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1870

Iron

AIMA TOMATON:

OR

New Cupping and Puncturing

APPARATUS.

Manufactured by

L. M'KAY, M. D.,

256 STATE STREET.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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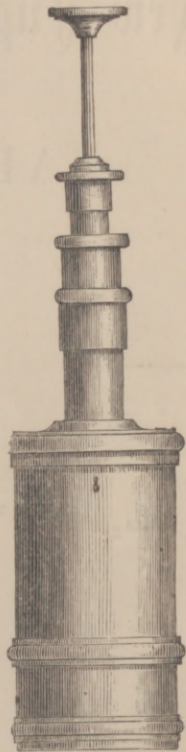
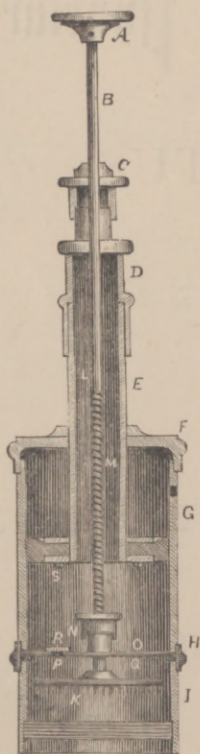
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and illy adapted to meet the requirements of a given case ; but this is not its greatest fault. I hold that the operation, even as described in Gross's system of surgery, is unnecessarily severe and barbarous. Just imagine two or three dozen of lancets to be thrust through the skin and subjacent tissues in order to procure a small quantity of blood. I think that its days of usefulness are past, and many patients have carried the marks of it to their grave.

BAUNSCHEITISM.

Of late quite a breeze has been stirred up amongst a certain class by the mere insertion of needles without drawing blood, which are claimed by the inventor, Carl Baunscheit—a German mechanic—will produce wonderful effects in the cure of diseases. It appears that having an inflammatory attack in the hand which proved painful and confined him to his house, a certain ill-natured fly or gnat alighted on the affected part and stung it, and immediately it relieved the pain ; and by this process of reasoning he was led to employ the needles and a certain irritant oil which is to be applied after their insertion. This, like the croton and olive oils, as before described, for the purpose of producing irritation, brings out a fine pustular eruption, which, in a short time, dries up, scales off, and disappears. This oil he has the modesty of asking \$2 or \$3 an ounce for, and this great discovery, he is to make known at his death ; he names his instrument, the Lebenswecker, or resuscitator. Of course such a simple contrivance leaves out the great principle of forming a vacuum on the surface, without which it is no cupping at all, and does not deserve the name. He, however, deserves credit for his invention, which is so simple that any boy or person may use it. He has written quite a book in behalf of his discovery, in which he claims for his invention the cure of all the ills that flesh is heir to ; that it will prove beneficial in a certain class of cases where a counter irritant is required, I don't doubt, but that it will produce the remedial and curative results, that he claims for, it is quite absurd.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CUPPING AND DRY CUPPING, ALSO COUNTER IRRITATION.

That the operation of cupping in diseases, requires attention on our part, no one, I imagine, will deny, and that it proves a valuable remedial agent in the hands of the profession, physicians of large experience, and means of knowing well of what they say, all endorse. The practice of general bloodletting which was once in such general favor, is now very seldom resorted to, but that the local abstraction of blood in diseases in which it is required is a point not to be lost sight of, and when we have an instrument at hand that can be applied so readily with so little pain, delay, or annoyance, its full benefits will only be appreciated. In the matter of counter irritation it has decidedly the advantage. In my practice I have varied the different agents I have employed for this purpose, after cupping, and puncturing with this instrument. In calculi, and in the passage of gall stones through their respective ducts, I have rubbed in a weak solution of chloroform and oil with the best results, and in inflammation of vessels, phlegmesia dolens, I have applied the mild mercurial ointment.

