

The symptoms produced by this affection are soreness, tenderness, myalgia, and severe continuous sickening pains, due to involvement of the bone. It is, of course, only in the long standing cases that there is an involvement of the bone.

The treatment should be prophylactic, and the pitcher should each day practise in the sun. Liniments, massage and rubbing are all useless. Heat is the best application, with elevation of the limbs. This will often relieve the pain in these cases. The main point in treatment is regular exercise, and not rest.—*Boston Med. & Surg. Jour.*

**HYDROCEPHALUS.**—Dr. James F. Goodhart, of London, in a paper on hydrocephalus in the *Archives of Pediatrics*, January, 1888, gives the causes of this affection as: 1. Cerebellar tumors (including tentorium and pons). 2. Chronic inflammation and adhesions at the base of the brain between the medulla and the cerebellum. 3. Congenital malformations. These, he says, no doubt act in one of two ways; there may be pressure upon the veins of Galen and the straight sinus, or there may be closure of the communication between the interior of the ventricles and the rest of the subarachnoid space. It might be thought that the pressure upon the veins, and the obstacle thus produced to the return of the blood from the choroid plexuses, would be a sufficient and readier explanation of all cases; but it seems clear from the occasional occurrence of congenital malformations, or of post-congenital adhesion and blocking of the aqueduct of Sylvius, that the mere closure of the ventricles is sufficient for the production of the affection. The congenital malformation is rare. Dr. Taylor has had one such case, the Sylvian aqueduct being obliterated, and it does not appear at first sight quite clear that the mere closure of the communication between the ventricles and the extra-ventricular subarachnoid space should so alter the conditions of the blood-pressure that its equilibrium is destroyed and hydrocephalus results. But it can be shown, he thinks, that this result is probable. It seems to him true, that by the conversion of the ventricles into a closed cyst, the ball-tap action of the cerebro-spinal fluid is in great measure rendered inoperative.

The points of his paper are these: that many every-day occurrences of practice are called hydrocephalus which are not so, and for purposes of discussion this may be taken to include, for time is wanting for specific allusion to the subject, that hydrocephalus and rickets are not often associated, as is very commonly asserted; that hydrocephalus is an infrequent occurrence, due to one of two or three conditions of advanced and irremediable structural change. As regards the treatment, he is not very hopeful, but thinks the only treatments possible, are the old-fashioned ones of firm strap-

ping, the rubbing in of mercurials in such cases as may seem to be of inflammatory origin, and tapping. Believing, as he does, that the consolidation of the bones is a bar to the occurrence of hydrocephalus, he does not believe that systematic support, recommended by Gölis, Trousseau, West and others, has often been carried out with sufficient patience, and is inclined to believe that in suitable cases, paracentesis is deserving of a wider range of practice than it has received. None of these things can, in the nature of the case, show a large percentage of successes. "But," he concludes, "this is not the only occasion on which it happens that 'if by any means I can save some' must be our guiding principle and aim."—*Compend. Med. Science.*

**BEUTIFUL CHEMICAL PREPARATION.**—A snow white mass of Caffeine, the active principle of coffee, 200 pounds and of great value, is now on exhibition in the window of William R. Warner & Co., 1228 Market Street. This beautiful crystallization represents ten tons of coffee, and is used as an ingredient in the preparation of Bromo Soda prescribed for the cure of headaches, migraine, nervousness, sea sickness, &c.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

**THE LOVES OF THE BACILLI**, is the title of the following verses, by H. S. C., quoted by the *Lancet* from the *St. James Gazette*.

Quoth Bacillus to Bacilla

(Surely everything has sex):

"It is quite enough to fill a

Soul with pride, to see the necks  
Of these mighty men of Science  
O'er the microscope bent low,  
While beneath them in defiance  
Spins the merry Vibrio.

"Proud am I to think, my Comma,  
While the world rolls on its way,  
Every fell disease springs from a  
Fairy filament, they say.  
Autocrats that tower Titanic  
Have been known to bow to me;  
Mighty potentates in panic  
Disinfect at thought of thee.

"Rash would he be who should presage  
That no germs behind us are;  
We are part of that great message  
Which outrings 'twixt earth and star.  
What by thousands or by tens is  
Multiplied, in vain they show;  
Something lies beyond his lenses  
Mortal man may never know!

"We are greater, my Bacilla,  
Than all monarchs; for meseems  
We need but exist to fill a  
Strong man's brain with fever-dreams.  
Such the thought my passion kindles,  
O my microscopic bride:  
Kiss me! although twenty Tyndalls  
Have their eyes upon the slide!"

—*Weekly Med. Review.*