MORPHINE ANTIDOTE.

DR. MOOR'S STARTLING PROOF THAT HE HAS CONQUERED THE POISON.

Permanganate of Potash Demonstrates Its Mastery Over Morphine of an Equal Amount—Poisons, No Matter How Administered, Reach the Stomach.

Dr. William Moor, the discoverer of the new antidote for morphine, is experimenting with strychnine, cocaine and other poisons.

Dr. Moor has demonstrated by staking his life upon it that the permanganate will instantly counteract all the poisonous effects of morphine. When he took three grains of the poison, against the protests of 12 physicians, he demonstrated not only the success of his antidote, which he took immediately afterward, but proved that it was a new discovery to the medical profession.

Dr. Moor is 28 years old. He is tall, with a black mustache and a restless, energetic manner. He has all the enthusiasm of an inventor. Poisons are his playthings and experiment his amusement. He is an Austrian by birth, studied two years in Berlin and one in Paris and is a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in this city. He has been in practice a little over three years.

Dr. Moor was asked how his attention came to be called to permanganate of potash. He said it had always been a favorite with him when as a boy he performed chemical experiments. "It is very pretty to look at," said he. Then he took a pill made of the permanganate and put it in a glass of water. When he touched it with a spoon, it turned the whole glass to a rich purple color, like that of a fine Burgundy. This showed that the drug, which usually comes in dark purple, needlelike crystals, is easily soluble.

"I will show you how it affects morphine," said Dr. Moor. Then he took a little bottle of sulphate of morphine. He poured out a grain of morphine. This he dissolved in a half glass of water. It was colorless. The reporter, who tasted it, found it intensely bitter. "Now watch the effect," said Dr. Moor. He poured the colorless morphine solution into the glass containing the beautiful purple liquid. The liquid immediately turned a dirty black, like ink, and the color at once began to precipitate in fine particles toward the bottom of the glass.

"Now taste it," said Dr. Moor.

It was tasteless. The bitterness had all disappeared, showing that the morphine had been instantly annihilated by contact with the permanganate of potash. The liquid at the top began to get clearer. The fine black particles in five minutes formed a thick layer, and all the rest looked like pure water. This residuum is black manganese dioxide, a harmless substance. "That is the way it acts in the human stomach," said Dr. Moor. "The morphine or any of the salts of opium is at once rendered harmless by contact with the permanganate. The antidote at once seeks the poison, passing by the other substances. The soluble salt of morphine is acted upon by the antidote 75,000 times quicker than albumen and several thousand times quicker than pepton."

"How did you find this out?"

"I experimented upon the white of egg," said Dr. Moor. "That is pure albumen. It is converted into pepton by the action of pepsin. Pepton is the chief rival of the permanganate, because pepton is soluble in water and permanganate of potash acts most quickly on soluble substances. You have seen the demonstration which I have just given.

"The effect of the permanganate on morphine is instantaneous, as you see. But for purposes of calculation I estimate it as occupying a second. Then I watch the effect of permanganate of potash on white of egg and calculate the time until the effect is produced. It is infinitely slower—75,000 times slower. Thus I knew that the permanganate would seek the morphine and not the pepton in the stomach."

"But that is only theoretical. Did you have no practical test before you took the three grains of morphine yourself?" he was asked.

"Oh, yes," said Dr. Moor. "I tried it on a couple of rabbits by hypodermic injections, administering the same quantity of morphine to each. In the one which I gave the antidote the temperature remained normal. In the other it fell to 16. Then I began trying it on myself, taking first an eighth of a grain, then a quarter, then a half, then three-quarters. When I took the antidote, there was no apparent effect. I never took as much as three grains at one time until I gave my demonstration before the west side German clinic. Dr. Gotthelf was very much frightened. I told him I would just as lief take six grains. Almost any quantity of morphine would be harmless if a similar quantity of the antidote were taken.

