

a few years ago, was wonderfully emaciated. He weighed but 58 lbs. A Frenchman named Scurat is said to have been considerably lighter than even this. He was exhibited at one time under the attractive sobriquet of the living skeleton. I have not succeeded in ascertaining his actual weight, but he is said to be as extreme an illustration of leanness as can be imagined. He lived upon $\frac{3}{4}$ of nourishment daily, comprising a little meat and bread. Neither the American nor Frenchman had any disease. The Frenchman was 30 years old, and had wasted from infancy. The American was 40 years of age, and had been getting spare for 16 years.

Fat is deposited in some organs in preference to others, especially the liver; a circumstance that has led to the enunciation of a theory that the lungs and liver were compensatory organs, so that when one was incompetent to act, the other discharged its functions; or, when an extra amount of work was imposed on one organ, it devolved upon the other. When, therefore, more adipose food is taken (according to the disciples of Liebig) than can be burned by the lungs, the superfluous quantity is received by the liver and becomes incorporated with its substance. This is well illustrated in the formation of the *patés de foies gras*, which are so highly esteemed by gourmands. Geese are confined in coops, just large enough to hold them, in a room which is always kept at a high temperature, while the unfortunate bird is kept close to a fire, and constantly crammed with food. In a short time the required change ensues, and the liver is found enormously surcharged with oil. In parts of France and Germany this is a very common practice. In Italy it is the custom to treat a peculiar swallow—called, I believe, the *Orlin*—in the same way. After a short, but steady persistence, in a similar mode of treatment, they become actually little balls of fat, and are then judged ready for killing. The cook prepares them into a *d'sh*, which is esteemed among the raciest morsels by epicureans. This fatty condition of the liver is often seen as a result of disease; indeed it is a common occurrence in Phthisis, in which affection it also proceeds occasionally to a great extremity. In one instance, alluded to by an eminent pathologist, it extended below the *crista ili*, and almost filled the entire abdomen; so that, to ascertain its measurement, the yard-stick would have been required instead of the inch rule. Applying the same explanation to this diseased condition as the artificial one, the lesion would be accounted for by the damaged and ulcerated state of the lungs, being unable to excrete or consume the fat or carbonaceous matters supplied to them. The quantity supplied them might be normal, but their working surface being lessened, and being incapable of over-action, the liver is obliged