

tion and other causes results in stagnation of the bile through interfering with the normal expulsion.

2. The inactivity of the gall-bladder and stagnation of the bile predisposes the mucous membrane to infection.

3. This infection may be either hematogenic, through the portal system, etc., or an ascending infection from the duodenum.

4. This results in a catarrhal inflammation of the mucous membrane, an albuminous exudate, and the exfoliation of epithelial cells. (According to Naunyn, the addition of albumin to the bile produces a copious precipitation of the stone-forming elements.)

5. This precipitate, with clumped bacteria, and degenerated cell masses as nuclei, forms biliary calculi.—*St. Louis Med. Review.*

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## THE TREATMENT OF FEVER IN INFANTS.

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In order that I may make myself more clearly understood, a few general remarks on the subject of fever may not be out of place. While we are yet in doubt as to the exact mode of production of animal heat, we do know that the bodily temperature, in health, is constantly maintained under varying conditions of atmospheric environment, and that the range of heat either above or below the normal, compatible with life, is limited to a few degrees. Fever is a morbid condition of the system, characterized by a more or less enduring elevation of the bodily temperature. It is a symptom associated with nearly all diseased conditions. Fever is a symptom more frequently present in infants than in either children or adults, and its effects are more immediately serious. Why this is so we do not positively know, but it may probably be inferred that it is due to the preponderance of brain tissue over body and the immaturity of the gray matter, permitting the nerve centers to be more readily disturbed. Because of these conditions, the regularity of the production of heat, which physiologists teach, reside in the nervous system, is less than in the adult. Again, the greater susceptibility of the infant to the invasion of microbes, association with their feeble resisting power, combine to make them more prone to the development of fever.

Fever is a symptom illustrating the intimate relationship between physiology and pathology. Normal body heat is essential to the performance of the vital functions. Febrile