

General Remarks on the remedial effects of the extract of Ganja as observed at the Native General Hospital at Bombay ; forwarded with two cases of Tetanus, treated in that Institution. By A. Graham, Esq.

Although one of the two accompanying cases terminated fatally, yet the good effects of the remedy were so manifest throughout the patient's illness, after his admission into hospital, in the mitigation by him experienced of his extreme sufferings, that I am happy in being able to say, that in severe cases of the disease, and under circumstances similar to the present, where a cure is not to be effected, from the patient not applying early, that yet, as in the case before us, the transit to the grave may be greatly smoothed, by the disease being in some degree stript of its most formidable characteristics ; and I am of opinion, that had this man applied earlier, and before he became so much worn, and exhausted, that a still more happy result would have followed the use of the extract of Ganja in his case. Its effects on the vascular system in calming, reducing, and then sustaining uniformity in the circulation have been obvious, and this quality, as manifested in the successful case, deserves particular attention. The remedy would seem to possess properties of a sedative, anodyne, and anti-spasmodic nature combined.

The remedy has likewise been used in small doses in rheumatism, in its

various forms, in combination, and would seem to add to the good effects of the other medicines; particularly in cases, where the patients have been addicted to the previous use of intoxicating liquors, or stupifying drugs, and in febrile cases, where the circulation was much disturbed, and where high nervous excitement existed. — Combined with diaphoretic medicines, it seemed to assist in cutting short the disease. — It does not confine the bowels, and I incline to think that it rather disposes them to be moved than otherwise.

CASE 1st. — *Lacerated Wound.* — Dugreah, boy, admitted 15th February 1841; aged about 13 years. Whilst in the act of getting off a cart yesterday, the Bullocks took fright dragged on the cart, and his right leg, came in contact with the outer edge of one of the revolving wheels, which lacerated the integuments, and superficial muscles, to a very great extent, from below the knee anteriorly, and along the outer leg, to near the instep; wound, is very painful; feels chilly. R Mist. Camph. ʒi. Spt. Æther. Nitros. m. xx. Vin. Ipecacuanh. m. xxx. Tinct. Mur. Morph. m. xx. m. bis n. s. R Hyd. c. Creta gr. v. Pulv. Ipecac. Comp. gr. v. in pil. nocte s. Diet, congee and milk.

16th. — Surface warm; some swelling in the leg, and much pain; tongue white, moist. R Mist. Camph ʒi. Spt. Æther. Nitros. m. xxv. Vin. Ipecac. m. xxx. Sol. Ant. Tart. ʒii. m. ter in die s. R Hyd. c. Creta gr. iii. Pulv. Ipecac. Comp. gr. v. in pil. bis die s. Lot. Frigid. ad. p. d. 6. p. m. Vesp. Capt. Solut. Ant. Tart. ʒii. Spt. Æther Nitros. m. xx. Soda Tartarizat. ʒii. m. s. s. 10 p. m. R Sol. Ant. Tart. ʒi. Spt. Æther. Nitros. m. xx. m. ter nocte s.

17th. — Had violent fever last evening, and great increase of pain in the wounded leg. These symptoms are greatly lessened since, but the knee joint is swollen, hot, tender and painful. Bowels not moved. Hirud. xxiv. ad. genu. dolent. Lot. frigid post. R Calomel gr. v. Pulv. Jalap Comp. ʒi. Aquæ Puræ ʒi. m. stat. s. Vesp. Capt. Statim. Sol. Ant. Tart. ʒii. et omni 3tia. hora. Repet. R Hyd. c. Creta. Pulv. Ipecac. Comp. ʒā gr. v. nocte s.

18th. — As at last report. Hirud. xxxvi. ad p. d. Genu. R Sol. Ant. Tart. ʒi. Vin. Ipecac. m. xx. Spt. Æther nitros. m. xx. m. ter in die s. Catapl. ad ulcer.

