

the two conditions was not invariably found to exist. 12. The most frequent morbid appearance in the supra-renal capsules, when disease of those organs is discovered, in cases of bronzing, is "tubercular" deposit. 13. It is possible that, as suggested by Dr. Watson, bronzing only occurs when disease of the supra-renal capsules is far advanced, or where both these organs are much disorganised. 14. So far as observations have yet gone, no connection has been traced between bronzed skin and disease of any other of the ductile glands. 15. And finally, it seems reasonable to believe that the true nature and associations of this affection, known as Addison's disease, have yet to be established. (See *Medical Times and Gazette*, March 12, 1870).—*Practitioner*.

Treatment of Gout.

M. Fontaine has recently published a memoir on this disease, in which he lays down a new method for its treatment. His work has been reported on to the Academy of Medicine of France, by MM. Béclard, Vulpian, and Bouchardat, and from that report we gather the following particulars:—In accordance with all observers from Sydenham to Garrod, he recognizes the value of colchicum, preferring the tincture of the seeds to the other preparations, and he administers it only in the form of injection, and not by the stomach, the functions of which, he thinks, are already too seriously disordered. The use of this remedy also, he maintains, ought not to be persevered in without occasional periods of interruption. To combat the diathesis, or rather to prevent the formation and to favour the destruction or elimination of the uric acid, he has recourse to three different alteratives:—1. The arseniate of potash; 2. The chlorate of potash; and 3. The benzoate of lime. The arseniate of potash he administers in small doses, but for some length of time, and he conceives that this salt exercises a reparative action on the body and blood globules, and a regulative action on the combustive operations. He proposes the chlorate of potash as an agent to oxidize the uric acid; admitting with M. Gubler, and believing that he has demonstrated from his own observations, that it undergoes partial decomposition in the economy. Following the example of Drs. Ure and Bouchardat, he prescribes the benzoate of lime, not with the object hitherto attempted of transforming the urate of soda into the more soluble hippurate of soda, but as a solvent for the urates, and for its slightly diuretic action. (*Bulletin de l'Académie Impériale*, Feb. 15, 1870).—*Practitioner*.

Cause of Typhoid Fever.

Dr. A. Veith writes from Natchez, Miss., to the *Scientific American*, as follows:

In your number of Nov. 27th, 1869, I have seen an article on the necessity of cleaning the sewers in order to avoid typhoid fever. There is something to add to your article. Dr. Hepp, druggist of the hospital, and Medical Faculty of Strasbourg, (France), found last year that typhoid fever is appearing as an epidemic in that city with the rain, or rather by the disappearance of the rain, and his observations of about twenty years taught him the following facts: There is a subterranean water layer communicating with the rivers and fountains, at a pretty short distance under the soil that increases with the rains, and when these are ceasing decreases in the same way, leaving organic substances in a state of decomposition which communicate a certain degree of impurity to the drinking waters. Epidemic typhoid fever always made its appearance in Strasbourg and in the surrounding places, when such was the case.—*Med. and Surg. Reporter*.

Treatment of Perforating Ulcer of the Stomach and Hematemesis.

In a clinical lecture on these subjects, Dr. George Johnson remarks, that in the treatment of hæmorrhage, absolute rest in bed is essential; no food should be introduced into the stomach, but the patient should be sustained by nutritive enemata. The bleeding patient should lie still, sip iced water, and be fed by the rectum. The most useful styptics in these cases are tannic acid in ten-grain doses, tincture of perchloride of iron, in twenty-minim doses, or oil of turpentine in twenty-minim doses. When the bleeding has ceased, liquid food may gradually and cautiously be given by the stomach; then solids; and, lastly, iron is a most valuable restorative tonic. In the treatment of perforation of the stomach, the necessity for keeping the stomach free not only from food, but from medicine, is absolute. This accident is generally fatal, but there are on record a few cases in which a patient has recovered after symptoms of perforation had occurred, and Dr. Johnson adds one to the number. (See *British Medical Journal*, March 26, 1870).—*Practitioner*.

Influence of Water on Physical Development.

In a recent report, DR. LETHESBY says, that he considers moderately hard water better suited for drinking than that which is very soft, an opinion which is confirmed by that of the French authorities,