

EYE TREATMENT OF EPILEPTICS.—Ambrose L. Ranney (*New York Med. Jour.*, Feb. 17th, '94) tabulates his results in twenty-five cases of epilepsy treated by graduated tenotomies. A study of his table shows that nearly all his cases suffered from hypermetropia. Esophoria existed in twenty-one of the twenty-five cases, ranging from 2° to 5°. Astigmatism was present in four cases. Emmetropia was found in four cases, and absolute in amount in three of these. The graduated tenotomies had a very decided influence on the attacks. Nineteen cases have been greatly benefited or cured of the fits since the performance of the tenotomies. In two cases the results were negative. In some of these cases sufficient time has not yet elapsed to permit of a definite opinion as to the permanency of the good effects. In one of the negative cases the patient was withdrawn from treatment too soon. Several important nervous features, such as hysteria, were also benefited by the operations. From one to four graduated tenotomies were performed in each case.

CONVULSIONS IN YOUNG CHILDREN.—M. Simon (*Gazette des Hopitaux*, 22nd February, 1894), in a clinical lecture on this subject, remarks that the following indications should be followed:

1. Empty the digestive canal. Very many cases of convulsions are due to some condition of indigestion. For this purpose give a large enema and dose of some laxative, as castor oil, epsom salts, etc.
2. Calm the nervous system. For this he recommends a mixture of chloral, musk, and water.
3. Active treatment of the skin, as by hot baths, mustard baths, or sinapisms.
4. The treatment of the case after the attack, so as to regulate the health and prevent a recurrence. This is mainly a question of the treatment of the digestive

organs. Sometimes the convulsions are due to derangements of the kidneys. This requires treatment directed to these organs, such as hot air baths, proper diet, diuretics, and warm water baths.

THE CAUSES AND TREATMENT OF MIGRAINE.—Dr. H. Gradle, of Chicago (*Chicago Medical Recorder*, Feb., 1894), disputes the gouty and neurotic origin of nervous sick headaches. He contends that the most frequent etiological factor in migraine is astigmatism. The degree met with in most cases that are well marked is three dioptrics. High degrees of astigmatism often cause only poor sight. Hypermetropia sometimes gives rise to it. Nasal diseases may also cause migraine. Intestinal catarrh also may be a cause.

The treatment consists in the correction of these conditions. When properly carried out, the results are usually very good. The only drug that seems to have any permanent influence on this disorder is cannabis indica. This cures about one-third of all the cases. It must be continued for a long time, however. This drug often aborts an attack. When it does not, antipyrine usually does.

A CERTAIN SIGN OF DEATH.—MONS. W. Necati (*La France Médicale*, Feb. 2nd, 1894) reports to the Académie des Sciences the results of his experiments with a new instrument he has had constructed for the purpose of testing the ocular tensions. He has found that during life, tension varies from 14 gram. to 25 gram. Within half an hour after death, this tension has fallen from 1 gram. to 3 gram., and in two hours after death, has become complete. As soon as the pulse ceases, the ocular tension falls, and steadily declines for two hours. An eye that has been enucleated and replaced in the orbit acts in the same way. By the time the loss of tension is complete, the body must have been dead at least two hours.