

apart from anæsthesia, in whom post mortem has been found the condition of status lymphaticus, and so constantly has the hypertrophy of thymus gland been noted that the diathesis is often called the status thymicus. Lymphatism is a more modern name for the condition. The subjects of this condition are usually liable to infectious diseases, to death from shock or fright, and to death during anæsthesia. Even comparatively slight lesions may in them end fatally. Perhaps some of those subjects who have been said to show idiosyncrasy to the action of chloroform have been lymphatic.

The condition found after death in the subjects of status lymphaticus are tolerably uniform and very remarkable. They are characterised by the presence of a thymus of a greater or less size by an enlarged spleen with varying degrees of prominence of its follicles, by hypertrophy of the lymphatic glands in various regions (especially of the mesenteric, retro-peritoneal, and cervical) by prominence and multiplication of follicles at the base of the tongue and the pharynx, by enlargement of the tonsils and swelling of solitary follicles and Peyer's patches in the intestine, by a dilated heart (especially is the right ventricle dilated) and extremely flaccid cardiac muscle. In addition there is some times found a small heart with contraction of the aorta and dark fluid blood in the heart cavities. To Kundrats pathological complex may be added less constant features, viz., great pallor of the skin, enlargement of the tongue, enlargement of the thyroid gland, infantilism, œdema of the lungs and brain, fatty changes in the liver, and alterations in the bone marrow.

*Frequency.* Kolisko stated that for many years he performed about six autopsies annually on persons dying from cardiac syncope under chloroform, in whom no previous disease of the heart, lungs or kidneys was known to exist, and always found the signs of status lymphaticus. In the children's clinic at Gratz the records show that during the last twenty years in every chloroform fatality there was present a lymphatic hyperplasia which is the principal feature of status lymphaticus. Blake recorded three anæsthetic and two non-anæsthetic cases of sudden death in hospital, showing post mortem signs of status lymphaticus in a period only a little longer than one year.

*Effects of different anæsthetics.* So frequently is death during chloroform anæsthesia associated with status lymphaticus that the question has been asked, does death under chloroform ever occur apart from this condition? It has been stated by Elser that when status lymphaticus exists the administration of chloroform is nearly always fatal. The first fatal case in Great Britain seems to have been recorded by Wolff in 1905, and was that of an infant, aged 11 months, whose eye had just been needled for cataract, when cyanosis appeared, and respiration and circula-