

and friable, and in that state of cloudy swelling common to prolonged fever. So impressed is Ponfick with the pathological and clinical differences between these extremes of small-pox, that he is inclined to group them as distinct diseases. But, just as transitions are met with clinically between the macular hæmorrhagic form and that in which extravasations take place in the vesicular and pustular stages, so also, I think, in a more extended series of post mortems appearances would be found intermediate between the extremes, and where the disease had lasted any time the same pyrexial changes would occur. Indeed, Curschmann* states that he has noticed them in *variola hæmorrhagica pustulosa*.

On the intimate pathology of this disease I can offer no suggestion. We are, as yet, profoundly ignorant of the conditions of its genesis, and do not know whether it depends on the intensity of the poison or the extreme susceptibility of the patient.

Most histologists are agreed that in these purpuric disorders the red corpuscles pass through altered or thinned and not ruptured vessels, but as to the causes of this general *diapedesis*, as the process is called, we have no data upon which to form a judgment.

The *treatment* of the disease is eminently unsatisfactory, the patients almost invariably die. A few instances are recorded of recovery from *variola hæmorrhagica pustulosa*. All the usual medicines indicated under these circumstances were tried, gallic acid, ergot, turpentine, acetate of lead, &c., without the slightest benefit. Quinine was used in large doses, and in three cases I used the cold pack.

Since the closure of the wards I have met with an article in the *Glasgow Medical Journal* by Mr. Aikman, formerly assistant medical officer at the Hampstead Small-pox Hospital, in which he recommends strychnia in large doses, and states that under this treatment many of these cases recovered. He gives as much as a drachm and a half of the liquor strychniæ in the twenty-four hours in severe cases, combined with iron and quassia.

* Ziemssen's Encyclopedia, Vol. II., Art. Small-pox. p. 387.
Loc. Cit.