

group it is not the intoxication of the system which characterizes the process; it is the rapidity of the local morbid changes. The process which usually occupies eight days, is here completed in forty-eight hours. The eruption appears early. The rapid march of the symptoms corresponds with the rapid development of the local changes. At the autopsy we find, on the eighth day, deep ulceration (Louis, Hoeffel, Forget). Murchison found intestinal perforation on the ninth day: Peacock on the eighth day.

May we suggest a possible explanation of the difference between these two classes of cases? The poisons of the typhoid bacillus are of two kinds. The former are diffused in the organism and give rise to general reaction; the latter, adhering to the pathogenic agent, exert a destructive action at those points where the microbe is multiplying. When the former process is more marked, the organism will succumb to the general intoxication, the local changes being typical. When the destructive materials are particularly active or abundant, the symptoms, both local and general, are hastened and the typhoid fever is "galloping."—Translated from *La Presse Medicale*, by HARLEY SMITH.

Pathogenesis and Treatment of Chronic Articular Rheumatism.

By Doctors C. PARRON and J. PAPINIAN.

The doctors relate a case of obstinate rheumatism and eczema in a man forty-seven years old, who in 1898 entered the hospital Pantélimon, receiving the iodine treatment and then bicarbonate of soda, both internally and in baths. He obtained some relief; but in 1902 began to suffer as before. Certain symptoms, such as constant sensation of cold, dryness of skin, absence of perspiration, suggested the possibility of thyroid insufficiency. Moreover, the good results obtained by Lancereaux, Paulesco, Hertoghe and Viala in administering thyroid in chronic rheumatic cases, induced the authors to try it here. The results were excellent.

Lancereaux and Paulesco believe that certain cases at least of chronic rheumatism are due to a change in the nervous system, and that the thyroid treatment furnishes that which is necessary to the maintenance of the normal condition of this system. Viala has obtained, with the thyroid treatment of these cases, an acceleration of the circulation, increase of the secretions, greater elimination of the organic waste matter, a lessening of the joint pains.

Disturbances in the functions of the ductless glands must play an important part in the pathogenesis of chronic rheumatism. The lessening of the thyroid secretion would create conditions specially favorable to the appearance of this dis-