

When the bladder and prostate are affected, frequent washings with hot antiseptic solutions, with cystotomy in severe cases, hold out, perhaps, the best hopes of benefit. The question of the treatment of tubercular peritonitis by incision must be regarded as still on its trial. Of 29 cases recorded by Fehling, 6 died, 15 were relieved for a time, and 8 are reported as being relieved for more than a year. Other writers report cases of permanent recovery. Fehling recommends a long incision, and drainage through the vagina when possible. The curative effect is not claimed to be due to the antiseptics used, but to the improved conditions of circulation established by the removal of the encysted fluid which is almost always found.

TREATMENT OF TABES BY SUSPENSION.

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The treatment of tabes by suspension, which has been recently introduced by Charcot, is at present attracting a good deal of attention in Europe. But little seems to have been said on this subject in Canada, although our American neighbors have in some instances been more enterprising, many of whom claim definite results. Certainly heretofore the profession has had to acknowledge their inability to treat this disease with any degree of satisfaction; hence one is inclined to attribute too much virtue to any new treatment that possesses even a moderate degree of success.

At present there seems to be some doubt about the true pathology of tabes, although the profession generally have considered it for a long time a settled point. Notwithstanding the many theories that have been advanced in explanation of the way in which the "supposed or real" benefit to the patient by the treatment of tabes by suspension is derived, yet it appears to be somewhat obscure. If a really satisfactory explanation were given, one could certainly continue the treatment with more enthusiasm. I herewith submit a report up to date of two cases I have had under treatment for some weeks:

Thos. S., 44, no specific history, family history good, says, "About three years ago felt from time to time pains of a lightning-like char-

acter in hips, thighs and legs, and sometimes a soreness," which he attributed to rheumatism. Patient was treated by Dr. Good some years ago for visual failure with central scolioma, supposed to be due to the excessive use of tobacco. On the cessation of tobacco and the administration of strychnia, the sight rapidly improved. At that time the discs were if anything slightly hyperæmia. They are now normal.

Patient consulted me about 1st March, suffering from all the symptoms of advanced tabes. Was confined to his bed. I concluded to try suspension treatment.

After first suspension, patient says, "Felt rather worse, although pains were not so severe." I, however, continued the treatment thrice weekly, for from two to three minutes at each suspension, the patient, after first time, steadily improving. Can get around now with aid of a stick. Appetite and general appearance has greatly improved. Lightning pains have not altogether disappeared.

Wm. Smith, 37; farmer, formerly blacksmith. Earliest symptoms appeared one and half years ago, became more easily fatigued than formerly, had also pain in back and legs; sexual power slightly increased. Treated for rheumatism. Family history unimportant. Specific history, had sore and slight eruption one year ago; treated by mixed treatment for one year. No tertiary symptoms; lightning pains only occasionally; no gastric crises; well nourished; patellar reflexes absent; Argyl Robertson pupils; able to walk a mile without unusual fatigue, if not hurried, has been, however, unable to follow his occupation for last six months. Unable to stand easily with eyes shut; sexual power now impaired. Commenced treatment February. Internally mixed treatment and suspension every third day. Disappearance of pains and fornication; appetite improved; can get around without much fatigue; says he feels so well that he thinks he will be able to go to work in a few days.

A STRONG COMBINATION.—The Philadelphia *Medical Times*, The *Medical Register* and *Dietetic Gazette* have combined as one paper and will appear weekly as the *Times and Register*. We wish Dr. W. F. Waugh, the erudite editor, every success.