

nac have treated cases with perfect success by the same treatment, on the testimony of the *Gazette des Hôpitaux*. Puncture and pressure in certain cases offer the best, and, in fact, the only means of cure.

The following case presents some points of interest in being operated upon in a totally different manner from any case hitherto recorded, by Mr. Paget, on the 15th July, at Bartholomew's Hospital. The patient was a stout healthy child, 3 months old, with a tumor the size of a large foetal head, situated over the lower dorsal and upper lumbar vertebrae. A sub-cutaneous ligature was passed around the base of the tumor, with its two ends emerging from the superior margin of its base; these were fastened to two India rubber straps, which crossed the shoulders, and which were kept in position by a wide and long band of adhesive plaster passed around the chest. It appears that pressure upon the tumor does not in any way affect the cerebral function of the child, and Mr. Paget concludes from this and other reasons, that the opening of communication between the cyst and spinal cord most probably is very small, and therefore favorable to the operation. His object in applying the ligature under the skin, and fastening the ends to the India rubber straps, is to permit of the thread cutting its way out, and thus isolating the cyst, a result likely to happen in about 14 days. Should this succeed, he will be prepared to perform another operation for the removal of the cyst. Under any circumstances, this disease is almost always fatal, and the present operation is merely an experiment which suggested itself to his mind, and he believes it may prove successful. Should it not, we are still at liberty, he says, to try something else. The child was not put under the influence of chloroform, which I candidly think was a great omission.

Since the foregoing was written, the irritation and pain from the ligature became so great as to cause the child much suffering, which ended in death four days after the operation.

*The Cholera.*—Two months have elapsed since my last letter, and that time has been quite ample enough to develop the presence and progress of this fearful disease. The deaths for the last seven weeks, ending Saturday the 26th August, have been respectively 5, 26, 133, 399, 644, 729 and 847. Now these numbers may appear to be high, and to have rapidly increased; but they are less, comparatively, than those of 1843, and the per centage in the ratio of the population is very small. In comparison with Montreal, the disease has raged with greater virulence in that city than in London. Of the total number of 2783 deaths for the 7 weeks from cholera, 893 have occurred under 15 years of age, and as many as 1706 on the southern banks of the Thames, and low grounds of London. The deaths from diarrhœa and dysentery for the 7 weeks have been 968, which, added to the number from cholera, makes a total of 3751: