

Hospital Reports.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

SCIATICA.

JOHN SWINNEY, of bilious temperament, was admitted into Jacob's Ward of this Hospital, November 8, under Dr. Elliotson. States that he has suffered thirteen weeks from pain in the right hip, thigh, and leg; the pain taking the course of the sciatic nerve. The pain first commenced in the hip, and extended gradually down to his leg; the pain in the hip and upper part of the thigh is relieved by heat, but in the lower part and leg always remains the same. Nine weeks ago he was jaundiced, and for the last four weeks has been an out-patient of this hospital. Has been always accustomed to drink hard, his allowance being in general ten to twelve glasses of gin, or rum, besides four or five pints of ale daily. Bowels regular; tongue white; pulse natural.

9. *Acupuncture. Two needles in the right buttock, two in outer part of the thigh, and two in the calf of the leg.*

13. The needles have been regularly used since the 9th. The pain has greatly diminished in the hip and thigh; this part was relieved by warmth; but the lower part of the thigh and leg continue as bad as ever, and were not relieved by warmth, but always remain stationary.

*Appli.—Hirudines, xx. dextro cruri
Tinct. guaici ammon. ℥j. ter die.*

15. The pain in the lower part of the thigh and leg has greatly diminished since he has taken the medicine, and applied the leeches, the acupuncture being continued: the pain in the hip and upper part of the thigh continues to get better. Health good; bowels regular; pulse natural; tongue still rather white.

16. The pains in his hip, thigh, and leg remain much the same as yesterday, but now complains of severe pain in his loins.

V. S. ad ℥vij.

Two needles to be placed in loins.

18. The pain in the lower part of thigh and leg entirely left him, but still complains of the pain in his loins, hip, and upper part of the thigh.

20. The pain in the loins has left him this morning: he only complains of the pain in his hip and thigh.

23. The pains are much better in his hip and thigh. The man continues perfectly well in health.

26. The pain continues in his hip, but very slight, and is relieved by heat. In the leg the pain has returned, but is not relieved by heat. Tongue natural; pulse regular; bowels open once a-day.

Baln. calid quotidie.

Acupuncture, two needles in the back part of the calf of the leg.

30. The pains have left his thigh and leg, but again returned in his loins.

Needles to be discontinued.

C. C. ad ℥x. lumbo.

Dec. 2. The pains have entirely left him, and he appears perfectly well.

4. Continues well. Dr. Elliotson presented him for Thursday, when he left the hospital.

COLICA.

John Bradford, aged 55, a letter carrier, admitted into Jacob's Ward, October 25, under Dr. Elliotson. Has been for the last seven months, more or less, confined in his bowels; before that time, they had always been regular. Since he has been in this state, if he does not take some purgative medicine every two or three days, he has nausea, and vomiting, soon followed by violent spasmodic contractions of his abdominal muscles. This was the case when admitted; his abdomen being hard and tumid; purgative medicines, he says, produce an immense discharge of hard, lumpy, fœculent matter; and after his bowels have been freely open, he feels perfectly well for a day or two, when