"Professor Hitzig in Germany a year or two ago proved that poisons of all kinds, no matter how administered, find their way to the stomach. Thus a snake poison received in the leg or a hypodermic injection of morphine in the arms begins to get into the stomach within a few seconds. Professor Hitzig found that one-half the poison will get into the stomach within an hour. The same is true of poisons received through the stomach, which pass back to the stomach again. So it follows that permanganate of potash, if administered while a person is still alive, begins at once to destroy the poison. It should be administered in successive doses, say at intervals of 20 minutes. I do not claim, however, that atropine should not also be administered hypodermically. Everything should be done to maintain the heart's action."

Dr. Moor is hopeful that the power of the permanganate in killing poison extends to poisons other than those derived from opium. Cocaine is one of the substances with which he is experimenting in addition to strychnine and atropine. He knows from experiment that the effects of permanganate upon these substances is different from that upon morphine and in the case of strychnine is very much slower. He said yesterday that he did not know that it had ever been ascertained what was the active principle of a rattlesnake's poison. "I am going to experiment with the rattlesnake, however," said he. "If the poison gets into the stomach, there ought to be a way of reaching it, as is done with morphine."—New York World.

The Motion Was Denied.

They tell a good story about a judge who is well known in Buffalo. Some time ago a man who is a "shyster" lawyer came before him to make a motion. This man lived in one of the suburban towns, and he was not particularly scrupulous as regards his personal appearance. He waited until he had an opportunity to address the judge and then made his motion. It was merely a perfunctory sort of a motion, to open up a case or something of the kind, and not one in a thousand is refused by any judge. Everybody in the courtroom was therefore greatly surprised when the judge thundered out, "Denied!"

The man himself was completely taken aback. He rose to his feet and stammered and stuttered and finally said:

"But, your honor, I think you must be laboring under a misapprehension. This is of no importance. There isn't a soul on earth who isn't willing that the motion should be granted."

"It's denied, I tell you," said the judge again.

"Will your honor kindly state the grounds on which the denial is made?"

The judge straightened up in his chair, took off his eyeglasses and looked severely at the lawyer. He extended his hand and pointed one of his long fingers at him. "The motion is denied for two reasons," he said impressively. "First, you are not a regular member of the bar and not entitled to practice in a court of record; second, you need a bath."—Buffalo Express.

CONSUMPTION.

How Utterly to Prevent the Hitherto Defiant and Deadly Disease.

As the tubercle bacilli do not multiply outside of the living body, excepting under artificial conditions, and as it has been proved experimentally that the disease is due to these germs, it follows that when the disease occurs it must be produced by the same individual germs that have been thrown off by some other human being or animal suffering from tuberculosis.

A vast amount of evidence can now be adduced to show that consumption is comparatively rare among those who live an outdoor life under normal and healthy conditions. For every 1,000 deaths from all causes 103 farmers die of pulmonary tuberculosis, 108 fishermen, 121 gardeners, 122 agricultural laborers, 167 grocers, while among tailors the mortality rises to 290 and among drapers to 301. Out of every 1,000 deaths among printers and compositors 461, or nearly 50 per cent of all, result from consumption.

The duties of state, municipal and sanitary authorities in this matter are clear and specific. Comprehensive and efficient means should be at once taken for the prevention of tuberculosis. These means should consist in educating the people as to the infectious nature of the disease, instructing them in the means and methods to be taken to render the sputum innocuous, in the systematic employment of bacteriological examinations of the sputum for the early diagnosis of tuberculosis, in the proper disinfection of rooms occupied by tubercular patients before they are again occupied by other people, in the establishment of public hospitals for the segregation, isolation and treatment of the consumptive poor; in the enactment of regulations which shall forbid the employment of tubercular patients in such occupations as shall injure the welfare of others, in the adoption of sanitary regulations to prevent the dissemination of infection by means of tubercular sputum in places of assembly, in the governmental inspection of dairy cattle and in the destruction of those found to be tubercular.

