

chairman, he said that several of the cases were due to injury, and a number of them were suppurative, while four were recorded as synovitis. Two of the cases had been discharged as cured before 1888, and were known to be well in 1889.

Dr. Judson protested against the statement that cases of disease in the ankle should do equally well without treatment, although neglected cases of ankle-joint disease would have nothing like so bad a deformity as those at the hip.

Dr. H. L. Taylor also spoke about the different mechanical conditions present at the various joints. The weight of the limb exerted great leverage upon the joint, especially in a spasmodic condition of the muscles. It is more marked at the hip than at the knee, and very much more noticeable than at the ankle. He referred to a case of ankle-joint disease occurring in a distinctly phthisical subject, where the sinuses were treated by injections of a saturated solution of iodoform in ether. The beneficial effect upon the healing process was almost magical.

Dr. Gibney said that, about ten years ago, the surgical section of the "Therapeutic Society" of this city spent about two years collecting data relative to the comparative results obtained by the operative and non-operative treatment of this condition; and the conclusion was, that the conservative method yielded the greatest number of useful ankles, even in cases where the foot was seamed with cicatrices. There were two or three operative cases having a high degree of equinus, and a stiffened and shortened joint, and one or two flail joints were also shown. In his experience, cases of adult ankle-joint disease relapsed again and again on the slightest provocation; later on, abscesses would appear; still later, pulmonary signs would develop, and then amputation would follow. As regards the mercurial treatment of tuberculous disease of the joint, he need only call attention to the fact that many years ago the routine treatment for these cases at the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled was one-twenty-fourth of a grain of the bichloride of mercury in tincture of bark, three times a day; and the results attained by this treatment were certainly far from striking.

DR. GILPIN, of Brechin, had a severe attack of typhoid fever, but is slowly recovering.

## Personal.

DR. E. MEEK (Tor., '89) has settled in Port Rowan.

DR. OSLER, of Baltimore, paid a flying visit to Toronto a few days ago.

DR. G. A. PETERS, of Toronto, expects to return to Canada about the first of December.

DR. JAMES M. MACCALLUM has been appointed Lecturer on Therapeutics in the Medical Faculty of the University of Toronto.

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