

excision of the part with an end to end anastomosis six weeks later, gave a perfect result. This case is, as far as I can find, unique. There have been eight cases of phlegmonous enteritis reported, but none of phlegmonous colitis that I can find in the literature.

NEURASTHENIA.*

BY S. H. MCCOY, M.D., ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—Perhaps the most widespread trouble we as medical men have to deal with to-day is neurasthenia, entering, as it does, into the homes of the rich and poor, attacking male and female alike, adults, and often children.

If we accept as a definition of neurasthenia what is conveyed to our mind by looking to its derivation, we shall find that it covers a much wider field than that accepted to-day when we use the word.

There are many neurasthenic symptoms appearing as forerunners to more serious maladies, such as melancholia, insanity and disseminated sclerosis; yet we would be wrong in saying that the patient was suffering from neurasthenia.

The term, as accepted to-day, merely means a lowering of nerve potential. The neurons of the nervous system are incapable of being used to the capacity for which they were originally constructed.

It does not mean that there exists organic change in the nervous system, the presence of which causes simulation of neurasthenia for a certain period of time.

The pathology of neurasthenia is largely speculative, but if one looks to the construction of a neuron, and how one such neuron is continuous with a succeeding one only by arborization of the terminal endings of the axis-cylinder around the dendrites, he can see many ways by which lack of power to conduct impulses can be brought about.

A neuron is endowed originally with a certain percentage of power, not only for conductivity, but also for assimilation of its own food.

If from any cause whatever the cell potential is used up

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