

tubes and fibres, and granular cells. No pus nor blood globules were found.

On the mesial line of the surface of the left corpus striatum were numerous white lines running transversely from before backwards.

Thorax. Lungs and pleuræ healthy. A quantity of fat filled up the anterior mediastinum. The pericardium contained about half an ounce of serum; the heart was covered with fat, quite empty, and the coronary arteries were ossified, as in the brain; and through the aorta, *in situ*, could be distinctly seen patches of atheromatous deposits. On opening the left ventricle, its walls were found extensively hypertrophied, as well as its cavity dilated; the aortic valves were thickened, and much ossified (without incompetency,) from atheromatous tubercles and patches on their aortic surfaces, these latter extended upwards into the arch of the aorta, thence to its thoracic and abdominal portions, and into all the great trunks given off from them, more particularly those branches from the arch itself; one large patch, of the consistence of bone, the size of a shilling, existed at the anterior part of the arch, before the giving off of the arteria innominata, it was nearly two lines in thickness, and its exposed surface resembled the compact texture of bone. Under the microscope these patches presented, tabular and needle shaped crystals of cholesterine, fat granules in clusters, and free, and isolated epithelial cells.

Abdomen. Dense subcutaneous adipose substance, the thickness of one inch and a half was cut through on making a section over the linea alba. The omentum was a mass of fat; intestines were healthy; liver enlarged and protruding abnormally upwards, its investing capsule of Glisson was thickened, and could easily be detached, exposing the surface of the liver, which was pale and granular, a section with a clean knife greased the blade, and a microscopical examination showed fat granules in abundance, with occasional needle shaped crystals of cholesterine. The kidneys were small and surrounded with fat. On the posterior surface of the left, superiorly, was an excavated ulcer, the size of a three pence, of a blackish color, the investing capsule over it being loose. They appeared healthy in other respects. The remaining viscera were healthy.

PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND PATHOLOGY.

Aphorisms on Cholera.—Mr. Dendy read the following propositions to the London Medical Society, Monday on November 19, 1849, as embracing in a few words all that we know of cholera:—

1. The name—Acholera—Because when cholera or gall-flux is established, the prognosis becomes favourable.
2. It is the first stage of adynamic fever.—Because this fever, in varied degrees, is constantly developed on the subsidence of the flux.
3. The predisposing causes are, anxiety, low living, bad habits, crowded locality, malaria of decomposition. Because the absence of these is proved to be prophylaxis.
4. It is epidemic, and not essentially contagious.—Because there was prevalent establishment of the disorder over a large space of the kingdom in a few days. The exciting cause is a poison imbibed or inhaled, influencing the ganglia, the blood, and the bowels, the symptoms enduring until the poison is destroyed or expelled.—Because spasm, discrosis of blood, and intestinal flux, are the consequences, the blood being rendered unfit for circulation and secretion.
5. That premonitory diarrhœa is not an essence of the disease.—Because the epithelial flakes are fewer than in diarrhœa; and we have, periodically, a severe diarrhœa—not formidable, unless a malignant epidemic be prevalent.
6. Diarrhœa renders its subject highly susceptible of the malignant invasion.—Because the uterus, during parturition, so the mucous membrane, during diarrhœa is a weak point in the system.
7. The flux would probably be a safety-valve to the system, as the pustule of variola and the exanthem of rubeola, and prove salutary, if the systemic energy were sufficient.—Because many of the highly malignant and speedily fatal cases, occurred without the flux, and because, like that of inflammation, its unfettered intensity destroys.
8. The result of the malady depends essentially on the resisting power of the system *quoad* the dose of poison introduced.—Because persons in various conditions and subject to the same influence, evince symptoms of varied intensity.
9. Prognosis must be formed chiefly from re-establishment of suppressed secretion.—Because this indicates a renovation of the blood, and the elimination of deleterious matters from the system.
10. There is no specific—i. e., antidote—to the poison yet discovered.
11. The adoption of one remedy (?) from isolated experience is unscientific, and its advocacy perilous.
12. The unlimited exhibition of alcohol and opium is unsafe.—Because it is followed so often by fever and narcotism.

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SURGERY.

An Ophthalmological Curiosity.—Miracles, they say, will never cease, and so may we say. We should have at once discarded the affair as a "hoax," were it not that we found it adopted by the continental and English journals. In the *Annales d'Oculistique* of Brussels it is dignified with the imposing title of "*L'œil Phalanstérien*," and not a smile displayed in the recital. By the way, no medical editor in the world ever ventures to smile except ourselves; they are all as "sad and learned" as a college of physicians. Joking, however, apart, we are not sceptical as to the tail, it is only the eye at the end of it which provokes our mirth. Tails undoubtedly there have been found attached to human spines. Dr. Jacob describes one in the Dublin Hospital Reports amputated from the sacrum of an Irish boy, and quotes another case from the *Acta Nat. Cur.*, recorded by one Philip Lochner. The newspa-

ART. XLVII.—SCOBIE & BALFOUR'S CANADIAN ALMANAC AND REPOSITORY OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE, FOR THE YEAR 1850, &c. The astronomical calculations having been made expressly for the Almanac, for the meridians of Toronto, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, N.S., and Fredericton, N.B. Toronto: Scobie & Balfour, King-street. 8ve. Pp. 80.

This almanac is decidedly the best and fullest which we have seen in this country, and is a marked improvement upon its predecessors. It is embellished with an excellent map of Upper Canada, and contains, moreover, information in regard to the British American Provinces of a most valuable character, the collection of which, must have cost no little time and trouble.