

DEPARTMENT OF DISEASES OF THROAT AND NOSE.

Under charge of G. T. ROSS, M.D., D.C.L.,

Lecturer on Laryngology and Rhinology, Faculty of Medicine, University
of Bishop's College, Laryngologist to the Western Hospital.

Botey, of Barcelona, read before the Medical Congress at Paris a paper on the importance of the superior portion of the faucial tonsil and supra-tonsillar fossa as factors in producing peri-tonsillar phlegmonous inflammation, and the necessity for complete extirpation of the superior half of the organ as curative and preventive treatment. He pointed out that, after complete extirpation, as close as it can be done with a tonsillotome, there may be a recurrence of acute inflammation, in the face of the fact that we have assured our patients to the contrary. He advises the complete enucleation of the gland to its base, detaching it entirely, excepting the inferior portion of the tonsil, and he claims to do this without danger. The inferior portion of the gland cannot do any harm when left, but the upper part is liable to do so. He lays special stress upon opening the peri-tonsillar fossæ. The undersigned can bear testimony to the utility of this treatment, for, in opening up this cavity, he has frequently been surprised at the nidus of inspissated cheesy secretion which would act as a fine breeding ground for leptothrix, and which gives no external evidence of its presence when acute inflammation is absent.

Botey also calls attention to the fact that a pseudo-hemoptysis may originate from the nasopharynx. The varicose veins, which one often sees at the base of tongue, may rupture by effort or cough, or in vomiting, and cause sharp bleeding, which, if the patient is a tuberculous subject, might easily be regarded as of pulmonary origin.

Professor Ferreri (Rome) narrates a case of acute leucemia of tonsillar origin. Examination of oropharynx showed so much tumefaction of the two tonsils as to block it up. An extravasation of blood the size of a cent was noticed in centre of each tonsil, where they were in contact with each other. The organ was elastic to touch. Little