

eye muscles, or what not, but let him not be too sanguine. He will be fortunate indeed to meet with a single case of cure. In about one per cent. of epileptics the history of injury to the head will be found. In a larger number of cases there is an old meningeal hæmorrhage, giving rise to some paralysis and sclerosis. These cases should not be operated upon. In the cases due to injury to the head there is usually old standing lesion and an operation would not succeed. The removal of a cicatrix from the cortex will be followed by another, and no good follow. If the injury is recent the chances of a cure are much better. Of miscellaneous traumatic cases the best is at most four per cent. of cures.

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PREVENTION IN NERVOUS DISEASES.—Dr. Jacobi says: "Perhaps the greatest negligence on the part of medical men is exhibited in regard to mental overwork. Our schools have become hot-houses in which spinal curvatures, near sightedness, anæmia, neurasthenia, chlorosis and cerebral exhaustion and disease are being bred in incredible numbers. Even the apparent offset to this mental work, gymnastics or "calisthenics" exercise in the same building, as part of the curriculum, adds (may add) to the general exhaustion. It is time that the medical profession looked into the increasing degeneration of the people resulting from the overtraining of the young brain, ninety per cent. of which is not attained until the seventh year, and the full growth not reached before the fourteenth or seventeenth. Physicians will do well to be no longer afraid of the charge of going into politics. If they do not wish to be politicians let them be something better and turn statesmen."

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ANTITOXIN IN DIPHTHERIA.—The committee of the Pediatric Society on the above subject made its first report a short time ago. This report was prepared by Drs. S. E. Holt, W. P. Northrup, J. O'Dwyer and S. S. Adams, and appeared in the *Medical Record* of July 4th. The work of the committee covers 5,794 cases treated with the antitoxin and 12.3 per cent. of deaths. The date of injection appears to be an important factor as thus shown: Of 996 injected on the first day, 4.9 per cent. died; 1,610 on the second day, 7.4 per cent. died; 1,508 on the third day, 8.8 per cent. died; 758 on the fourth day, 20.7 per cent. died; 690 on the fifth day, 35.3 per cent. died. Of all the cases under two years the death rate was 19.2 per cent.; two to five years it was 13.3 per cent.; from five to ten years it