

CLYSTERS OR ENEMAS.

Cathartics and purging poisons of all kinds should be religiously abstained from, for they are not only wholly unnecessary, but they are also positively injurious. Clysters or enemas of warm water are just as efficient in cleansing the bowels of fecal accumulations, and not only so, but it can be done much quicker with clysters than with drugs and medicines in the form of powders and pills, and without any of the pain which accompanies the violent purging produced by drugs. To free the bowels of obstructions, inject into them as much tepid water as they can receive. This is best done with a rubber syringe. Small quantities of cold water should be injected into them and retained, in cases of excessive hemorrhage of the bowels. In the stage of collapse, when the surface becomes cold, as is often the case in cholera, copious injections of water as warm as the patient can bear should be administered.