. It is brought from Sicily, Calabria, & other countries on the Mediterranean. It exudes from the trunk, leaves & branches during the months of June & July. That from the leaves is the best; when it is procured by incisions in the trunk of the Tree it is dark and not so good. Dr Hill has given the most accurate account of this substance. It is best, when in oblong flakes of a yellowish colour, friable somewhat granulate & easily soluble in water. Dr Hill on this account supposed it, to be a true gum

but ~~the~~ it is not altogather ~~two~~ the same as it is also soluble in Alcohol, It is very similar to brown sugar, except perhaps in taste: the medicial properties are the same, like it ~~the~~ ~~it~~ manna is deposited in small ~~crystal~~ crystals by the evaporation of the alcoholic solution, & by further evaporation a dark fluid is obtained similar to molasses. Cullen considers it, merely, as the saccharine matter common to ~~in~~ vegetables, & in no material respect different from sugar. Murray think its cathartic ~~effect~~ powers greater; its dose is from ℥j to ℥jj: when given to children ~~it~~ direct, as much as they will eat, which is ~~general~~ generally from ℥ß to ℥j. It has been thought very useful for pregnant women, ~~but~~ but it is now forbidden as it in some instances produces ~~flatulency~~ flatulency, colic &c. ~~On the Continent it is much used. In England~~ On the Continent it is more used than either in England or ~~in the~~ U. States. The French employ it ~~often~~ it some times ferments like other vegetable ~~products~~ very much.

~~A gather of form the acetous acid~~, It is frequently given with ~~senna~~ senna ℥jj of it to ℥ß of senna, I prefer brown sugar & think that the infusion

as Cremor tart.

is no less powerful. It is often given with neutral salts &c

Upon the whole, I think it about equal to the unrefined sugar. Tamarinds, ~~Cassia~~ Cassia Fistulalis, ~~Fistularis~~ Molasses & the Summer fruits have all been employed as auxiliaries ~~illiaris~~ but cannot properly be considered as purgatives, & I have only mentioned the manna ~~only~~ because it is so ~~as many~~ frequently employed. In Europe they often prescribe mutton broth to assist their purgatives; in this country, this practice is not to be followed, as the broth affords too much nourishment in many cases where purgatives are necessary.

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## Lecture 22d — December 17th

The juglans cinerea or ~~Button wood~~ Butter-nut is much used ~~used~~ in several parts of the ~~United~~ U. States. It is one of our most valuable cathartics. It is considered by many

as equal to the Jalap. It is the inner bark of the Tree which is employed, & by decoction, an extract is made, which is of a deep brown colour and possesses considerable astringency. In a dose of gr. vi to x. it produces a laxative effect, and in that of ℥ss evacuates the bowels freely. It has been used in the several febrile diseases especially in the bilious remittent; our farmers often give it to their cattle & it is found very serviceable in that disease of the horse called the "yellow water". Pills have been made of this called the butternut pills, which are very useful in keeping the bowels regular. Our country practitioners use it in many diseases, It is not however sufficiently active or certain in its operation.

The podophyllum peltatum or May Apple has of late years been very much used in the U. States. It grows very plentifully in diffe

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-rent parts of the union & is known by various names as mandrake, Ipecacuanha, wild lemon &c. The fruit is ~~eatable~~ esculent, but the leaves are said to be poisonous. The root is the part used as a medicine: in doses of grs xx to ℥ss it may be safely given, by which it purges considerably; I have not had much experience with this article. It is much used through the country, & appears to be a favourite, notwithstanding that it must be exhibited in large doses and that it generally produces griping. It is useful in those diseases, in which cathartics are demanded. The Indians consider it as a good anthelmintic. It is best when collected in the autumn.

Oleum Ricini or Castor oil is procured from the ricinus communis; this plant grows in the E & W Indias and in the south of Europe. It is not a native of the US. but flourishes with a little

cultivation. The oil is procured from the seeds, by expression & by decoction; sometimes also by roasting them; they contain a very large proportion of oil, sometimes near half their weight. It is one of the most antient purgatives we possess, being used by Hippocrates; it was named Ricinus from a small insect, which frequently destroys the plant. It is one of our safest and mildest medicines, and when given in large doses may be ranked among the active articles, ~~prove very offensive if large doses~~ the dose varies in different persons. It is supposed to injure the tone of the intestines, less than any other, and is therefore given in cases of habitual costiveness; but in these instances I prefer the rhubarb. I think from two or three cases, which I have seen that the Castor oil is injurious in cases of hemorrhoids. It has been preferred in various affections of the bowels & with good reason, altho' the theories of its operation are no doubt erroneous. In the West Indies, it has been celebrated

