

make is: 1. Acute diseases attended by discharge from the conjunctiva are best treated by cold. Heat promotes discharge. 2. Most acute diseases attended by pain are benefited by hot applications. There are some exceptions which cannot be defined, being the result of individual idiosyncrasy. This peculiarity is sometimes very marked. Cold should never be used after operations on the cornea in old or feeble persons. It is liable to be followed by sloughing of the cornea.—G. S. R.]

Steel in the Vitreous Located by X-ray and removed by a magnet.

Starr, of Buffalo (*Oph. Rec.*, July, 1898), relates a successful case of the above. The steel was removed forty-eight hours after the injury.

PEDIATRICS.

IN CHARGE OF ALLAN BAINES, W. J. GREIG, W. B. THISTLE.

Meningitis.

Bacteriological studies lead strongly to the belief that meningitis in all its phases is an infectious disease. Under the old classifications the varieties of the disease were numerous and confusing, but study of their micro-organisms points strongly to their unity.

Collins, in the *Twentieth Century Practice*, classifies the active exciting causes as follows:

1. Traumatic and infectious.
2. Contagious and infectious.
3. Infectious and metastatic.

The first group includes all the cases in which pathogenic bacteria have gained admission to the body through wounds, injuries, or simple abrasions.

The second group includes those which develop in connection with pyogenic disease of adjacent structures and cavities, such as the mastoid and middle ear, and even organs so far removed as the tonsils.

The third group includes those cases of meningitis which are secondary to other infectious diseases, notably pneumonia, typhoid fever, cholera, dysentery and influenza.

Holt classifies leptomeningitis thus:

1. It occurs epidemically, usually with the same process in the cord, and is then known as cerebro-spinal meningitis.
2. It occurs sporadically as a primary disease, with, it may be, symptoms and lesions identical with those seen in the first group.
3. It occurs as a secondary disease complicating other acute