A person suffering from pulmonary consumption may be absolutely free of danger to his most intimate associates or his immediate surroundings if only the sputum is disposed of with scrupulous care. The sputum, and the sputum alone, in some way is the source of danger, and common sense, good sanitation, humanity and even the requirements of simple cleanliness demand that this should be destroyed or rendered harmless. Dr. Lawrence Flick of Philadelphia, who has studied this subject carefully, has expressed the firm conviction that with our present knowledge we have it in our power to completely wipe out pulmonary tuberculosis in a single generation, and he adds, "Were half the energy which is being spent in the almost hopeless task of searching for a specific cure for tuberculosis devoted to its extermination its accomplishment would be assured."—Forum.

The English Boston.

In one respect old Boston is very much less attractive than its namesake across the Atlantic. Its natural surroundings are decidedly unlovely and uninteresting. Approached from any quarter, the prospect is the same—flat land, unbroken by the merest pimple of a hill, stretching as far as the eye can range, every acre of it cultivated to the highest pitch of perfection, the monotony of the scene varied only by an occasional clump of wind tossed trees, or a minaret topped windmill, or a cluster of heavily thatched cottages round about one of the bridges which cross the innumerable dikes by which the country is intersected in all directions, or by one of the stately church towers for which the county is famed.

Straight as arrows run the fenland roads, raised high upon banks of luxuriant grass above the dikes, of which the dark motionless water is rich with crowfoot and brooklimes and meadow sweet and the great blue water forgetmenot. In the more sequestered regions we may meet with some of the ancient feathered inhabitants of fenland, with the sharp billed, shrieking curlew, the white tailed sandpiper, the bullying Norway crows, the heron and black backed gulls, but the roar of the Lincolnshire agricultural machinery seems to have frightened them away from more frequented districts, and the solemn stillness of the air, even during the spring months, is remarkable.—All the Year Round.

What Becomes of the Old Directories?

Every year thousands of new directories are issued, but what becomes of the old ones? This question very seldom occurs to the mind of the public, and yet it is evident that the thousands of old directories which are displaced by new ones every year must go some place.

In the first place, some of the old books are not displaced at all, but are kept by their owners until they fall to pieces, when they are burned. Many of the directories are so racked up at the end of the year that they are not fit for further use, and a great number of these are sold as old paper and are manufactured into cloth. Then a large number of them are sold to second-hand book dealers for prices ranging from 25 cents to $1 and are in turn sold by them to people who do not feel like paying for a new directory, but do not begrudge $1 or so for one a year old. Many more of the old directories are sold directly by the owners to other men for about $1. Many men take the new directory every year and also keep their old ones, and in some places of business may be seen a collection of directories dating back for six or eight years. Thus are the directories kept in circulation until they wear out and are thrown away or sold for old paper.—Toronto World.

Light and Complexions.

In a certain house, where the people love nature so well that no drapery curtains are used and where the shades are usually rolled to their highest limit, it is observed that the women all look old. But at night, when all the soft lights shine out from under their shades of pink and yellow, they are young and fair. The opposite effect is observed in another house, where the women look their best in the daytime, and where the light is softened by shades and becoming draperies that are never thrown back from the upper part of the window. At night electric lights, under globes that can hardly be called artistic, glare down on eyes that are tired and bring out every mark of time. One woman abhors lamps in petticoats; the other despises windows in draperies.—New York Post.

How He Got Religion.

At a church meeting in one of the suburbs of Chicago the inquiry was made whether a certain lawyer of the congregation, whose financial affairs were somewhat involved, had "got religion." To which another lawyer present responded, "No, I think not, unless it's in his wife's name."—San Francisco Argonaut.

The most important iron deposit of the United States is the iron mountain in Missouri. The ores are almost pure, nearly free from sulphur and carrying a very small proportion of phosphorus.

The Austrian gold mines in Tyrol and Hungary are worked with profit, although the ore is so poor that there are only four parts of gold to 1,000,000 of ore.

MARCH 5

This Coupon, with two like it, but of different dates, and with Ten Cents in cash, will secure one part of the World's Fair Art Portfolio in four parts—the one announced before.

MARCH 5

This Coupon, with another like it, but of different date, and with Five Cents in cash, will secure the "Trip Around the World" portfolio of photographs, a rare and interesting glance at noted spots in all climes.