

Kolisko to be sometimes the effect of the action of the Klebs-Löffler bacilli, so that in this case we have a *croupous non-diphtheritic diphtheria*.

To prevent error, the terms diphtheria and diphtheritic should not be considered synonymous; and since the word diphtheritic has become too firmly established to be dropped from the vocabulary, it might be well if a suggestion of Dr. MacAllister (*Practitioner*, June, 1890) were adopted and the word *diphtherial* used always to express ætiologically in relation to the specific cause diphtheria, applying the term diphtheritic simply in its more general anatomical sense.

There is evidence to show that cases occur in which an anatomically genuine diphtheritic sore throat may be caused by other organisms than the Loeffler bacilli. Roux and Yersin (*Pasteur Annales*, July 1890) record with great care several such cases where the infection was due apparently to streptococci. Out of 80 cases of angina admitted to the diphtheria wards of the Childrens' Hospital, the bacilli were found in 61. Roux and Yersin had no scruples in classing the other 19 cases, in which no bacteria were found, as non-diphtherial angina. A much more remarkable series was that published by Dr. T. M. Prudden, where, in 24 cases of diphtheritic sore throat occurring in children, streptococci were found in 22 and staphylococcus aureus in 2, while the Loeffler bacillus was not met with in a single instance. It is important to note that these cases were obtained from an epidemic among children who were inmates of an institution in which scarletina and erysipelas were epidemic at the time.—(*Amer. Jour. Med. Sci.*, May 1889.)

A subsequent series of 12 cases, all fatal, by the same author (*N. Y. Medical Record*, April 18th, 1891), showed the presence of the virulent Loeffler bacilli in every instance, and a carefully prepared table appended, giving the total number of cases investigated in this manner by various authors up to date, shows that the Loeffler bacilli were found in 307 out of a total of 342 examined—about 90 per cent. The suggestion that the cause of diphtheria in America differed from that in Europe had been previously disproved by Prof. W. H. Welch and Dr. A. C.