

the nerve was found compressed by a band of cicatricial tissue about an inch in width and one-fourth of an inch thick. This cicatrix was the result of laceration of soft parts, dependent upon the extreme displacement of fragments of fractured bone. The nerve was not caught in bony callus, but was found free in its sheath, though diminished to about one-third of its normal size and tinted a yellowish brown at the point of constriction, this tint shading off into light yellow below, and clear white above.

The cicatrix was excised and the cut triceps muscle united by catgut sutures, bone drainage introduced and the wound closed. The incision healed by first intention. Within twenty-four hours after operation acute pain appeared in the hand and forearm but gradually subsided, lasting perhaps ten days. Two weeks afterwards very slight extension of the wrist could be accomplished, sensation having returned nearly to normal. Improvement from this time on was constant, and twelve weeks after operation the patient had resumed her former occupation, that of fancy embroidery, requiring a high degree of skill in the use of fingers, and was apparently as skilful as ever. At the present date the hand and arm seem perfectly normal with the exception of the scar left by the operation.

In this case, after twelve weeks entire loss of function the nerve showed unmistakable signs of recovery within two weeks from date of operation, and in ten weeks more had entirely recovered.

#### Rabies in Man and the Lower Animals.

Our interest in this disease referred to by "The Select Committee of the House of Lords on Rabies in Dogs," in the following terms: "The frightful character of hydrophobia in man naturally engenders horror at the bite of a dog, and unreasonable dread very often occurs; it is clear that panic attributes rabies to many dogs which are free from it, and there are indeed so few which really have the disease, that the great probabilities are in favour of persons bitten escaping the consequences so readily feared," is increased by the report just published by the Agricultural Department, regarding an outbreak of the disease amongst the deer in Richmond Park in 1886-87. The investigation was conducted by Mr. A. C. Cope, Chief Inspector, and Victor Horsley, F.R.S., of the Brown

Institution. By April 1887, 160 animals had died at the rate of four per week, all of them presenting decided symptoms of some form of nervous disease. Analysis of the stomachs of some of these animals, at the suggestion of Local Authorities, having failed to detect any evidence of poisonous food, the matter was brought before the Government Authorities. Separation of the animals and feeding on different pastures not having limited the disease, it was concluded that it could not have been due to poison. With the uncertainty as to the cause, several animals were transferred to the Brown Institution for examination and experiment.

Of these a buck became so wild and violent that the persons in charge were unable to enter the loose box in which it was placed. This animal died two days after its arrival, and some rabbits were inoculated with portions of its spinal cord, with rabies as a result.

These animals, usually so timid, would rush at any person looking at them, and bite at a broom or a stick if put through the bars of the door.

Although the inoculation of the rabbits resulted in their death from paralytic rabies, I suggested, says Mr. Cope, to Professor Horsley the desirability of inoculating a dog to see if true rabies could be produced in that animal. Accordingly, on May 26, a dog was inoculated with part of the spinal cord of another affected deer which had been sent up from Richmond Park. Eleven days after the inoculation, *i.e.*, June 6th, the dog presented symptoms of rabies and died on June 12th; the autopsy was conducted by Professor Horsley, who found all the characteristic symptoms of rabies present.

It having now become certain that the disease among the deer in Richmond Park was true rabies, it was considered desirable to stamp out the disease as soon as possible. The animals were still confined to the enclosure in which they had been placed, and Mr. Sawyer was advised to forthwith shoot any animal presenting the least indication of the disease. This was accordingly carried out.

The earliest symptom observed in most cases was that of throwing their heads back on the shoulders and keeping their noses pointed to the sky; the animals are then seen to make sudden starts and gallop right away from the rest of the herd.

After a few days illness the animals invariably die, some presenting violent paroxysms, while in