

interpretation is the fact of his complete recovery from the original coma and the recurrence of the convulsions.

The second case showed evidences of uræmia in a milder degree. The patient had had evidences of chronic Bright's disease for some years, dating from an acute nephritis nine years ago, which directly followed an attack of erysipelas. At present there are albuminuria, hyaline casts, and general dropsy, but the most important symptoms are the persistent frontal headache and the attacks of vomiting to which he is subject.

The third case, that of a baker, aged 34, was also one of chronic uræmia, and its principal manifestation was extreme dyspnoea. At first there was orthopnoea, but after a few days treatment this subsided. There was no dropsy. The patient for a long period had regarded himself as an asthmatic. It was difficult to determine whether these attacks were due to true asthma or were merely evidences of uræmia.

PROGRESSIVE MUSCULAR ATROPHY.

Two cases have been in hospital lately. The first case, that of a woman long past middle life, illustrates two points in connection with the etiology of the disease, its origin in fright, and its occurrence in members of the same family. The wasting began two years ago, immediately after she had experienced a shipwreck on the Atlantic. Eight years ago she had been under my treatment at the Montreal Dispensary for ulceration about the knee, which was thought to be syphilitic. The family history is interesting. The father died from the effects of an accident; the mother, an uncle and an aunt all died of "paralytic strokes." Two sisters of the patient died at the ages of 47 and 50, having suffered from a disease said to be exactly similar to that of the patient.

The occurrence of progressive muscular atrophy in families has been reported. Recently, the following notices of this point have fallen under my observation. In the last number of the *Revue des Sciences Médicales*, Lichtheim reports the history of a family of four brothers, three of whom suffered from progressive muscular atrophy; and in the same journal there are two other histories of families—in one two sisters developed the disease shortly after puberty. In a history