

other, were in both cases on the lesser curvature, and near the cardiac orifice. The largest ulcer had the diameter of a five-cent piece. In one case there were severe gastric symptoms, in the other none. No hemorrhage occurred. No nodules could be seen beneath the serous coat, as so commonly seen in intestinal tuberculosis.—J.C.]

CONGENITAL ABSENCE OF THE PERITONEUM.

Grimsdale (T.B.) recently exhibited an interesting case of this nature before the Liverpool Medical Society. The patient was a young woman, married about eighteen months, no pregnancy, menses practically normal. From her marriage she had suffered more or less pain in the left iliac region, and a few weeks before coming under observation she fell on the stairs, striking the abdomen. Acute pain was felt at the time, but notwithstanding this she went out with her husband. While out she was suddenly seized with such pain that she had to be taken home and put to bed. A short time after this she was admitted into the Hospital for Women, under Dr. Grimsdale. From the time of her admission there was no pyrexia, nor was there any history of fever, but a cystic swelling as large as a foetal head was felt in the left iliac region. The patient had also slight exophthalmos and a small goitre. The abdomen was eventually opened, but no trace of peritoneum could be discovered. The intestines were, as far as could be observed, universally adherent, and had to be separated in the direction of the cyst. This was finally reached, and about a pint of clear serous fluid evacuated. One or two smaller collections were also emptied, and all washed out and drained. The patient made an uninterrupted recovery. He believed the case to be one of congenital absence of general peritoneum, similar to some that had been described.—*Epitome of Medicine*.

THE TOXICITY OF BLOOD SERUM FROM WOMEN SUFFERING FROM PUERPERAL ECLAMPSIA.

Tarnier and Chambrelent (*Annales de Gynécologie*, November, 1892), in a series of six cases of eclampsia, have investigated the toxicity of blood serum. The conclusions reached by them show that the blood serum of such patients is decidedly poisonous, and that its poisonous quality is in inverse ratio with that of the urine of such patients. There was no reason to suppose that the poisonous properties of the blood serum depended at all upon drugs given to these patients. A prognosis as to the gravity of a case of eclampsia may be based upon an investigation into the properties of the blood serum of the patient.—*American Journal of the Medical Sciences*.