TRAUMATIC TETANUS (OR LOCKJAW) AS A GERM DISEASE, WITH TREATMENT BY INTERNAL ANTISEPSIS.—REPORTS OF A CASE OF RECOVERY IN A HORSE.*

By Dr. W. R. Roome.

The subject, which I have chosen to write a short article upon to read to you to-night, happily is one not often met with in general practices. Still, statistics show that it is on the increase. viz.: Traumatic Tetanus. Works on veterinary science state that this disease or malady is often met with in the dumb animal, especially the horse, and if the germs or bacilli are the same as those which produce it in the human being, like tuberculosis, animals may be a source of spreading the infection, Having had my driving horse seized with a severe attack of this malady a short time ago, I treated it with internal antisepsis and anti-spasmodics. In discussing this malady I trust you will pardon me if I refer to this case, it being that of a horse, but as most of our physiological and bacteriological experiments have to be made upon the dumb animal, this is my apology. The treatment chosen in this case having proved successful, the horse having made a good recovery, I thought the subject would be of interest to you, and at the same time open for discussion not only tetanus but other forms of micro-organism and their proper treatment.

Sir John Lister, in 1867, first gave to the world his antiseptic method in the treatment of wounds and the management of surgical operations. This marked the beginning of an epoch in surgery which has been an incalculable benefit to the human race. Since then surgery has made rapid strides; in fact, greater advancement has been made in surgery during the past thirty years than had been done for centuries before. I am sorry to have to admit that the science of practical medicine has not kept pace. Drug therapy has rather been on the decline, which perhaps is partially due to the uncertainty as to the cause and origin of many of our diseases, as within the past few years it is being so ably demonstrated by our modern bacteriologists that one disease after another can be traced to be of microbic origin. In fact, it seems

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