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LACTIC ACID IN DIABETES.

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“We learn more by our failures than by our successes.”—BAUER.

Since the much-promising skim-milk treatment has now been, I think I may say fairly, abandoned as judicious treatment for Diabetes Mellitus, and some members of the profession are now turning with some degree of hope to the lactic acid treatment lately brought to our notice by Prof. Alnaldo Cantani, of Naples, I deem it not premature to report the results in two cases under my observation in which his treatment, so far as it seemed possible to carry it out, was given a trial, with what fairness is left to the judgment of the reader. It consists in giving lactic acid with an exclusively flesh diet.*

CASE I.—A married lady, æt. 38, first had diagnosis of diabetes made in Sept. 1871, when the primary symptoms had been troubling

* A statement of Cantani's theory will be found in the *Canada Lancet* for September 1872, p. 48, and a more extended statement, with details of treatment and the pathological views upon which it is based, by Dr. Balfour, of Edinburgh, in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal* for December 1871, *Medical World*, N. Y., May 1872, or *Braithwaite*, July 1872. See also *British Medical Journal*, 25th of February, 1871.