

Miscellaneous.

The Heart in Typhoid.

The profound typhoid disorders of the heart are dependent on parenchymatous degeneration of the myocardium as well as upon a true myocarditis. The different forms of parenchymatous degeneration are due to the interstitial inflammatory process and also to the obliterating endarteritis of the smallest arterial branches of the myocardium.

The above conditions may be well developed about the third week of the disease with the accompanying dilatation which produces an insufficiency of the valves, hence giving the characteristic murmurs, provided there has been some over-exertion on part of the patient. Although in typhoid as in rheumatism many have a sclerosis of the valves, due probably to the infection, it is more commonly due to dilatation depending on the myocarditis. Typhoid patients with the myocarditis which corresponds with the degeneration of the voluntary muscles of the body if allowed to exert themselves too violently, often causes collapse and death from acute dilatation. This is generally considered as a fact, and in acute rheumatism the patient is generally warned against over-exertion for some time after the acute stage is over, especially if there is any suspicion of involvement of the valves of the heart.

In the convalescence of typhoid the patient should also be equally warned, because this constant over-exertion will eventually produce a permanent dilatation and, therefore, as complete incompetency of the valves as the sclerosis of the valves which is seen so commonly as the result of acute articular rheumatism.—*Charlotte Medical Journal*.

Medicine as a Preliminary Training.

According to Sir Conan Doyle, there is nothing so useful, as a preliminary training, as a course in medicine. There was a time, says he, when a young man who was going to do anything in the world, was passed mechanically through the bar. I believe the time will come when the similar young man will be passed through medicine, because I know no other means by which he could get to the fundamental and absolute facts of life. The mere fact that in his training a man has to undergo so searching an ordeal in the most critical years of his life, and pays such enormous attention to detail, is in itself evidence that he receives a splendid training. I have always said that to a man who has mastered Gray's Anatomy, life has no future terrors. If our young army officers had five years' study in the same sense that the young medical man has five years' study we should become the terror of Europe.—*Merck's Archives*.