

stance the animal lived two months and a half, and was quite well when it was killed by a second experiment. 2. After removal of the left capsules, or even of the right only, in all cases the animals died within forty-eight hours, the autopsy showing peritonitis and inflammation of the liver." (Mr. Jonathan Hutchison in *Medical Circular*.)

If great uncertainty has hitherto prevailed regarding the anatomy and physiology of the supra-renal capsules, until recently, absolutely nothing was known of the effects produced on the system by their disease. Indeed, the medical world has been startled from its propriety, by the recent publication of Dr. Addison's monograph on "the constitutional and local effects of disease of the supra-renal capsules," which proves, almost beyond a doubt, that a diseased condition of these bodies is one of the most serious contingencies to which poor humanity is liable, nearly every instance, as yet recorded, having proved fatal.

Dr. Addison had for a long time met with a "very remarkable form of general anæmia, occurring without any discoverable cause whatever; cases in which there had been no previous loss of blood, no exhausting diarrhœa, no chlorosis, no purpura, no renal, splenic, miasmatic, glandular, strumous, or malignant disease." Whilst seeking to throw some light on this form of anæmia, he discovered the disease, the leading characters of which are:—"Anæmia, general languor and debility, remarkable feebleness of the heart's action, irritability of the stomach, and a peculiar change of color of the skin, occurring in connection with a diseased condition of the supra-renal capsules. As has been observed in other forms of anæmic disease, this singular disorder usually commences in such a manner, that the individual has considerable difficulty in assigning the number of weeks or even months that have elapsed since he first experienced indications of failing health and strength; the rapidity, however, with which the morbid change takes place, varies in different instances. The patient falls off gradually in general health; he becomes languid and weak, indisposed to either bodily or mental exertion; the appetite is impaired or entirely lost; the whites of the eyes become pearly; the pulse small and feeble, or perhaps somewhat large, but excessively soft and compressible; the body wastes, without, however, presenting the dry and shrivelled skin, and extreme emaciation, usually attendant on protracted malignant disease; slight pain or uneasiness is from time to time referred to the region of the stomach, and there is occasionally actual vomiting, which in one instance was both urgent and distressing; and it is by no means uncommon for the patient to manifest indications of disturbed cerebral circulation. Notwithstanding these unequivocal signs of feeble circulation, anæmia, and general