a result of a mechanical impediment to the circulation, and consequent passive congestion of the kidney. My remarks will have reference only to the more numerous second class of cases-cases of albuminuria the result of abnormal states of blood. 1 shall endeavor to make my remarks as practical as possible, with only so much of reference to pathological theory as may serve to guide or to explain practice.

The extreme frequency of renal disease is a phy-· siological result of the kidney forming one of the main channels by which effete and noxious materials are cast out of the circulation. During the process of excretion, the kidney-tissues-primarily the glanda cells, secondarily the blood-vessels-undergo structural change. A leading principle of treatment is to lessen as much as possible the excretory work of the kidney, more especially in cases of acute Bright's The main points are-rest in bed, in a disease. room of moderate uniform temperature; a carefullyregulated and a somewhat scanty diet; the adoption of means to promote a free action of the skin and bowels.

In all cases of acute Bright's disease, rest in bed is an essential part of the treatment. In a large proportion of cases, this with a scanty diet will suf-The diet may consist of milk fice for the cure. alone, if it suits the patient's stomach, or milk with an egg or two in the course of the day, or with the addition of beef-tea or other animal broth. Under this regimen the urine soon becomes copious, while the albumen diminishes and gradually disappears.

The copious flow of urine which usually occurs during convalescence from acute Bright's disease is thus explained. During the acute and congestive stage of the renal disease, the constituents of the urine-both solids and liquids-have accumulated in the blood, and have thence been effused into the areolar tissue and into the serous cavities. Now, area is a most powerful diuretic. When injected into the veins of a dog, it quickly excites a copious flow of urine; and no sooner is the inflammatory congestion of the kidney removed, and thus the freedom of the renal circulation restored, than the urea retained in the blood begins to exert its natural diuretic action upon the kidney. The copious flow of urine thus induced speedily removes the accumulated urinary solids and water from the blood, the arcolar tissue, and the serous cavities, into which they had been effused, and thus the dropsy is cured.

This abundant flow of urine occurs without aid from diurctics or drugs of any kind. I have seen it occur while a bread-pill or colored water was given

as a placebo. Stimulating diuretics, such as squills, or cantharides, or turpentine, would be injurious, by increasing congestion of the kidney. The best diuretics in such cases are those means which tend to lessen renal congestion-dry cupping or hot fomentations over the loins, hot air or water-baths, purgatives, and a scanty diet, with a free use of dilutent drinks-one of the best and pleasantest drinks being the "imperial drink," made with cream-of-tartar and lemon.

local bleeding by leeches or cupping on the loins is often extremely useful. If by the abstraction of a few ounces of blood from the loins we relieve the renal congestion, we shall check the rapid destruction of blood-constituents which results from uræmia; moderate local bleeding, therefore, tends to economize blood, and to prevent its waste.

It has been asserted that cupping or leeching the loins can help an inflamed kidney no more "than if the blood had been taken from the arm or from the nape of the neck." But this, surely, is a mistake. Tne lumbar arteries, which supply the integuments of the loins, arise from the abdominal aorta, close by the origin of the renal arteries; and when leeches or cupping-glasses draw blood through the skin of the back, it is certain that the diminished pressure within the lumbar arteries will divert a certain quantity of blood from the neighboring renal arteries. The same principle explains the good effects of leeching in cases of pericarditis. The internal mammary artery sends deep branches to the pericardium, and superficial branches to the intercostal spaces and the skin. By the application of leeches over the heart, we abstract blood from the integumentary branches of the internal mammary artery, and thus divert a portion of blood from the deeper pericardial branches. The blood will as surely take the course indicated by diminished pressure within the vessels as the water in a pump will, up to a certain height, follow the rising piston. It may be thought that the quantity of blood thus diverted is very small: so, in the case of venesection being practised in the arm or neck, how scanty is the stream of blood which escapes from the opening in the vein compared with the torrents of blood rushing through the venæ cavæ into the right side of the heart; and yet, in a case of obstructed circulation through the heart or lungs, how promptly and decidedly does this small diverted current lessen the distention of the whole venous system. Hot fomentations or poultices on the loins act by relaxing the superficial arteries! The skin, therefore, rcceives a larger supply of blood, and thus a portion of blood is diverted from the renal arteries. Then, too, there is some degree of depletion from the full cutaneous capillaries by the free local sweating which the warmth occasions.

Dry cupping acts in a somewhat similar way to hot fomentations. It draws an abundance of blood through the arteries into the subcutaneous capillaries, which, when the cups are removed, returns through the veins to the heart. In order that dry cupping may be most effectual, each cup should be removed as soon as the vessels beneath are well filled, and then it should be reapplied. The object is first to draw the blood through the arteries into the capillaries; then to allow it quickly to return by the veins, and not to keep it stagnating in the capillaries, which will happen if the glass be retained long on one spot. Another point is not to draw the blood into the skin with sufficient force to cause extravasation, the effect of which will be to impede the circulation through the skin, and so to divert more blood into the in-When the renal congestion is extreme, as shown flamed tissues beneath. The sole object of dry cupby the scanty secretion of highly-albuminous urine, ping, be it remembered, is not to irritate the skin, but