

the capillaries of the part, and likewise of its secreting apparatus, while in the sthenic variety it increases the congestion of the membrane, chiefly by diminishing the fluidity of the blood in its vessels.

2nd. In acute laryngitis, in which there is no false membrane, and probably in diphtheritis, in which there is an albuminous exudation, the local application of solution of caustic, varying in strength inversely in proportion to the intensity of the inflammation, may be employed with more or less speedy benefit.

3rd. During the violence of true exudative croup, the stimulant application to the part affected is injurious, but when the disease begins to yield to antiphlogistic and other treatment, it may assist in the cure.

4th. Œdema glottidis, whether occurring as a primary disease, or as a complication of other morbid states, is always speedily relieved, and in some cases effectually cured, by the application of strong solutions of the nitrate of silver to the œdematous organ.

And 5th. It follows as a corollary, derived partly from the foregoing conclusions, and partly from the results of my experience of the topical treatment communicated to 'The Dublin Quarterly Journal' in November, 1850, that the solution of caustic acts beneficially in only one, viz., in the asthenic variety of laryngeal inflammation: for it matters not whether such has been the original character of the affection (acute but not asthenic cases), or whether it has become so under the combined influence of time and general treatment (chronic cases).—*Dublin Quarterly Journal*, August, 1852. p. 48.

ON FATTY ENLARGEMENT OF THE LIVER.

By PROF. BENNETT.

Fatty liver is now well known to depend on the secretion of a large quantity of oil, which is stored up in the hepatic cells. These cells are under such circumstances frequently enlarged, and contain oil varying in amount from a few granules to a large mass, which occupies the whole of their cavities. Not unfrequently livers, which to the naked eye appear healthy enough, may still be demonstrated with the microscope to contain an unusual number of fat granules, and there can be little doubt that considerable variations may exist in this respect quite compatible with a state of health. Almost all stall-fed animals that do not labour, possess a large amount of fat in their hepatic cells. It is only where the organ is much enlarged, altered in colour, and presses upon neighbouring viscera, that its fatty degeneration can be said to interfere with the vital processes.

In man, fatty degeneration of the liver has been observed to be very common in two kinds of cases—1st, in drunkards; 2nd, in persons labouring under phthisis pulmonalis. Drunkards are continually taking alcoholic liquids, which abound in carbon, and which being too large in amount to be excreted from the lungs as carbonic acid, and from the liver as bile, is stored up in the latter organ in the form of fat. In phthisis pulmonalis, the excretory power of the lungs is diminished, and the excess of carbon in the tissues and food is thrown upon the liver to be excreted. Under these circumstances, it is converted into fat and stored up in that organ.

The manner in which the livers of geese are prepared in Strasburg, is by following a process somewhat similar. They are confined in close cages, in a heated atmosphere, and largely supplied with food. Want of exercise and heat