

In the first case pepsin and HCl were used to digest the egg and this possesses decided advantages over the pancreatic extract in that the products of pancreatic digestion if not soon absorbed are prone to undergo further splitting up with the formation of leucin and tyrosin and consequent lessening of its nutritive value and increase of rectal irritation.

Another reason for the increase in proteid aliment is that it is the destruction of the albuminous constituents of the tissues which is most serious in the severe cases.

The fats may be burned up with greater impunity and can be replaced later on, but the heart muscle can only be sustained by nitrogenous material.

Again, the large intestine being devoid of those structures which ensure rapid absorption as well as those secretions which tend to prevent decomposition, it is most important that all substances presented to it for absorption should be in as complete a state of solution as it is possible to make them before their injection and for this reason I think that albumen which has been precipitated (as in hard boiled egg), and subsequently dissolved completely by pepsin is more reliable than otherwise, as here inspection is sufficient to inform one when the process is complete; whereas with egg albumen or caesin in an unperceptible condition one is deprived of that simple test and has no guarantee that the ferment used has been, or will ever be instrumental in producing the required change.

SUBCUTANEOUS ABSCESSSES IN CONNECTION WITH A BACILLUS IN THE CIRCULATING BLOOD.

BY THOMAS BRADLEY, M.D.

Late House Surgeon, Toronto General Hospital.

T. P., aged 21 years, has been troubled for the past ten years with what he describes as boils. For the first two or three years they appeared only in the winter, and in successive crops. The favorite situations were the arms, thighs, face and neck. Between eruptions at one or more of these situations, patient was never entirely free from them. After about three years in this condition the time of year seemed to have no influence, eruptions appearing at any season. This continued until two years ago when there was an eruption covering the whole body. At the same time the right fore-arm and arm were swollen to a size nearly half as large again as normal with marked involvement of the epitrochlear and axillary glands. The cervical and submaxillary glands were slightly enlarged. After two months stay in the hospital he was discharged as cured. Shortly, however, the disease repeated itself.

I saw the patient for the first time in Dec. 1898. His left hand was immensely swollen with a discharge of pus at the base of the proximal phalynx of the little finger. The left fore-arm was also much swollen and had two or three points of discharging pus. In most cases these points of breaking down and sloughing were more depressed than the ordinary boil. Others however were not unlike the ordinary furunculus, beginning in a raised angry looking spot and terminating in gangrene of