

the course of the fibres of the external oblique downwards and inwards. These areas were distinctly depressed, which could readily be felt in running the finger across them. On pinching up the affected skin it was felt to be thinner than that of the surrounding parts.

The accompanying picture illustrates the condition beautifully.

HEART DISEASE.

Wm. F. Boos, L. H. Newburgh and H. K. Marks (*Boston Med. and Surg. Jour.*) report that digipuratum, a dry digitalis extract, has now been used in the Massachusetts General Hospital for over a year, and more than one hundred and eighty cases of primary heart disease or secondary involvement have been treated with it. The diuresis was efficient in all cases, and the pulse-rate usually exhibited a marked improvement. It was usually given in the form of treatment of twelve tablets each, and if the first was of little value a second course was always effective. Venesection, or tapping, will accomplish good results with it. There was not a single case of vomiting or diarrhea, and cumulative poisoning was never observed. The pulse may drop forty or more beats suddenly without harmful effects. Digipuratum seems to be a drug of reliable strength with which to push digitalis therapy in a manner not heretofore known by the profession.

DIABETES.

Dr. Lecerf (*Am. Jour. Med. Sc.*) says that the most striking point about the soy bean is that it contains no starch, or only a very small quantity. A number of cases of diabetes have been treated with it as a food diet, with excellent results, and in nearly every instance there was a marked diminution of glycosuria. The beans may be taken as a vegetable by soaking them twelve to sixteen hours until the skins come off, and stirring until the skins rise to the surface, when they can readily be removed. They can be then boiled in salt water or with bacon, seasoned with pepper, salt and butter and served hot. They can be used in gruels, broths or biscuits.