

the diagnosis : when, for example, after an apoplectiform attack, the temperature should be found  $102^{\circ}$ , we might conclude that most probably we had to do with pneumonia, because, in an attack of true apoplexy, there is an initial depression of the temperature.

Meningitis, associated with pneumonia, is one of the most dangerous possible complications : as yet, it has always proved fatal. Still the author raises the question of the possibility of effecting a cure even in these cases, and cites, in support of this view, four cases which seem to him conclusive. Of these four cases, one only appears to us to possess any value. It is that of a man 20 years of age, who had pneumonia accompanied by hemiplegia, and who recovered. Two others have some of the features of the atrophying paraplegia of the convalescent, and the last seems to have been a paralysis independent of the pneumonia, and coming on a month after the chest trouble had been entirely recovered from.

The treatment most commending itself for these meningeal complications appears to be the application of leeches and cups to the nucha or behind the mastoid process.

(*Thèse de Paris*, 1875. *Revue des Sciences Médicales* 15 April, 1876.)

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**Diphtheria.**—In the treatment of diphtheria, in 102 cases, Dr. C. E. Billington, of New York, had the following results—viz., 14 deaths and 88 recoveries. His mode of treatment is local disinfection with perchloride of iron or lime water and glycerine, also the internal administration of salicylic acid and sulphite of soda. He gives the following prescription.—

R. Acid. salicylic. gr. x. ; sodii sulphitis, 3ss. ; glycerini, ʒss ; aquæ, ʒiij. M. One teaspoonful every hour.

The well-known action of salicylic acid and sodium sulphite as antiferments indicates their extreme value in all zymotic diseases, and it is to be hoped that a recognition of their value will be followed by a more general use in such cases.

Salicylic acid especially has been found very effective in acute rheumatism, and it has been asserted that this drug is as certain a cure for that disease as quinine is for the ague.—*The Doctor*.