

than so-called special hospitals in densely populated centres, whilst climatic sanatoria, if properly situated, properly officered, and well equipped, show results that surpass those of all other known methods of treatment in the earlier or incipient stages of the disease.

whole question to careful discussion. Cases may be found at intervals where albumin is temporarily absent. Conceptions have been broadened concerning the significance of hyaline casts, now regarded as occurring in urine apparently normal. Granular and epithelial casts probably always point to degenerative or inflammatory lesions. The diagnosis of latent, atypical, non-albuminuric nephritis, important in itself, becomes more difficult when nephritis is associated with other diseases. Carefully repeated routine chemical and microscopical examination of the urine every twenty-four hours usually, but not invariably, detects acute and chronic nephritis. The diagnosis of nephritis, with or without albuminuria, is much aided by the examination for such conditions as cardio-vascular alterations and retinal involvement. Visceral or somatic changes usually present in nephritis may be lacking in concrete instances, or be capable of other or diverse interpretation, as polyuria, atheroma, etc. Acute nephritis, chronic parenchymatous nephritis, and chronic interstitial nephritis may each exceptionally occur without albuminuria. Casts should always be searched for; they are more constantly found than is albumin, yet they seem in certain instances to be a token of renal degeneration rather than inflammation. Non-albuminuric nephritis is of especial importance in life insurance and kindred examinations as well as in practice, since prophylactic measures may be instituted and the prognosis obviously influenced.—*The American Journal of the Medical Sciences*, Oct., 1898; *The Medical Chronicle*.

### THE TREATMENT OF PRURITUS.

The *Revue de Théraputique Médico-Chirurgicale* of Sept. 15, 1898, contains an article by Lavalée upon this topic. After discussing the various causes of pruritus, he speaks of the internal treatment and suggests the use of antinervines, such as valerian, the bromides, and asafetida, the tincture of