diminish the respiratory functions, and cause that of the liver to be disordered, and the result is enlargement of the organ from accumulation of fat. In the case before us, such exactly seems to be the cause of the disease. A man is kept stationary watching a steam-engine, in an elevated temperature, whilst he is consuming his usual food, and exceeding in alcholic drinks.

This view, however, has been objected to on the following grounds:—1st, That the connection between fatty liver and disease of the lungs is not general; 2d, That there is no evidence that a fatty liver does not excrete bile as usual; and 3d, That as a considerable portion of bile is absorbed into the blood to be excreted from the lungs, the liver must be considered as preparing material for these organs. Hence it is argued that it would be a strange compensation if the functions of the liver were to be increased, while that of the lung is diminished by disease (Budd.) But if fatty liver be not always conjoined with diseased lung, it will be found associated with some circumstance which diminishes the function of that organ, in relation to the work it is called upon to perform; for instance, the separation of carbon from the alcoholic fluids taken by the drunkard. Again, want of exercise from various diseases, and especially phthisis, whilst, in order to support the strength, wine and nutritious diet are given liberally, may frequently be seen to be the cause of fatty liver. Further, although it be granted that the liver may in health prepare carbonaceous matters for pulmonary excretion, it must be clear that if the lungs cannot accomplish this function, such matters must be thrown back or retained in the liver, and constitute a powerful cause of fatty degeneration of that organ. On the whole, therefore, we must regard excess of carbonaceous matters in the system, and the diminution of pulmonary action, as the chief cause of derangement in the functions of the liver; a view which has the merit of pointing out to us as remedies a diminished diet, a temperate climate, appropriate exercise, and an endeavour to promote the functions of the lungs and skin.

There is another structural alteration of the liver, which, from the colour and general appearance so like bees' wax it assumes, has been called "waxy," and sometimes "brawny," liver. This disease has been confounded with fatty liver, although an examination of its minute structure will show that the hepatic cells present a very different character. Instead of being enlarged and filled more or less with oil globules, they are colourless, shrunken, and for the most part destitute of contents, while the nucleus has disappeared. The lesion seems to me to be a further stage of the fatty degeneration, in which the oily matter is absorbed, and the cell-walls are left behind and aggregated together; but further researches are required to determine this point.—*Monthly Journal of Medical Science, August*, 1852, *p.* 164.

ON CIRRHOSIS OF THE LIVER.

By Professor Bennett.

This morbid change in the liver consists of hypertrophy of the fibrous element between the lobules of the organ and its subsequent contraction, whereby its volume is diminished, and the secreting cells compressed and atrophied. As a further result the large nous trunks are also compressed, and their com-