

interval between the entrance of the pulmonary veins, there were two or three large lacerations. The left auricular appendix was ruptured; but the left ventricle was free of rupture, or of any lesion whatever. Clearly what happened was, that the heart being full of blood, pressure of the detached bone burst the whole of the three chambers.—*Beckett in Med. Press and Circular.*

DIASTASE OF MALT IN EXPERIMENTAL DIABETES.—At a meeting of the National Society of Medicine, of Lyons, M. Lepine related an experiment proving that the injection of diastase of malt into the blood is capable of diminishing enormously the glycosuria produced experimentally by obliteration of the pancreas. A bitch in a state of inanition, whose pancreas had been removed, and which could be catheterized every half hour, had urine drawn off one hour after operation, and nearly 50 grammes of sugar per litre were found. Two hours after the operation there were 66 grammes per litre. Two grammes of diastase were now injected into the animal, the quantity of sugar was rapidly lessened; half an hour after less than twenty grammes were found; the quantity then began to increase again, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours later the effect of the diastase had nearly passed off. This result is perfectly in keeping with the results obtained by M. Lepine in the case of a man in whom he had injected some diastatic ferment. Unfortunately the diminution of the glycosuria is but transitory, the injected ferment being soon eliminated.—*Lyon Medical, April 6th, 1890.*

SOME CASES OF EPILEPSY TREATED WITH SUCCESS BY COLD BATHS AND LARGE DOSES OF BROMIDES.—Dr. P. Glatz.—The author publishes four cases of epileptic attacks very much improved, and even apparently cured, by the simultaneous use of the bromides and the cold douche, which had been recommended by Charcot in one of the cases in which bromides and other remedies taken alone had failed. Knowing how frequently relapses occur, he insisted that the patient shall employ the treatment during at least three months of each year. The douches should be in form of shower-bath of very short duration, lasting not longer than half a minute to a minute, and should be taken morning and evening. The bromides were un-

der form of polybromides (? combination of bromides) of Charcot, from 60 to 120 grains daily, or simply the bromide of sodium, of which the dose did not exceed 135 grains daily.—*Gas. med. de Strasbourg, April 1890. Lyon Medical, April 27th, 1890.*

G. A. F.

EXTRAORDINARY EFFECTS OF NAPHTHALIN ON THE EYE.—A recent *Lancet* referring to some new observations by Dr. Kolinski points out that naphthalin, which has been coming much into use from the powerful effect on the micro-organisms which exist in the intestines in some kinds of diarrhoea, also possesses the property of producing changes in the nutritive power of the blood, thus being able to set up degeneration of the blood vessels. As the eye is one of the most vascular organs, it is one of the first to show any of the changes induced by interference with the nutritive property of the blood. Naphthalin, according to Dr. Kolinski, first causes small extravasations in the choroid, and in the ciliary body, then ecchymosis and white patches in the retina, and finally cloudiness in the lens and crystals in the vitreous humour. We may add to these remarks published by the *Lancet*, and in Van Grafe's *Archiven* (xxxv. 2), that it has long been known how much influence is exerted on the eye by disturbance of the digestive organs, and especially by affections of the liver, which may actually produce cataract, the latter disappearing when the liver symptoms are cured. We know also how strongly certain medicaments, such as santonine, morphine, hyosciamine, etc., act upon the organ of sight. The Polish physician has done well to draw attention to the effects of naphthalin in this respect.—*Magazine of Pharmacy.*

PRIMARY CARCINOMA OF PANCREAS; EXTIRPATION, RECOVERY.—By Professor Rugge of Bologna (*Gioen, Internazionale delle Scienze Mediche*, 1890, February)—A very instructive case occurred recently in which the pancreas of a woman of Ravenna, 50 years of age, was completely extirpated. The patient came to the clinic of the author in Bologna, complaining of gastric uneasiness, want of appetite, anorexia, persistent constipation, and pains radiating from the epigastrium in all directions. On examina-