

exception, the exception being a case in which the undertaker had embalmed the body, and the crystals and débris of the embalming material cause so much dirt in the sections that it is difficult to make out the state of affairs, but even in this case I believe I can detect some of the characteristic bacteria.

Thus at the present time I would go so far as to say that in a certain number of cases, at least, of hobnailed liver, there is present, more especially in the liver and the abdominal lymph glands, a minute micro-organism resembling closely that found pathogenic in the infective cirrhosis of cattle; a form which is present most frequently as a minute micrococcus but sometimes has a more bacillary appearance, and which is thus to some extent polymorphous.

*Appendix, July 9th, 1898.*

Since reading this communication, through the kindness of Professor Hektoen and Dr. Flexner, I have had the opportunity to examine fifteen other livers showing distinct evidence of portal cirrhosis from the material at the Rush Medical College, Chicago, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital respectively. I have not, as yet, examined all the material from the latter source, but in all the Chicago cases, as in ten well marked examples from Baltimore, I recognise the appearances above described. More satisfactory staining of the doubtful case above mentioned, show the undoubted presence of diplococci.

A fuller description of my observations, together with the description of the bacillus, isolated by me recently from a case of cirrhosis, will be communicated to the meeting of the British Medical Association, at Edinburgh, by Dr. Osler. I would only add here that the methylene blue, anilin oil method of staining described above, while giving very fair results for immediate study, does not in my hands yield permanent specimens, the dye tending to fade out of the microbes.