

ness, and will either frequently wish to be nursed or will lay its head upon a chair and throw from it those toys which before were its chief source of pleasure. The temper is irritable, it will fret and cry for the least trifle, and any noise evidently adds to the child's discomfort; the appetite has failed, but thirst is oftentimes great; the skin is hot and dry, more especially the abdomen and forehead; the bowels are usually costive and but little urine is voided. This may be termed the incipient or irritable stage of the disorder, and if at this period the process of dentition should be going on with the child, the second or inflammatory stage may now be expected to supervene. The structure which most commonly becomes inflamed as a prelude to effusion, or the formation of water, is the innermost membrane, the pia mater. This, as stated in the first article, in the last number, envelopes the convolutions and circumvolutions of the brain, and lines the ventricles or cavities which are found in the interior.

2ND STAGE.

The same train of symptoms which have been described in the incipient stage are observed in the second or inflammatory, but aggravated in a high degree. The sense of hearing is now exceedingly acute, the slightest noise evidently gives pain. The eyes become red and are suffused with tears; they cannot bear light; on only a slight ray being admitted to them the lids are instantly closed, and the child screams from pain. The tongue and mouth becomes covered with a dry brownish crust, the sordes collect about the teeth and gums. Thirst is incessant; and on offering the little sufferer any drink, it will seize the cup or glass with its teeth and drink with the utmost eagerness; sleep is disturbed by almost incessant startlings; and at such times the thumbs and toes may be observed to be bent inwards, the former usually pressed under the fore fingers. This symptom clearly denotes that convulsions are near at hand. The commencement of convulsive fits indicates that effusion (formation of water) is taking place within the cavities of the brain. Convulsions now become frequent and increased in severity; the child rolls its head upon the pillow; the pupils of the eyes become gradually