19th. — Had a violent fit of fever last evening, with increased pain in the wounded limb, all of which have since been relieved. Skin nearly of natural temperature; bowels open; pulse quick. The bruised integument along the wound has begun to slough. R Hyd. c. Creta. gr. v. Pulv. Ipecac. Comp. gr. vi. in pil. bis die s. Cont. med. Diaphoret. ter indie. Cont. Catapl. Vesper. R Mist. Camph. ʒi. Vin. Ipecac. m. xxx. Spt. Æther. nitros. m. xv. Tinct. M. Morph. m. x. m. bis nocte s.

21st. — Wound less painful, sloughing process going on. Has evening fever; bowels regular; appetite good. R Quininæ Sulphas. gr. iii. Decoct. Cinchon. ʒii. Acid. Sulph. Aromat. m. v. T. M. Morph. m. xx. fl. ter die s. (at 7, 11, and 2 o'clock.)

22nd. — Feverish this morning, makes no complaint; bowels free. R Liq. Acet. Ammon. ʒiv. Mist. Camph. ʒi. Spt. Æther. Nitros. m. xx. Tinct. M. Morph. m. x. Vin. Ant. Tart. ʒss. m. ter in die s.

23rd. — Free from fever this morning; pulse quick; bowels regular; ulcer suppurating, and granulations rising; complains very little. R Mist. Camph. ʒii. Quininæ Sulph. gr. i. Spt. Æther. Nitros. m. x. m. ter die sumend.

24th. — Lot. S. Cupri ad ulcer. Cont. med. ter die. R Hyd. c. Creta gr. v. Pulv. Ipecac. Comp. gr. vi. Ext. Hyosc. gr. ij. in Pil. h. s. s. *Vesp.* Omit. pil. gargar, pro ore.

25th. — Gums tender ; sore granular ; surface very extensive ; general irritation diminished ; bowels regular. Cont. med. Tonica bis in die s. *Vesp.* Complains of some stiffness in the jaws with a little pain, and some inability to swallow ; does not now complain of his gums, or teeth ; bowels free ; ulcer very extensive, but clean and healthy looking. Fetus p. d. R Pulv. Ipecac. Comp. gr. x. Ext. Hyoseyami gr. ij. in pil. h. s. s.

26th. — As last evening. Linimt. Stimulans. Infric. p. d. — R Pulv. Ipecac. Comp. gr. x. Pulv. Ipecac. gr. i. in pil. ii. bis die sumend. *Vesp.* Infric. ungt. Hyd. Comp. ʒi. Opil. gr. v. Femor.

27th. — Stiffness of jaws continues, and has rather increased ; has an altered expression of face ; bowels open ; pulse 80, soft. R. Pulv. Ipecac. Comp. gr. vi. Pulv. Ipecac. gr. i. Ext. Hyoscyami gr. iii. in Pil. bis die sumend. Cont. Infric. &c.

28th. — Stiffness of jaws continues, and is gradually increasing ; forehead corrugated, and expressive of anxiety ; bowels twice moved yesterday ; pulse the same ; ulcer not troublesome, and healing ; skin cool, and soft ; pulse 80, when quiet, 120 on exertion. R Calomel gr. iii. Pulv. Ipecac. gr. ii. Pulv. Jacobi gr. ii. Ext. Opil. gr. i. in pil. bis die s. Cont. Infri. Lint. Hydr. u. a.

March 1st, 7 A. M. — Spasm of jaws continues, and is increasing gradually ; has now considerable rigidity of the muscles of the neck, with some pain at the nape ; pulse continues at 80, when quiet, but on getting from the horizontal to a sitting posture is accelerated to 120 ; skin soft, and cool ; ulcer causes him no trouble ; bowels open ; voids his urine frequently, and freely. R Ext. of Hemp gr. i. omni 2da. hora, s.

2nd. — Took 12 grains of the Hemp extract during yesterday, and last night, without expressing himself benefitted or relieved ; the symptoms do not seem to have increased any since last night. Continue medicine.

3rd. — Took 27 grains of extract since yesterday ; has been under its narcotic influence in a high degree ; twitchings come on in the back, and produce great suffering ; distortion of countenance continues ; bowels moved once in twenty-four hours ; passes urine seldom, and but scantily ; pulse has been at about 90 since last report.

