

Erb's paper collected eleven cases of the disease, and with the two now reported, brought the number up to thirteen occurring between the ages of 15 and 50. It occurs in both sexes. The first case reported occurred in a woman aged 58; the disease came on at the menopause. In some cases the lower jaw was not enlarged, and in others the long bones were distinctly enlarged.

*The Influence of Antisepsis on the Kidneys.*—At a recent meeting of the Berliner Medicinische Gesellschaft, Dr. Emil Senger read a paper on the above subject. He said that it is well known that after nephrectomy, or even nephrotomy, many patients die with symptoms of uræmia or anæmia, even when it has been ascertained beforehand by careful examination that the other kidney was quite healthy and capable of secreting the necessary amount of urea. Senger has proved by experiments on rabbits and dogs that our antiseptic remedies are the cause of these complications. He injected into the animals when in perfect health one-tenth to one-twelfth the amount of corrosive sublimate and carbolic acid necessary to kill them. He then extirpated one kidney and examined it microscopically, with the result that in all cases he found glomerulo-nephritis. There was exudation between the glomerulus and the capsule, and the epithelium of the tubuli contorti was almost entirely destroyed. He also found fatty degeneration of the liver and spleen, the heart-muscle, etc. The various antiseptic agents were found to be injurious in different degrees, corrosive sublimate being the most dangerous, then the others in the following order—iodoform, carbolic acid, salicylic acid, boric acid. Senger recommends surgeons to avoid antiseptics in operation on the thorax and abdomen, and urges them either to employ sterilized water or a solution of salt. By bacteriological and pathological researches he found, first, that this kills the streptococcus pyogenes aureus in twenty-eight minutes, and that the effect is independent of the degree of concentration, for a five per cent. solution of salt is just as effectual as a twenty per cent. Secondly, he claims to have shown that chloride of sodium does not in any way injure the organs, and that no dose is strong enough to kill any animal.—(*Brit. Med. Journal*, May 19, 1888.)