AN INAUGURAL DISSERTATION
ON
Inflammation With Its Treatment

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Inflammation & Treatment

Inflammation may be defined as a state of altered nutrition attended with increased vasculosity & sensibility with a tendency to mortification & change of structure. Ordinarily attended with acute pain, heat & swelling inducing more or less disturbance of the general system. The transition from health to true inflammation may be divided into three stages. Simple vascular excitement. Active congestion and true inflammation. Simple vascular excitement is produced by the application of any irritant to the surface. Its impression is produced through the nervous system which is manifested...
particularly through the bloodvessels. At first the blood circulates with great rapidity although the small arteries and capillaries are of diminished calibre. Afterwards the vessels yield and are dilated, and an increased quantity of blood circulated with great rapidity with a tendency to reverse plastic exudation. The function of the heart is exalted and this may be manifested by excessive nutrition and tension. This is simple vascular excitement. In active congestion there is a superabundance of blood sent to a part, and the minute arteries and capillaries begin to give way under the increased pulsation of the larger arterial trunks by over distension. The vascular coats lose their tonicity the lymph
globules usually adhesive to each other, and to the vessels of the vessels, thus the circulation loses its regular rapidity and becomes slower even than in health. Conditions are more serious than in the previous stage. It consists of serum, lymph, and urine. The latter usually predominates. The action has been for some time sustained and as it were established in the heat. Blood alone may be deposited. The natural function of the part is not simply one but begins to be prominently for example secretion is not only increased but changed in its character. Nutrition is becoming more and more disturbed. This is the commencement of disease action. This action may resolve after...
The removal of its simple exciting cause or it may be sustained for some time as in the healing of wounds. If the closing of ulcers or it may advance to true inflammation. The local symptoms of true inflammation are redness, heat, pain, and swelling. Redness is said by Hunter to be due to an effusion of blood to a wall. The vessels become distended. The capillaries contain red blood. The proportion of red globules is also increased by the circulation of the serum. The degree varies in different tissues, and according to the intensity of the action. The tint varies between a light scarlet and a deep crimson. Panniny of redness is the pathological sign of inflammation. The redness of blushing is not indicative of inflammation.
Because it is momentary and coalesces with other symptoms, the heat is very much to the rapid evaporation of the tissues which are also supplied with an increased quantity of blood. Heat of inflammation may be partly as actual as iscertained by the touch or the thermometer. That it results from a nervous condition estimated only by the patient is certain. It cannot be permanent and coalesces with other symptoms. In ulcer there is burning of the hands and feet yet no inflammation is present. Pain is occasioned by the pressure upon the nerve of the inflamed part and the dispersion of the fluids which are supplied by the small nerves that are of disordered.
function. Mechanical pressure increases it, for instance in the hand in particular or in anything in vicinity. Pain varies with the natural sensibility of the part affected. Thus inflammation produces more pain in bones and ligaments than in vessels. Vessels are not always indicative of inflammation, for example in neurasthenia in which the pain is intermittent. Not so in inflammation in the skin. The pain gradually increases from the first if it suddenly disappears. The pain is excruciating and ganguleses has taken place. It may be symbolized, or felt at a remote distance from the point of actual disease in affection of the knee joint. The patient complains of pain at the knee joint in inflammation.
of the liver. The pain is felt in the shoulders, in the kidney at the vertebral column. Swelling is caused by increased quantity of blood and an effusion of serum or pus. The swelling of inflammation must be in conjunction with other symptoms also for an indistinct there is swelling of no inflammation. It must be gradual in its development. The sudden swellings produced by the dislocation of the wrist is not that of inflammation. It must also be recent, not like the slow growth of a tumour. It may be injurious as in the brain or it may be an adventitious as in a fracture. It is most remarkable in those tissues. The causes of inflammation are predisposing, exciting.
Predisposing causes are: insufficiency of food, drink or exercise; insufficiency of clothing; unwholesome habits; bad air; food; clothing. Exciting causes may be direct as the chemical effects of acids in the system; as heat and cold; as the bite of a rattlesnake. The results of inflammation. Inflammation has only one genuine termination, that of resolution, or recovery. The inflammatory action subsiding, the part returning to its former state. But besides resolution, it may have either of the following terminations or consequences as I think most appropriate. Hemorrhage, an escape of blood from the vessels of the surrounding organs.
Effusion of fibrin or of coagulability
which when organized produces
adhesion. Suppuration. The formation
of a peculiar fluid called pus closely
allied with which is the change
called necrosis, or softening,
ulceration. The disappearance or
removal of the inflamed part.
Necrosis, or the death of a part.
The causes of which are a want of vital
power, may be the result of high
inflammation, mechanical injury,
pressure, heat, cold, any obstruction
to the return of the blood, deprivation
of nourishing agency, interruption to
the arterial supply as by an aneurism
or bandage, general debility or improper
food. The treatment of inflammation
Inflammation. The great enemy of life.
Which I conceive to be the foundation or groundwork of two-thirds of the many formidable diseases that the human family is heir to, has from the time of the Father of Medicine to the present received the most rigid attention and minute observation. All agree, however, as to the general principle that there is discrepancy of opinion.

