

the bladder and draining it, in attempting to remove the tuberculous ulcerations, or in applying antiseptic substances to them. The essential point is to obtain rest for the bladder. About 80 per cent. are much relieved by the operation, and about 20 per cent. apparently cured. Tuberculosis of the kidney may be primary or secondary, and is not uncommonly unilateral in the early stage. Surgical treatment is becoming more and more frequent, and the various measures that may be adopted are:—

1. Nephrotomy and lumbar drainage to prevent infection of the urinary passages.
2. Nephrotomy combined with scraping out as much as possible of the tuberculous material.
3. Nephrectomy often associated with removal of part of the ureter.
4. Partial nephrectomy in which only the diseased portions of the kidney are taken away.

Nephrotomy in such cases must be looked on as a preliminary operation, with the view of getting rid of the fever and generally bad condition of the patient, and after a time the question of nephrectomy as a curative procedure must be considered. To justify nephrectomy one must be pretty sure that the other kidney is intact, and also that the bladder is free from disease. It is by no means easy to make certain of these points, even with the aid of a cystoscope and urethral catheter, or by means of laparotomy and palpation of the kidneys through the wound.

Of late some good results have attended partial nephrectomy.—*W. W. Cheyne, Brit. Med. Jour; Med. Chronicle.*

A NEW METHOD OF STERILIZING THE HANDS AND THE FIELD OF OPERATION.

R. Kossman, of Berlin, in *Centr. fur Chir.*, November 23, 1899, proposes a method which may be described as a substitute for the rubber gloves. It is, more correctly speaking, a very thin, yet accurately fitting glove, since it is a really impervious covering applied to the hands by soaking them in a substance which quickly dries by evaporation, leaving a smooth, flexible, yet sufficiently durable, coating, as thoroughly protective as any rubber glove can be, without its disadvantages. It remains only for further experience of other surgeons to say whether the claims of the inventor shall be substantiated.

The material is a fluid holding in solution certain hard resins and fatty oils in a mixture of easy-boiling ether and alcohol. The substance has been patented under the