

for a man of his time of life, and died in full possession of his mental faculties at the advanced age of ninety-three, upwards of thirty years after his attack."

The *Peninsular Journal of Medicine*, observes, "If we learn anything from this case, it is that cerebral arteries may be so frangible as to rupture under great pressure, and that additional ruptures may be prevented, and possibly the tendency to arterial degeneration stayed, and the already weakened walls strengthened, by the regulation of the nutrition. \* \* \* If the doctrine advanced by Virchow be true, that an acid state of the blood favors fatty metamorphosis and atheromatous degeneration, and that the condition of the blood is the same as in endocarditis, it would appear that the way is open to prevent endarteritis and its consequences, by preventing the accumulation of the supposed *materies morbi* in the blood, by the use of agents, the tendency of which would be to maintain its normal alkalinity. Then in the management of cases in which we have cause to believe there is an inherited predisposition to arterial degeneration, from an acid condition of the blood—and it matters not whether it be uric or lactic—we have but to maintain its alkalinity by interdicting the use of nitrogenous articles of food, and insisting upon the example of the old Pythagorean," 'Eat nothing but vegetables, and drink only water or milk.'

**DETECTING LEAKS IN DRAINS**—E. Slade-King, M.D., L.R.C.P., &c., &c., suggests (*Medical Times & Gazette*) the following easy, practical method of detecting flaws or leaks in drains and drain-fittings within dwelling-houses: "Unfortunately the smell of sewer-gas in dwellings is so slight as to be all but absent, and its intensity forms no index of the quantity or of the danger of the gases; those of foul smell not necessarily proving most dangerous, but resulting from the accidental presence of certain decomposing substances. The smell of carbolic acid is easily recognized, and, when used as a disinfectant may become also a detector of defects in traps and other fittings connected with drains. With this purpose in view, I am in the habit of directing a branch sewer, serving, say, a terrace or a group of cottages, to be well flushed overnight; then early the next morning the local ventilators to be closed, and common impure carbolic acid to be poured into the sewer, followed by a few gallons of boiling water. In the course of the day the inspector of nuisances calls at all the houses in the particular section, and inquires if the inmates have lately smelt anything of a peculiar odor. If they answer 'Yes'—