

a diagnosis, but when two of these are met with together, even when the anamnesis does not point to tabes, one is often put on the right scent. He illustrates the importance of localized disturbances of sensation in the early diagnosis, but finds it necessary to insist on repeated examination, to prove that this condition is constant. He further illustrates that one must not rely on the history of a past attack of syphilis, in making the diagnosis in doubtful cases, by quoting a case, which was like early tabes dorsalis, and in which there was a history of syphilis, but in which the condition proved not to be of this nature.—*British Med. Jour.*

### **Chronic Granular Kidney.**

Claude and Burthe (*Biochem. Centralbl.*) have made a large number of observations on the elimination of the solids of the urine in patients suffering from this disease, fed on a constant diet. The urine was examined chemically, and also by a cryoscopic method. They found, confirming the work of others, that both the saline and the nitrogenous constituents of the urine were excreted usually in normal or even in more than normal quantity. The danger of the disease lies in the ease with which any disturbing cause, such as an infection or an intoxication, leads to a sudden fall of excretory power. They point out that the continuance of a sufficient excretion depends on the integrity of that part of the kidneys which is still functionally active, and on the maintenance of the raised arterial tension and the efficiency of the hypertrophied heart. Any interference with these three interdependent factors is liable to cause a failure of excretion and bring on uraemic manifestations.—*British Med. Journal.*

### **Bromine vs. Chlorine.**

Experience has shown that the physiological effects of bromine are obtained with much smaller doses when chlorine salts are withdrawn from the dietary; moreover, the gastric intolerance which so often imposes the abandonment of the treatment is less readily induced. Direct experimental observation proves that bromine can replace chlorine in the animal economy, so that by substituting the former for the latter an organic compound of bromine is formed which enables us to obtain the therapeutical effects of bromine in a more satisfactory manner. This fact renders it possible not only to administer the bromides in larger doses without producing inconvenient collateral effects, but allows of the drug being exhibited over long periods of time without the supervention of symptoms of intoxication. It is a good plan to give bromide of sodium instead of salt in the food, which should consist largely, if not exclusively, of cereals, milk and vegetables.—*Med. Press and Circular.*