

the gangrenous parts. The internal plantar and the posterior tibial nerves showed the most extensive alterations. In some parts there was complete destruction of the fibres, while in all parts they had suffered more or less. There was no clotting in any of the vessels of the limbs.

An account is given of a case of gangrene of both lower extremities in an old man from embolism, where the most careful histological examination failed to find any changes whatever in the nerves of the gangreneous parts.

The authors consider that they are justified in coming to the following conclusions from the observations they have made on the three cases just briefly detailed :

1. That there is a form of symmetrical gangrene of the extremities which is not brought about by the commonly recognized causes of this disease, as cardiac and circulatory disturbances, septic infection, or traumatism.

2. That in this form there is in the nerves of the parts deep changes, constituting parenchymatous nephritis.

3. The neuritis is not caused by the gangrene, as it is not found in gangrene from occlusion of the vessels. It is probable that the neuritis causes the gangrene.

4. In addition to the usual form of spontaneous gangrene of the extremities, there is a so-called neurotic gangrene which resembles, in its symptoms and development, other forms of trophic disorders which follow inflammation or degeneration of the peripheral nerves.

THE BOWMAN LECTURE.

The Bowman lecturer for the present year was Dr. Hughlings Jackson. His subject was "Ophthalmology and Diseases of the Nervous System." The address, which is a masterly one, had for its main object the setting forth of the necessity for specialism in medical work, especially specialism combined with co-operation. In scientific as well as in social progress, there were four degrees or stages to be noted. The advance of scientific medicine depends upon increased differentiation of work and definiteness of observation, combined with increased integration of knowledge and co-operation of workers. "Specialists have to justify them-