

has occupied the attention of our countrymen likewise. Some years ago Mr. Hamilton, of the Richmond Hospital, Dublin, published a case in which he removed a testicle, that having been arrested in the inguinal canal, had several times become attacked with inflammation, and had caused so much suffering that the patient cheerfully submitted to its removal. The organ was found on examination to be atrophied, and its ducts devoid of spermatozoa.* At the meetings of some medical societies in London, the question of the procreative powers of monarchs and cryptorchs has been of late discussed, and much variety of opinion has been expressed. Some of the speakers declaring that they should hesitate before recommending matrimony to persons labouring under these defects, whilst others were equally positive that these persons are capable of fecundating. To us it appears, after a careful examination of the evidence upon which the latter speakers based their arguments, that the individuals to whom they alluded, though possessing sexual feeling, rested their claim to procreative power on very equivocal grounds. And though this matter has been brought up recently at one of these societies, it does not appear that the anatomical points, to which we are disposed to attach great importance in the settlement of this question, have received careful scrutiny.

It is time, however, that we should bring before our readers some of the results we have drawn from the treatise before us, and this we shall do as concisely as possible. M. Godard, like many of his countrymen, is fond of raking up all sorts of authorities, both ancient and modern, and quoting cases published in various journals and reviews. This research though laudable, taxes the reader's patience rather too severely. We shall avoid this error and shall present in the form of propositions the statements advanced at greater length by our author.

1st. The testicles are formed within the abdomen and thence descend to the scrotum. If one of the glands becomes arrested in its progress, a *monarch* is the result. If the arrest takes place on both sides, a *cryptorch* is the result. In both cases the arrested testicle may remain within the abdomen, in the inguinal canal, in the crural ring, or even in the cruro-scrotal fold, and the malformation may be confounded with congenital absence of the testicle.

Monarchy may be hereditary. Proofs are furnished of its having presented itself in grandfather, father, and son, and an instance is given where two sons inherited it from their father, but male children by their mother's second husband were not thus malformed.

Monarchy often exists with an arrest of development of the corresponding side of the body. It may be caused by inflammation attacking the organ in its progress, and thus binding it in its abnormal locality, and it may be the result of the testicle having presented itself in a transverse direction, at the opening of the inguinal canal.

2. In incomplete descent of the testicle, the organ is not fibrous, or greasy as in the foetal state, as some have asserted, but on the contrary, its canals are quite pervious, but the testicle is smaller than the one in the scrotum.

* Dr. R. L. MacDonnell of this city, has performed a similar operation for the same cause.