

marked, and the child was sent to hospital. Symptoms of tetanus, risus, trismus and emprosthotonos were marked. On examining the patient, there was evidence of a fractured epiphysis of the radius, badly reduced, and a bulky callus just below the articulation. The parts were exposed by incision, when it was found that there was pressure on the radial nerve by new formation attached to the callus. The compressed nerve was set free and the prominent portion of the radius resected. The symptoms of tetanus slowly disappeared. Three weeks after the operation the patient was well. (*Paris correspondence of British Med. Journal*, July 3rd, 1886.) I on one occasion saw a case of tetanus where the post-mortem examination showed in sole of foot a small piece of leather (thrust into foot by a nail), and near this an abscess the size of a pea surrounding the terminal filament of a nerve.

The nervous theory, however, does not account for all the cases. For instance, in those cases where tetanus follows decomposition in a wound. Such a case lately came under my notice at the Montreal General Hospital. A man had two of his fingers crushed, and at the end of a week presented himself for surgical treatment. The fingers were in a gangrenous condition and horribly foetid. Amputation was immediately performed, but next day tetanus developed, of which he died in a week. Chloral was employed in full doses without effect. In such a case as this the theory of M. Gauthier is applicable, viz., that certain chemical changes, the result of decomposition, ensue, and the products are certain animal alkaloids or leucomaines, which produce symptoms like those of poisoning by strychnine or some other vegetable alkaloid.

At the 15th annual congress of German surgeons held recently in Berlin, Rosenbach of Göttingen read a paper supporting the germ theory of tetanus, and gave the results of a number of experiments performed on guineapigs and mice. (*Med. News*, Aug. 7, *Med. Record*, June 5th, and *Centralblatt f. Chirurgie*, No. 24, 1886.) A man was received into the Göttingen clinic suffering from tetanus consequent on gangrene of the feet. Rosenbach took some small pieces of tissue, an hour after death,