

August, 1897), twenty cases were attributable to this cause, to which fact especial attention was called at the time.

Both Mosler and Massalongo, also quoted by Sajous, cite examples of what they describe as "alcoholic" chorea. Dakin found in seven cases of chorea occurring in pregnancy a mitral murmur invariably present. Burr and London find from laboratory studies that very important blood changes are to be noted in all cases of chorea. The anæmia is of the chlorotic type according to Burr. The hæmatology of chorea is believed by London to be of the greatest value in treatment and prognosis.

*Treatment.*—Kraft Ebbing says that arsenic is second to no other remedy in its value in chorea. In this opinion he is sustained by Sinkler, Spiller, Marfan, Renai and Lewis. The necessity for large and ascending doses is advocated without exception. Renai indeed is quoted as recommending that the drug be commenced in doses of 20 drops of Fowler's solution in children and double that amount for adults. While the writer believes in the use of arsenic carried up to the extreme tolerance in chorea, such a dosage as 20 drops to begin with seems dangerously unsafe and unnecessary. Rest in the early stages with nutritious diet and later light exercise in the open air are measures of treatment upon which a general agreement seems apparent. Kraft Ebbing condemns without qualification the use of electricity, while Renai, McKenzie (*Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery*, March, 1898), Graucher and Guthrie especially emphasize the value of gymnastics. Averend employs belladonnæ with great confidence and in enormous doses. Thirty drops of the tincture every four hours for ten days to a child is perfectly justifiable he says, provided certain precautions as to the kidneys are observed. Guthrie and Graucher are among a large number who have found antipyrine of value. Of the newer remedies the evidences as to positive value are so inclusive as scarcely to justify reference to them at all.—*The New York Polyclinic*.

## CERVANTES AS PATIENT AND AS PHYSICIAN.

It is related that Sydenham, being asked by Blackmore (afterwards pilloried in the *Dunciad* for his epics "writ to the rumbling of his chariot wheels") what works he should read to improve his medical knowledge, answered "Read *Don Quixote*. It is a good book. I read it still." It is probable that our English Hippocrates merely wished to snub a pert youth; but, rightly understood, the advice might with ad-