The great object is to remove the cause and afterwards to prevent or diminish the inflammatory action. The chief means are known anti-phlogistics and at the head stands Gign. Blood letting which is used far enough induces a state of suspense and suspended circulation to which the name synecdotia or fainting is given. The suspension of the heart's action depends...
upon two causes first. The abstraction of its natural stimulus from the blood, and secondly, principally on a peculiar sedative influence transmitted to it from the brain, when the latter does not receive its due share of arterial blood. And although the uses lost of blood may be of service by relieving the system from a source of excitement. Still, the principle good effects of bleeding in inflammation depend upon its sedative effects on the brain. Though the brain on the heart. And as it is often absolutely necessary to bleed persons in acute diseases who are extremely debilitated it is of importance to produce as much of that sedative effect as
little drop of blood as possible. For this purpose the blood should be drawn as quickly as possible from a large orifice above all the patient should lie or stand upright. For if the blood is drawn slowly so that the vessels have time to adapt themselves to their diminished content or if the patient is in the recumbent posture so as to assist the flow of the blood to the vein the bleeding may be continued almost to death without the occurrence of syncope. The invariably bleed for effect whether one or thirty ounces be abstracted as a general rule the blood should be consented to flow till palpable of the life ensure sight nausea fluttering.
Pulse or relief of pain indicate the approach to syncope, but full syncope should always be avoided because of the force of the reaction. The danger to the patient detention or the power of bearing bloodletting is a sure indication as to the Type of the inflammation. If in doubt, the case should be re-examined on the age, sex, temperament, and much the more considered. Local bleeding is only preferable when the inflammatory action is not high. The powers of the system are slow to seal inflammation on the one hand, but been fully established, there would seem no fear from general bleeding and when extreme age forbids bleeding.
we have the advantage of general bleeding combined with the local action. Leeching is only useful where cupping is indiscernible.

Purgatives are also defective in their action. They deplete by causing an increase of mucus excretion from the bowels. They also prevent assimilation of nutrition and promote absorption. They are particularly useful in diseases of the head. But are contra indicated in bad fractures, inflammatory affections of the bowels. Mercury is not only a good purge, but gradually introduced into the system seems to exert a tonic effect on both the extremities, blood vessels, and lymphatics. That is in the absorptive thus preventing or limiting
effusion and at the same time expediting
the removal of feint which had
already been created. Chilling is
useful when combined with calomel
and given after bleeding. Before it
has the power of assuaging sensation
and stimulating afterwards it soothes
the nervous system relieves pain and
prevent reaction. Emesis tinctoriae
and similes are useful at the outset and
Tying the stomach and promoting
respiration containing volatile substances
dedicates not movement. These remedies
reduce fever and inflammation by
acting on the nervous system with
increasing the sensations. They are
Hypoxyamus Communis Digitalis. The
two first of which are of eminent
service when combined with Calomel.
Antimony to prevent reaction.

The pain in inflammatory cases attended with great nervous debility. The warm bath acts in every way analogously to mercury and requires the same precautions as it. Stimulate before it, so the it must be preceded by evacuations, if the habit be Rickhore. The proper temperature is 94° F. It should be continued long enough to produce complete relaxation.

Diet as a general rule should be of the least stimulating nature. Molasses and tea might for many days suffice for the adult, and usually the starving system must not be indiscriminately applied to children or the old or debilitated on the contrary.
Their strength must be supported by mild fluid nutriment and cow- or goat flesh tea and even wine if necessary. Regimen There must be a total avoidance of everything that would irritate mind or body. Perfect rest in the recumbent posture is in a position as easy as can be made. Cool air free ventilation. The exclusion of light and sound with mental consolation to allay all doubts and fears. Inspire resignation and cheerfulness are most potent aids to medical treatment which without them would often be utterly fruitless. I cannot close without saying something of my high appreciation of the application of oil of the otter gland, where the head of the
Inflammation and implicated cold to the former and cold to the latter are remedies of the highest value with which no case of acute inflammation need be added to scientifically treated. Cold applications are of use to diminish heat and cause contraction of the capillaries but they should be applied cautiously otherwise the skin will be aggraved. When the heat returns the bandage controls the circulation in the past. Astringents and astrignent solutions are of great service in inflammation of mucous membranes by deconging washing away their irritating properties inducing contraction of the capillaries. Counter
Infants, Distress and The best form of counteracts in severe inflammation but they should never or scarcely ever be afflicted too near the seat of an acute disease, and the its activity has been subdued by previous antiphlogistic remedies.

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