

Unfortunately an opening exists in the drum membrane, and then instead of treatment being employed to remove the cause of the discharge and to heal the opening, the case is left to nature, and may go on discharging for years. Such cases occur not only in Dispensary, but also in private practice. Happily they are not so numerous as formerly, because they are now more generally attended to in the acute stage, and for the additional reason that the importance of arresting the discharge is being generally understood.

INSIDIOUS TROUBLE.

But by far the most unsatisfactory ear patients are those whose hearing gradually become impaired without any pain or other symptom to attract the attention of the patient. In fact the hearing has become seriously impaired before any thing is done to arrest the disease. What is strange about it is that the patient has no idea apparently of the extent of the defect. It is quite a common saying Doctor, my hearing is not quite as good as it was, and I want to see if you can help me? Yet the hearing may be less than one-tenth of what it should be. This class of cases is always difficult to treat satisfactorily; and the proper time to deal with them is in the early stages. These facts are well known to those who have to treat such patients; and it is to be hoped that, when publicly known, they may have an educative effect and benefit those for whom they are intended.

STEPHEN DODGE, M. D.

DARTMOUTH BRANCH.

Dr. M. A. B. Smith submitted the report of the Dartmouth Branch, as follows:

Patients treated.....	215
Visits.....	477
Consultations.....	228
Deaths.....	6

It is now twenty years since this branch was established in Dartmouth. The sick poor, generally to the number of two hundred, have received attendance and medicine. Day after day the sick have been cared for, and yet many hardly realize that the branch is in existence. However, the poor are aware of it, and avail themselves of its advantages, and I believe that the service has the confidence of the poor patients and the approval of those who are interested in them.

There has been little to note in a medical way during the year, unless a mild epidemic typhoid fever that visits Dartmouth every