

This concluded the work of the Medical section.

A general meeting of the Association took place at 2 o'clock, Dr. Canniff in the chair, as the president was absent.

Dr. McEachren, the Principal of the Veterinary College, gave an address on the "Pleuro-pneumonia of Cattle," which was illustrated by pathological specimens. The principal difference between pleuro-pneumonia in cattle and that of man is, that in the former the disease is first, and essentially, an inflammation of the interlobular connective tissue; the alveoli are only secondarily affected.

Votes of thanks were then given to the authorities of the Laval University for the use of the building, and to the railroad and steamboat companies for the courtesy shown by them to the Association.

The Association then adjourned.

A report of the Surgical Section will appear in our next number.

Selected Articles.

ON THE TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.

Dr. Miller in a paper read before the American Medical Association gave the following as a summary of the nature of diphtheria, and his treatment of that disease:

Diphtheria is not croup.

1. Diphtheria is infectious. Croup is not.

2. Diphtheria is a general disease. Croup is local.

3. Diphtheria is an epidemic asthenic disease.

Croup is a sthenic local inflammation.

4. Diphtheria may be followed by paralysis. Croup not.

5. Diphtheria may be complicated by albuminuria. Croup not.

6. The diphtheritic membrane involves the subjacent tissues. In croup the exudate becomes a solidifying membrane upon the mucous surface.

In the management of diphtheria it is of the first importance to recognize the infectious nature of the disease. For the protection, therefore, of the healthy, isolate the sick. The room assigned to the affected should contain only the simplest articles of furniture. Carpets, curtains and upholstered furniture should be removed. The atmosphere of the apartment should be kept at a uniform temperature of about 72°, and good ventilation should be secured without exposing the patient to draughts of air.

After the termination of the case, the thorough disinfection of the room, bedding and furniture should never be neglected, and the same may be affirmed of the clothing and persons of the attendants, and of the convalescing patient, as well.

The indications of treatment may be formulated as follows:

1. Destroy the septic germs in the blood.
2. Eliminate effete material from the system.
3. Prevent the formation of, or remove the pseudo-membrane.
4. Control pain and restlessness.
5. Sustain the strength of the patient.
6. Prevent the sequelæ.
7. Perform tracheotomy (?) or intubation.

The asthenic nature of the disease should be borne in mind, even in the earliest stage, that the treatment may be preventive of the possible sudden prostration which precedes the dangerous complications. The alimentary canal should be freely evacuated. This may be accomplished by exhibiting some unirritating agent, as castor oil, rhubarb, or a suitable dose of the compound cathartic pill ($\frac{1}{2}$ grain or 1 grain).

Keeping in mind the indications which have been tabulated, some combination of remedies may be devised which will meet most of the requirements of the case. And it is fortunate that the remedies from which experience justifies an expectation of benefit are not incompatible, and may therefore be grouped. It is also worthy of consideration, that medicines intended for children especially should be rendered as palatable as possible. For this purpose the syrup of lemon may be substituted for the glycerine and water in the following prescription.

The following prescription is suggested as an example of such combination:

R. Tr. ferri chloridi.	5j.
Potas. chlorat.	5ij.
Acid hydrochloric dil.	m. xx.
Tr. capsici.	3j.
Morph. muriat.	gr. ss.
Glycerine	3ij.
Aq. destil.	3ijss.

M. S. Give a teaspoonful every hour or two or three hours, according to the urgency of the symptoms.

Of course the proportions of the several ingredients will be varied in different cases to adjust the doses to the age and condition of the patient. The directions for taking the mixture given above, however, convey but an imperfect idea of the most efficient mode of using it. The patient should be required to take a drink of water, then immediately take the mixture undiluted. By this mode several indications are fulfilled at one and the same time. An efficient local application is made to the throat each time the mixture is administered, and the constitutional tonic, antiseptic and anodyne effects are also secured. The water which was taken before the medicine will be sufficient to properly dilute the remedies in the stomach, and thus prevent any irritation of that organ.

In mild cases this prescription will fill all indications, and a large proportion of cases in which this treatment is commenced early will progress and terminate as mild cases, which under some other course would prove severe and endanger life. It will be unnecessary to annoy the patient