

the gleanings from practical experience prove of greater value than in the diseases of children, and the only object of this paper is to furnish a few further observations on a subject which I deem worthy of attention.

At the meeting of this Association two years ago, it was my privilege to present a paper on certain reflex nervous phenomena due to preputial contractions, and to briefly relate the clinical histories of a few cases, in which, as the results clearly proved, there might be a causative relation between certain nervous symptoms, and an abnormal condition of the penis, and that by directing our efforts to relieve that condition, we might in some instances restore a delicate boy to the full vigor of joyous childhood. I have now to present, as briefly as I may, the histories of two interesting cases, which have lately come under my observation, and the results of which are, to me, further convincing evidence of the importance of the subject I have, now for the second time, to bring before the Association.

In reference to the cases previously reported, I may say that the relief has been permanent, that each child has lived, and developed in mind and muscle, and none of them have had any return of the symptoms once so distressing.

CASE No. 1.—Albert L., aged nine years, the son of parents who have been exceptionally healthy, and neither of whom has any relative who has any nervous disease, was brought to me by his father, who gave me the lad's history. For the first five years of his life the boy had enjoyed good health, but in his sixth year the parents noticed choreic movements of the lower limbs, and inability to remain standing more than a moment or so at a time, without peculiar twitchings in the muscles of his legs. Shortly after passing his sixth birthday and after a day spent in play, the child had a severe convulsion lasting several minutes, which so alarmed his parents that the family physician was called, and after prescribing the usual remedies the patient was soon restored to his usual health. Three months afterwards another severe convulsion occurred, the next in two months, and gradually at shorter intervals, until when brought to me he was in the habit of having a convulsion every two or three weeks. He would generally make a rapid recovery after each convulsion, but the choreic movements of the limb

would continue unabated. His appearance when first seen at my office was that of a pleasant-faced healthy lad, and there was no evidence of any impairment of the mental faculties. The father brought with him a detailed account of the child's history and from this I readily saw that all the remedies commonly employed in such cases had been given a faithful trial. On examination of the penis I found the prepuce elongated, contracted and adherent, and did not hesitate to explain to the father that I thought that abnormal condition might account for the lad's disease. Placing the child under chloroform, I introduced a director and slowly broke up the adhesions, and after making a small slit in the prepuce the glans were exposed having a perfectly raw surface as far back as the corona. The prepuce had to all appearances been adherent for a long time to the glans, which was much smaller than usual at that age. Behind the corona glandis and pressing into it was hardened cheese-like smegma which on removal left a distinct red ring of depression, completely encircling the organ. I painted the parts over with tr. benzoin co., and after applying dressing, the child was removed to a friend's house. The next day he was bright and doing well. There being no unfavorable symptoms and the parts healing nicely, I gave my permission in a few days, for the child's removal by train to his home. The father was instructed to keep the parts carefully washed with hot water every day, for a short time, and to examine the penis each week and prevent any tendency to adhesions again forming. At my request the lad was brought to me every month for three months, but at the end of that period as there had been no return of the convulsions and choreic movements of the limbs had entirely ceased, I was glad to dismiss the case as cured. I quote from a letter received from the father of the child during the past week, as follows: "Albert is doing well and appears to be in the best of health. He is at school every day and has not had a convulsion since you performed the operation on him last summer."

CASE No. 2.—R. S., aged 9 years, son of a clergyman living in a western town, was referred to me by the family physician, in November last, with the following history. For the first two years of the boy's life, he had been healthy and bright. At the age of twenty-seven months he