

most, Levi¹ from a case of cirrhosis in a 17 year old male, with marked periportal fibrosis and enlarged spleen, obtained a diplococcus pathogenic for guinea pigs. The age of the patient, the proliferation of the bile ducts and the absence of ascites, would indicate that his case was one of what is termed "Hanot's Cirrhosis" but the bacteriology is rendered somewhat doubtful in that there were also present bacterial endocarditis of the pulmonary valve and suppurative meningitis. Unfortunately I have not been able to obtain the original paper, nevertheless, this brief statement of the main features of the case, makes it at least possible, as Paltauf has urged, that the endocarditis and meningitis and the presence of diplococci in all the organs, may have been due to a complication.

On the other hand there is a somewhat suggestive relationship between these cases of Hanot's cirrhosis and epidemic jaundice, in some cases of which observers have noticed the presence of a diplococcus or bacillus with polar staining.

To the best of my knowledge, no one has as yet recognised the frequent presence of any one form of micro-organism in the commonest form of hepatic cirrhosis—the so-called portal cirrhosis, tending to the production of the hobnailed liver, with or without marked atrophy of the liver.

On behalf of the Government of the Dominion, I spent the summers of 1894 and 1895 in Nova Scotia investigating a very remarkable disease affecting the cattle in a limited area of the country—the so-called "Pictou cattle disease"—of which the main lesion is a singularly extensive cirrhosis of the liver. The disease is only found in a district spreading along the northern coast of the peninsula, in a tract of country about 40 miles long by from 5 to 12 miles broad. There apparently it has been noticed for some 40 years, now at one end of this area now at another. The disease would seem to be very chronic and not to affect all the cattle on a farm simultaneously, but unless due precautions are taken, in the course of three or four years most of the animals upon a farm will, one after the other, be affected. It would seem further that the disease does not spread directly from animal to animal, for there appears to be no special incidence of cases following upon the long winter sojourn of the animals in the byres, which, with rare exceptions, are miserably dark and ill-ventilated, the attempt being to keep these as warm as possible in consequence of the severity of the winter.

One or two cases are on record in which the disease has broken out in a neighbourhood after the body of a cow affected with the disease

¹ Arch. Gen. de Med., March and April, 1894.