& is recommended in the other forms of Colic.
ted in the Colica pictonum. In those cases, where large
indigestible substances have been swallowed, castor oil
is very useful. It should not however be given when cop-
-per has been taken, as it has some tendency to act on
that metal. As a general rule, however, I think it
is best not to prescribe any medicine, in these instances,
but to suffer the foreign substance to be enveloped
in the natural contents of the intestines, which will
prevent in a great measure any irritating effect.
I have put this practice to the test in a few instances; in
one a child had swallowed the nut of a walnut - a
piece of iron about 3/8 inch in diameter; I advised
that nothing should be done, but that the child
should live as usual, in 48 hours it was discharged
without any ill effects; when the intestines are
tardy, some medicine may be given,

Castor oil is much used in dysentary & Cholera Infantum when the stomach is quiet; also in some cases of worms. Dr. Calvani has recommended it in Gonorrhoea, but it can only act as a purgative; no one will attribute to it any specific effects, when they recollect, that Sydenham frequently cured this complaint by purgatives. The dose to an adult is ℥j. To an infant immediately after birth ℥j may be safely given; after the third month ℥ij may be given, after 5 years ℥ss. Cold expressed castor oil is less nauseous, than that procured by decoction, but even it is very disagreeable & is often rejected by the patient. To avoid this, it is often given with brandy or some spirituous liquor, These however are injurious in cases, which demand purgatives; on which account I prefer coffee which is very nearly as effectual in destroying the taste. It is often made into a mixture with a little mucilage as in the following. ℞ Ol: ricini ℥ji. sach: alb: et. Pulv: G. arab. aa ℥iij. Ol anisi gtt: v. Aq. puree

Zoj. M. this is a very favourite formula, but as the dose is necessarily so small & must be so frequently repeated I prefer the former mode of exhibition. Sometimes a little laudanum is added to each dose. Castor oil when long kept becomes rancid; but, I do not think, that its purgative or useful effect are in the least injured by this; it is rather more nauseous; some of the European physicians recommend that under the circumstances it should be washed, by which it is rendered perfectly pure. Dr Chapman thinks, that the Oleum Olivarum is very similar to the Oleum Ricini, but it is certainly less active & also by far too nourishing to be used as a purgative — Melted Butter, commonly called the oil of Butter, I have frequently given to children & with good effect; sometimes as an injection. The pellicle covering the seed of the ricinus is also supposed

to have a purgative effect, it is not much used.

Senna This has been hitherto supposed to be procured in its best state, from Alexandria, but Mr. Nicholson has shown, that none grows there - but that it comes from the Arabians, not in the coasting Senna of the shops there are three different plants. The Cassia Senna, the Cassia Obovata & the Cassia Obtusifolia. It is procured from the E. Indies, from Persia and Arabia also from Africa & from the W. Indies - Dr Hill has described 3 kinds, one from Alexandria and 2d from Tripoli, & a 3d from the W. Indies. Our Apothecaries receive two kinds one from Alexandria, the other from India; they decidedly prefer the former. The leaf is the part used & is oblong & of a yellowish green colour; its properties are extracted both by water and alcohol. The infusion in water, is much used; even by individuals without any direction, from a practitioner; this is rather singular, as it is nauseous, must be taken in large quantities, possesses very active properties and generally produces severe griping; the practice of picking out the stalks is not found to prevent this last effect.

To obviate the griping various additions have been made to it; manna or what I prefer brown sugar covers its nauseous taste; fennel seed, carraway seeds, mint, ginger, & various aromatics have been added, but seldom with the effect of preventing the griping altogether. The Senna is one of the most certain cathartics we possess and is very useful in obstinate constipation. It is never given in powder as the dose would be too bulky, the usual method is to infuse ℥ss of the senna in a pint of boiling water, covering the vessel closely, sweeten it with brown sugar & let ℥ij to ℥iij be given every 2 hours, till it operates. Its active properties are volatile therefore the decoction is inert & the infusion should be made with care. To the above formula an ℥ij of the Cremor Tartar is a useful addition to improve its taste & purgative properties; many other additions have been made to it, glaub. salts renders it exceedingly nauseous. The

infusion is often used to quicken the operation of other purgatives. There are several officinal preparations - Of these - the compound Tincture of Senna is much employed -- Warner's Cordial is very similar to it - but has an addition of Rhubarb. The Formula of each may be seen in the Dispensatories.

Medicine has varied so much in its reputation. When Science slumbered during the dark ages the Chemists were active in the expect^n of discovering how they might transmute all metals into Gold & how Life might be preserved. Altho' unsuccessful they confered more benefit on man than ever could have been derived from the Philosph^l stone or the boasted elixir of life. At this time the Galenists appeared: by them all mineral med^s were cried down, & between these two parties the dispute was long continued. At the revival of Science this terminated in the acknowledg^t by most physic^s that cash was useful. When the use of antim^y was revived in the 15^th cent^y it is somewhat singular that its cathartic powers were first developed. Pure Antim^y is certainly active