A PATIENT'S OPINION OF NITRO-GLYCERINE.

THE following extracts from a letter addressed by a clergyman to Dr. J. Garrett Horder, of Cardiff, give a graphic account of the action of nitro-glycerine in mitigating the pangs of angina pectoris, and will be read with interest.

"In July our house-surgeon asked me to try nitrite of amyl. I did not then know that this was specially used in angina. It relieved me greatly, but did not remove the attack unless I remained absolutely motionless for some time. Early in October I had a slight attack (only painful, not spasmodic) on going into the hospital, and went into the house-surgeon's room to wait for the pain to pass. I thought he was out, but he was there, and at once applied his stethoscope. He has told me since that he considered it a bad attack; I called it child's play. However, two or three days after, in a half-jocular way, he recommended me to try nitro-glycerine.....I began to use nitro-glycerine on October 31st as a prophylactic, taking a dose about three to five minutes before doing anything which might possibly bring on the attack. Since then I have never once had an attack after taking nitro-glycerine. It is absolutely specific. Its effects last some time, an hour or more.....The alcoholic solution acts with me almost instantly. The 'tablets' are slower, and require three or four minutes before their influence is felt. The dose is $\frac{1}{100}$-th of a grain. The solution is made to contain this dose in a minim. We mix it one minim of solution to a drachm of water, and so keep it ready for use. It is as effectual now as at first; three or four doses may be taken safely in the day, if required. My heart now beats more quietly than it has done for years. The irritability is immensely lessened, and the intermittence has practically ceased. Mere exposure to cold now brings on my attacks, independently of muscular motion. A dose of the nitro-glycerine has enabled me to face the bitterest days without the faintest hint of pain.—Ever sincerely yours, P. H. N."

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