

FRONTAL HEADACHE AND IODIDE OF POTASH.

A heavy, dull headache, situated over the brow, and accompanied by languor, chilliness and a feeling of general discomfort, with distaste for food, which sometimes approaches to nausea, can generally be completely removed by a two-grain dose of the potassic salt dissolved in half a wineglass of water, and this quietly sipped, the whole quantity being taken in about ten minutes. In many cases the effect of these small doses has been simply wonderful. A person who, a quarter of an hour before, was feeling most miserable and refused all food, wishing only for quietness, would now take a good meal and resume his wonted cheerfulness. The rapidity with which the iodide acts in these cases constitutes its great advantage.—*Alienist and Neurologist*.

THE NERVOUS ORIGIN OF JAUNDICE.

At a recent meeting of the Massachusetts State Medical Society, Dr. A. D. Rockwell read a paper on this subject. (*Boston Med. and Surg. Jour.*) He said it is a well-known fact that disturbance of the brain, both organic and functional, may very seriously interfere with the functional activity of distant organs. A cerebral disturbance may be the direct causative factor of every persistent derangement of the sexual apparatus. The bladder, intestines, stomach and heart may also be disordered by diseases of the central nervous system as well as the kidney and liver. So closely and so strangely are the vascular and the general nervous systems related to each other that their pathological conditions are often inseparably connected. The nervous system has an alliance so close with the functional activity of the secretory and excretory glands of the body that emotional disturbances, according to their character, act as depressants or excitants of the functional life of these organs. Some of the more common of these effects are every day familiar facts, as when the flow of tears is excited through grief, or the secretion of saliva and gastric juice through the smell of food. In the same manner as the superficial glands are easily influenced, so in all probability are the blood-making or ductless glands regulated and controlled by the organic nervous system. Dr. Murchison, to whom the world is so much indebted for enlightenment on this subject, asserted that not only was the secretion of bile interfered with by prolonged mental anxiety, worry and incessant mental exertion, but that the principles of sanguinification and blood change, in which the liver takes part, were frequently deranged from these same causes. He states

that acute atrophy, in which the secreting cells are rapidly disintegrated, and the functions of the organ arrested, appears in many instances to have a purely nervous origin, and very often the first symptoms of the disease have occurred immediately after a severe fright or an outburst of passion in a person previously healthy. An impression made upon the brain appears to be reflected to the liver and deranges its nutrition. Even cancer of the liver appears sometimes to result from the functional derangement induced in the first instance by mental trouble.—*Med. Era*.

APHTHOUS SORE MOUTH IN CHILDREN.

Aphthous sore mouth in children caused by the use of milk from cows affected with aphthous fever is the subject of a report by Dr. Ollivier, published in *La Revue Médicale de l'Enfance*, January, 1892, as follows:—

"Although some specialists in children's diseases assert that the transmission of aphthous diseases is extremely doubtful, and that some of them, as Bohn, positively deny its possibility, it is certain, nevertheless, that the milk of cows or of goats having aphthous-fever may produce an aphthous stomatitis in persons who use it. The facts related by Ollivier are quite conclusive on this subject.

"As long ago as 1765 Sagar observed, in a convent, an epidemic which left no doubt in his mind as to its origin; all the cows from which the milk for the institution was supplied were attacked with aphthous-fever, and the religious who used the milk were attacked with fever and confluent eruptions in the mouth.

"In 1834 three Prussian veterinary surgeons—Hertwig, Mannaud and Villain—drank of the milk of cows suffering with *cocotte* or aphthous sore mouth (aphthous-fever), and all three were attacked after a short period of incubation with the characteristic eruption.

"Since that time numerous facts have been brought to light and numerous experiments, voluntary and involuntary, have been made and published by Delest, David, Proust, Nancara, Declainche, who have cited many other incidents besides their own. In a case of Goubaux, an infant raised on the bottle in the country was taken with a confluent aphthous eruption in the mouth; the cow that gave the milk was examined and found to be suffering with the disease.

"At Lyons M. Chauvau observed the following case: In a boarding-school of young ladies the pupils were accustomed to take unboiled milk every morning, which was supplied from a neighboring farm on which the cows were found to have aphthous-fever; nearly all the young girls were attacked with the local vesicular eruption.