4th. — Has taken 26 grains of extract since yesterday ; symptoms as then detailed ; slept badly at night, but had intervals of repose during the day ; pulse 90 ; skin warm, and clammy. Continue medicine.

5th. — Slept a good deal yesterday at different times, but passed a sleepless night ; complains of giddiness and stupor ; twitchings less frequent, or severe ; — jaws rigid, and protrudes the tongue with difficulty, and then only partially ; tongue moist, white ; pulse the same ; ulcer healthy ; 30 grains of extract given since last report. Continue the medicine in 3 grain doses every hour. Food.

6th. — Has taken 24 grains of the Hemp since last report ; spasms more severe this morning, and severe opisthotonos present ; bowels not moved ; takes congee ; pulse 70 ; asleep ; calm ; skin clammy, cool. Continue medicine. Soup.

7th. — Has taken 30 grains of the extract since last report, the rigidity returns with severity when the effects of the medicine seem to wear off a little with convulsive twitchings of the back, and nape ; corrugation of forehead, and

distortion of face less ; has much desire for food ; protrudes his tongue more, and with freedom, which is white, and rather dry ; bowels not moved ; voids urine seldom ; skin cool, and clammy ; pulse calm, soft, and about 80. Continue medicine. Enema Purgant Tereb. Soup.

8th. — Has taken 35 grains of the extract since last report ; great stiffness of the jaws and muscles of the back and neck ; bowels not moved. Continue medicine.

9th. — 20 grains of the extract of Hemp taken since last report ; rigidity of muscles generally continues very great, and twitchings also continue but are lighter ; bowels once moved by a Turpentine enema ; protrudes the tongue considerably, but with difficulty ; pulse 80 ; appetite good ; slept last night. Continue medicine.

10th. — Took 39 grains of the medicine since last report ; expresses that he feels himself better this, than any morning as yet ; opisthotonos, and twitchings much better ; bowels open ; appetite good ; jaws stiff ; muscles of abdomen still tense, but rather less so than before ; pulse the same. Continue medicine u. a. (grain vi. stat.)

11th. — Has taken in all 51 grains of the medicine since last report, and is under its narcotic influence in a high degree ; twitchings not so frequent ; protrudes his tongue more ; expression of countenance more natural whilst asleep ; soon relapses into his stupid sleepy state when left alone, after being roused ; abdomen less rigid ; no medicine. Full diet.

12th. — Took none of the extract all yesterday, but the symptoms returning with their former severity, recourse was again had to the medicine, and 15 grains were given during last night ; slept little ; has two or three spasmodic twitchings in an hour ; bowels not moved ; is now drowsy. Continue extract grains iii.

13th. — 32 grains of the extract given yesterday ; continues in much the same condition ; bowels once freely moved without an enema ; pulse about 70 at all times. Continue medicine.

14th. — Took 24 grains of the medicine since last report ; passed an easy day, but had a restless night ; bowels opened once ; pulse the same ; complains of pain in the nape of neck this morning ; ulcer healing ; countenance more anxious. Continue medicine.

15th. — 39 grains of extract taken since yesterday ; bowels opened once since. Is in all respects in nearly the same state. Continue medicine.

16th. — 21 grains of the medicine given since last report ; symptoms continue the same ; but complains of his nape more this morning ; the muscles here are stiff and tender on pressure ; bowels opened daily naturally. Continue medicine. Fofus ad nape.

17th. — 42 grains of extract given since yesterday ; muscles of the neck stiff ; opens his mouth more, and feels generally better ; bowels natural. Continue medicine.

18th. — 42 grains of the extract taken since yesterday ; goes on improving ; bowels act naturally ; pulse regular ; appetite good. Continue medicine. Fomentations and warm liniment to be rubbed into nape and back.

19th. — 42 grains of extract taken since last report ; symptoms gradually yielding ; muscles of nape still stiff and tender ; appetite great ; bowels act naturally. Continue medicine.

20th. — 36 grains of extract given since last report; goes on improving steadily. Continue medicine.

21st. — As last report: the same quantity of extract given since yesterday. Continue medicine.

