

LOCAL DISEASES.

Under this head will be presented those diseases whose primary seat is in some special organ or part of the body (i.e. brain, head, ear, eyes, spinal cord, bronchial tubes etc.). These diseases may be either acute or chronic. In the acute form, the disease is rapid and the symptoms prominent. In the chronic form, the disease is of the same nature as in the acute, but it develops itself much more slowly and its symptoms are much less marked.

If it were possible to gather all of the symptoms, pains, and aches, which occur in a few months in a chronic disease, and condense them, we would find them equal in amount and severity to those that would occur in a few days in the acute form of the disease.

In treating acute diseases, we should be prompt and energetic in adopting measures that will give immediate relief and check the violence of then disease. But in treating chronic diseases, great perseverance will be required, as the treatment, to be successful, has to be directed to equalizing the circulation, relieving internal congestion, forming new habits, and, as it were, building the body anew; and all of this requires time. As a general rule, there is no difficulty in

treating acute diseases successfully at home; the patient, being unable to work or have care, dismisses all business but that of getting well, consequently receives the full benefit of the treatment.

In chronic difficulties, the case is different. The patient is able to do some work, and seeing enough to be done, either works so much that the treatment does no good, or worries because the work is improperly done by others, or because it is neglected. The result is the same in either case, as the patient can derive little or no benefit from treatment taken under such circumstances. Such being the facts, the very best thing any chronic invalid can do will be to go to a hygienic institute and take treatment for a while. In most cases, three or four months' stay at a good health institution will be sufficient to effect a cure.

The Hygienic Family Physician: A Complete Guide for the Preservation of Health, and the Treatment of the Sick without Medicine, pg. 288-89 by M. G. Kellogg