

arated from the allantoic fluid or membrane of the pregnant mare, or cow. Lyssin is the dried saliva of the mad dog. Mephitis is the desiccated stinking fluid of the skunk. Psorium is obtained by squeezing the pus from the festering itch eruption of the negro—whilst the dried bodies of the little red lice which render sad the bright summer days of the domestic fly, appear under the more than regal title of *Trombidium muscæ domesticæ*. Dried fox liver and dried fox lungs, centipedes, wasps, and other things uncanny and unclean seethe and bubble in this witch's cauldron that streams in these later days, not in the darkness of night, but in the full light of a great medical centre.—*Med. News*.

THE MICROCOCCUS OF TUMORS.—The belief that some forms of tumors are caused by micro-organisms has long seemed very plausible, and diligent efforts have been made to discover these. So far, however, among tumors, only the fungus growth known as actinomycosis, a growth presenting some of the clinical appearances of a malignant tumor, has been discovered to be caused by a parasite.

Dr. Luigi Manfredi, while working in the Laboratory of Cantani, at Naples, discovered quite recently a minute organism which possessed extraordinarily specific and virulent properties. It was obtained from the sputum in two cases of pneumonia, each being a sequel of measles, and running a rapid and highly malignant course. The pneumococcus of Friedlander was observed in each case also. The new organism is oval in form, often appears as a diplococcus, and is about 0.5 mm. in diameter. It has a characteristic method of growth, which is described by Manfredi in his original article (*Fortschritt der Med.*, No. 22, 1886).

A large number of inoculation experiments with pure cultures were made upon dogs, rabbits, guinea-pigs, mice, and birds. With the exception of the last named, which seem to die from blood-poisoning, Manfredi found that the micrococcus uniformly caused one and the same pathological condition. This consisted of the deposit of gray, or grayish-yellow, nodules in the parenchyma of organs, especially of the spleen and lymph gland. The lungs showed in addition the characteristic marks of a more or less intense pneumonia. The nodular masses belong to the type of the granulomata, or infectious granulation tumors. They consist of masses of newly formed cells without blood-vessels, and they begin gradually to become cheesy, to soften in the centre.

The infective granulomata include tubercle, lupus, syphilis, glanders and farcy, leprosy, and actinomycosis. The parasite described by Manfredi produces pathological changes somewhat similar to those of the diseases of the class mentioned.—*Med. Record*.

AN ANATOMIST TO HIS LADY LOVE.

I list as thy heart and ascending aorta
Their volumes of valvular harmony pour ;
And my soul from that muscular music has caught a
New life 'mid its anatomical lore.

O, rare is the sound when thy ventricles throb
In a systolic symphony measured and slow ;
While the auricles answer with rythmical sob,
As they murmur a melody wondrously low !

O, thy cornea, love, has the radiant light
Of the sparkle that laughs in the icicle's' sheen !
And thy crystalline lens, like a diamond bright,
Through the quivering frame of thine iris is seen !

And the retina, spreading its lustre of pearl,
Like the far away nebula, distantly gleams
From the vault of black cellular mirrors that hurl
From their hexagon angles the silvery beams.

Ah, the flash of those orbs is enslaving me still,
As they roll 'neath the palpebræ, dimly translucent,
Obeying, in silence, the magical will
Of the oculo motor—pathetic—abducent.

O, sweet is the voice, as it sighingly swells
From the daintily-quivering chordæ vocales ;
Or rings in clear tones through the echoing cells
Of the antrum, the ethmoid, and sinus frontales.

—*Med. Advocate*.

PAINLESS SUTURE.—To avoid the pits and creases caused by sutures in wounds of the face, cut two pieces of adhesive plaster somewhat longer than the wound and an inch and a half wide. They should be shaped so that one edge of each will follow the course of the lesion, but if the wound be irregular it is better to use more pieces. Turn the inner edge (or that intended to be next the wound) of each of these strips under, so as to form a non-adhesive border a quarter of an inch wide, and leave an adhesive surface of from three-quarters of an inch to one inch in width. Apply these to the uninjured skin on each side of the wound, and make them adhere firmly by holding them to this with a hot, dry towel. The stitches may now be taken from side to side, thrusting the needle through the double edge of the plaster instead of through the skin, and after the fashion of shoe-lacing, uninterrupted.—F. L. T., *St. Louis Med. and Surg. Jour.*

DANGER OF WATER GAS.—The experience of the people of Troy in the use of water-fuel gas, shows that, unless this gas is made odorous, so that its presence in the air can be ascertained by the sense of smell, its manufacture and delivery in a city may largely increase the death-rate. Water gas having no odor, and being very deadly, may be as fatal to a man who is awake as illuminating gas is to a man who is sleeping in a close room. This gas is an excellent fuel, and it is cheap. In Troy it was made for nine cents a thousand and sold for fifty cents.