22nd. — 3 grains of the extract only given since last report; does not seem to feel the omission of the medicine, and continues expressing himself better; complains only of stiffness, and soreness in his neck, on standing erect (which now he can do) the abdominal muscles become rigid: has a voracious appetite for food; bowels open; liniment and fatus to nape, &c.

23rd. — Took last night 6 grains of the extract, he did not complain more than usual yesterday; but the muscles appeared a little more rigid when standing erect; ulcer discharging freely, and healing; surface granular, and still extensive; bowels regular. Lot. Zinci Sulph. (gr. vi. ad ʒi. Spt. Lav.) *Vesper.* Rept. med. gr. vi. h. s.

24th. — As last report. 25th. — Had none of the extract yesterday, and did not seem to miss it; slept well; bowels natural. 26th. — As yesterday. R. Decoct. Cichon. ʒii. ter in die sumend. 27th. — Ulcer healing slowly; surface healthy, and granular; edges indolent rather. Continue medicine. 29th. — Doing well. Continue medicine. 31st. — Doing well. Continue medicine. April 1st. — Ulcer healing. Continue medicine. 5th. — Idem. 10th. — Idem. 16th. — Convalescent. Omit Cinchonæ, Contin. Lot. Zinci Sulph. c. Spt. Lavand. ad. ulcer. 21st. — Free from complaint. Discharged.

CASE 2ND *Tetanus Traumatica.* — March 2nd. — Ramah Soortee, a thin spare man, admitted labouring under violent Tetanic spasms of the whole body, neck, and limbs, with great rigidity, and stiffness of every part, but, of the left leg and foot in particular, which are greatly curved, and the toes drawn downwards; jaws firmly closed, so that scarcely can the edge of a thin iron spoon be introduced between them; pulse 150; surface clammy; and the neck, and shoulders, bedewed with clammy moisture; has aggravation of the spasms on attempting to swallow liquids, which alone he can take, but, with much difficulty and suffering on the occasions. — These symptoms first appeared three days ago, and originated in a puncture on the sole of the left foot, from a nail, nine days ago; bowels not moved, and no urine voided the last two days; during which period he has taken no food; sleeps none; and has twitchings at short intervals producing opisthotonos; great thirst; countenance distorted. R. Extract Hemp gr. v. Spirit. Rectific. ʒi. m. stat. Repeat the Ext. Hemp. gr. iii. every second hour. Enema Terebinthinæ.

3rd. — 6 A. M. Has taken since 3 P. M. yesterday, 21 grains of the extract; can open his mouth a little now, and has obtained snatches of repose, and ease; symptoms though a little mitigated, are all still present; pulse 120. Continue medicine.

4th. — Has taken since 6 A. M. yesterday, 47 grains of the extract with some further benefit; can now protrude his tongue with ease; and there is less general spasm, or rigidity; can take congee; pulse 120; tongue excited; has slept a good deal at intervals; bowels moved by a terebinthinæ enema, and has voided urine; complains of great thirst. Continue medicine.

5th. — Has taken since yesterday morning 23 grains of extract of Hemp; complained all day of giddiness, and could not keep his eyes open; had more frequent twitchings, which were very severe; perspired about neck, face, and

chest, profusely ; toes of the right feet curved and drawn downwards ; those of the left feet drawn upwards on the dorsum of the foot ; bowels moved last night ; pulse has since yesterday's report been about 124, firm ; feels appetite, and takes food ; cannot this morning open his jaws widely, or with the ease of the last two days ; on the least exertion, the muscular twitchings annoy him ; countenance anxious ; skin warm, and clammy.

6th. — P. M. Has up to this hour taken 46 grains of the medicine, which induces lethargy, (from which he is however easily roused) and relaxation of the spasms in a great degree, with diminution of the frequency, and severity of the convulsive twitchings, which begin in the left foot, and extend upwards, along the back ; can again protrude his tongue with great freedom ; has no inclination to take food, and cannot be easily induced to do so, seemingly from inability to swallow easily ; pulse smaller, 120 ; skin clammy ; bowels have been moved, and has voided urine ; looks very much exhausted, and emaciated ; breathing short, and hurried.

10th. — P. M. No change took place up to this hour when he died : Had not taken any more of the medicine, and refused soups, or conjee.