

treatment, he has not lost one patient. Schneemann, of Hanover, was the first who pointed out that inunctions with bacon produced a decrease of temperature. It has been proved by experiment that animals can be made to perish from cold by this method.—*London Med. Record* Dec. 17.

TREATMENT OF CYSTIC GOITRE BY EVACUATION AND INJECTION OF THE SOLUTION OF THE PERCHLORIDE OF IRON.

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In the *London Lancet* of May 11, 1872, Dr. Morell Mackenzie reported a number of cases of cystic bronchocele which he had treated with eminent success by tapping and injecting with the solution of the perchloride of iron. As stated in the article, the cysts, by this method of treatment, were converted into chronic abscesses, and it was only necessary to conduct these to a termination in order to effect the cure of the bronchocele. The operation is exceedingly simple, and is described as follows. The cyst is first emptied, the trocar being introduced at its most dependent point, through the canula, which is allowed to remain, a drachm or more (the quantity being determined by the size of the cyst) of the solution of the perchloride of iron is injected, and the opening of the canula closed by a piece of cork or wood, cut to the proper size. The solution of iron is permitted to remain in the cyst for three or four days, according to the degree of inflammation which it is thought necessary to produce. At the end of the prescribed time it is withdrawn, the canula, with the opening closed, being retained in position. Poultices of linseed meal are now applied over the cyst, and when suppuration is fully established the plug in the canula is removed, and free drainage is secured. The canula is not removed until the discharge is limited in amount and its consistence such as to permit its easy exit through the wound. The duration of treatment was reported to vary from three weeks to four months.

Having under my care, at the time of reading this article, a patient who was suffering from bronchocele, I determined to treat it according to the plan so successfully employed by Dr. Mackenzie. Although I was not able, as will be seen, to follow to the letter the instructions given, still the success was complete, and I feel it a duty to report the case which so entirely confirms the plan of Dr. Mackenzie. It gives to the surgeon a method of treatment in these cases, which is at once simple and devoid of danger.

The patient, a female, aged twenty-eight years, first noticed the tumor in the neck some twelve years ago. Its growth had been very slow, and for a period of four years it seemed to remain stationary. During the last year it had enlarged in size until it produced quite a deformity, and at times interfered with swallowing. It was at the time of operation, the size of a large-sized hen's egg, being developed rather more to the left of the median line of the

neck. It was freely movable, rising and falling with the movements of the larynx and trachea in deglutition. Various plans of treatment had been employed to effect its removal. I had already tried simple tapping and the internal administration of sorbefacient remedies, with also local applications.

Owing to the failure to obtain the proper form of trocar and canula, I was unable to secure the latter in the cyst after I had tapped it, and injected a drachm of the solution of the perchloride of iron. The injection was, however, entirely retained by the closure of the puncture made by the small trocar. On the third day symptoms of inflammation appeared, and the neck was quite swollen; slight febrile movement was also present. On the fourth day I reopened the cyst, from which there escaped a small quantity of a viscid, tarry substance. Poultices were now applied, and in a few days suppuration was established, the pus escaping through the puncture, which was kept open by the use of the probe. In six weeks the discharge ceased and the opening closed, leaving but a slight swelling over the site of the tumor. Three months after, when I saw the patient, the swelling had disappeared, and a small cicatrix marked the position of the cyst.

Dr. Mackenzie has reported to the Clinical Society of London the results of this plan of treatment in sixty-eight cases of cystic goitre and nineteen of the fibro-cystic variety. Of the cystic form fifty-four were cured, eleven did not require treatment, and three were in subjects on whom, by reason of cardiac disease, it was thought undesirable to operate. The results in the fibro-cystic varieties were equally favorable. The advantages of this line of treatment are set forth in several clearly stated conclusions, at which Dr. M. had arrived from a study of his cases. The hæmostatic property of the iron is alluded to as of value in these cases. The frequent occurrence of sloughing after the injection of iodine renders this remedy dangerous, and it should therefore not be employed.—*Medical Times*.

SOME PECULIARITIES OF PNEUMONIA IN EARLY

LIFE. By DR. FARQUHARSON.

After some preliminary remarks, the author stated that the pure lobar pneumonia of children does not differ so much from that of adults as we might suppose, considering the very trivial causes which light up acute fever in early life. Although the beginning is more insidious, the course is much the same, the temperature seldom exceeding 105°, and defervescence taking place from the sixth to the seventh day. The pain, however, is often so decidedly situated in the abdomen as even to simulate peritonitis; the cough is more irritable, and the dyspnoea frequently out of all proportion to the extent of lung tissue involved; it being suggested that this may sometimes be of a nervous character, as in hysterical women. The most marked distinctive peculiarity, however, is the tendency of the inflammation to attack the upper lobes by preference, and even