

cation cease gradually, in the majority of cases within the first 25 hours. The temperature often falls from 102 degrees or 104 degrees to 98 or 100.4 degrees after the first lavage, and remains at normal after the third or fourth. The duration of the treatment by lavage is from 2 to 10 days, usually they are unnecessary after the fifth or sixth day, and are replaced by mild purgatives, such as castor oil or the saline formula given above. The author has seen many cases definitely cured by this mode of treatment, and considers it preferable in many cases to immediate operation. —*American Medicine.*

---

#### DECAPSULATION OF THE KIDNEY FOR CHRONIC BRIGHT'S DISEASE.

If the operation which has lately been employed by Dr. Edebohls for chronic Bright's disease, shall prove as effective as its inventor apparently hopes and believes, it will be one of the most beneficent surgical procedures introduced since the advent of appendicectomy. An exhaustive article appears in the *Medical Record* of December 21, giving the result of the operator's experience in a number of cases.

It goes without saying that chronic Bright's disease, whatever its variety, is one of the most hopeless of human maladies; and any procedure which will appreciably reduce the mortality in this affection will be welcomed as a valuable addition to medical science.

Edebohls reports a series of 18 cases operated upon, all having chronic Bright's disease. Some of the earlier of these had movable kidney, and simply underwent an operation for nephropexy: the latter cases were without movable kidney, and underwent the operation solely with a view of curing or improving the diseased kidney condition. In the later cases complete renal decapsulation was performed. Nine of the eighteen patients have been operated upon more than a year, and hence some intelligent opinion can be formed as to the value of the procedure. It is asserted that of the nine cases operated upon, eight made a complete recovery from the chronic Bright's disease. It is claimed that the variety of the nephritic, whether it be parenchymatous, interstitial or diffuse, is immaterial. In the successful cases it appears that some 10 or 15 days must elapse after the operation before there is any appreciable change in the quantity or quality of the urine; then there begins a gradual return to the normal, which, however, in some cases is not completed for a number of months.

The theory advanced to account for the favorable change is that by the formation of adhesions between the kidney substance