In goitre and in enlarged glands I have applied the iodine ointment after the application of the instrument, with the happiest results. In chronic visceral and organic diseases, if no lasting change has resulted, I have found the croton and olive oils answer all purposes. Dry cupping causes a determination of blood to the surface, and is recognized by men of observation as an anti-spasmodic of great value, in colic, in spasm of the stomach, I have seen it relieve promptly; in nervous headache and toothache, also facial neuralgia, after applying the dry cup, rub on a few drops of the saturated tincture of the root of aconite, and it will often relieve, when you may have employed strong narcotics internally without the desired effect.

THE DISEASES THAT CUPPING WILL PROVE BENEFICIAL IN.

That this new process will prove beneficial in a large number of cases, for which cupping was seldom resorted to, I have no

doubt. In aural and ophthalmic inflammations, instead of applying leeches and blisters, it will commend itself. I intend having a small size manufactured for this purpose. In chronic bronchitis, in spinal irritation, in chronic inflammation, affections of stomach and liver, also renal affections it proves of vast utility. In lumbago and sciatica, it will at once take its place as remedial agent that can not readily be dispensed with. In chronic inflammation of the bladder and bowels, I have found it of marked effect, and I recollect well a case of intersusception at the ilio cœcal valve that I considered it as an important and useful adjunct in the case. In chronic rheumatic affections, and in that difficult to be diagnosed affection called pain in the side, it will prove of great service. In fact, in all chronic affections that present a neuralgic or inflammatory aspect, it will prove of vast utility. These are a class of cases that are tiresome, and troublesome, to the over wrought and often ill-paid practitioner. They take medicine, which after a time loses its good effects. They are the approbrium of medicine and often consign the patient to indescribable misery, and an early grave. A physician of eminence assured me that in those cases he was convinced he could not practice medicine successfully without the aid of such an instrument. I have merely noted a few of the affections that this instrument will commend itself in. Physicians themselves will be the best judges of the cases to use it in, and they alone will have the privilege.

CONCLUSION.

I now submit this instrument to the profession for their approval and endorsement. It is made of durable material, and the mechanical construction I have tried to render perfect. The needles are nickle plated and non-corrosive. It is also submitted at a price that is within the reach of all, and no person can manufacture one instrument for double the cost. I am aware that certain physicians are adverse to any of the profession bringing out any instrument, or patent appliance for their use. This question has been of late pretty freely ventilated in our medical periodicals, but I think in favor of the inventor. I can readily understand why it is that

physicians are adverse to the name of a "patent," as all—most all the patients—they are called on to treat, have been tampering with some patent medicine, or nostrum, which are often illy-adapted to the cases they are used for, by causing delay and procrastination, whereby valuable time is wasted, and the patient's life often sacrificed. In this case, however, things are different, as the physicians themselves have the remedy, and they may employ it or not, as the case may be. As it is a fact, that the human system is composed of a series of cells, that those cells lie continuous to each other, we can readily conceive how it is that a new process set up on the surface may relieve a congested and suffering organ subjacent, and when we take into account the perfect sympathy that exists through the body, like the current of electricity passing through the wire of a battery, that an impression made on the surface will be transmitted to a distant part by such nerve current, and when we take into account the metamorphosis that is continually going on, the important function of the skin, the exosmose and endosmotic action that is continually at work, who can doubt that medical agents introduced in even a small quantity, when they are brought directly to bear on the affected part, will produce new, remarkable and curative results, not yet fully recognized. I, therefore, claim for this process new, remarkable and curative results in chronic inflammatory affections, if no lasting change has already resulted. The convenience and compactness of the instrument, I hope will commend it, and in the class of cases already pointed out, I expect for it results not now dreamt of. Two great principles, it will be observed, underlie the use of this apparatus. One is puncturing in vacuo, and the other is applying medical agents of the character required by the diseased part through such punctures or openings in the surface. Hoping that it will prove a boon to the physician and the patient, is the end sought after by the inventor.

L. MCKAY, M. D.

DIRECTIONS FOR CLEANING AFTER USING.

First unscrew the ring marked "K," from out the lower cup marked "L." Then dress down the needle-bar, marked "B," to its full extent, and holding it firmly, take hold of and unscrew the needle-plate. The detached needle-plate and lower cup can then be washed with tepid water, and afterwards thoroughly dried and oiled with pure olive oil.

