

tation of the heart. He is very thin, and his countenance has a pinched, anxious, discontented look. The temperature is normal. Pulse, 48 or 50.

*Treatment.*—A mixture of bismuth with chiretta and pills of ferri sulph., ext. nux. vom., aloes socot. One to be taken twice a day.

January 19th.—Patient somewhat better, he can take a little more milk than formerly, cannot take beeftea or any kind of beef essence without causing unbearable pain. No kind of pills or medicine seems to have any effect on the bowels, which are only moved on the administration of an enema.

June 26th.—Patient is worse again: ordered him lactopeptine to be taken in sherry wine.

July 2nd.—He is gradually becoming more emaciated;—is very much more so than when he came in. The lactopeptine seems to have had no effect. He sometimes takes only a biscuit in two days without milk or even water, the latter almost causing as much pain as the milk. He is greatly troubled with thirst. Tongue dry and coated. Had to put him on a water bed to avoid bed sores.

July 9th.—Ordered rectal alimentation. He is much troubled with eructations and difficulty of breathing and severe cramping pains in the stomach.

July 16th.—The rectal alimentation has not been successful, as the nurse had been using too large an amount at a time. Ordered smaller quantities.

July 23rd.—The patient is becoming weaker, and is occasionally feverish. Pulse more rapid. Dr. Wright, who saw the case with me, spoke of a similar case in which the post-mortem revealed a very much contracted stomach. We examined the lungs and heart and found them healthy. There appeared to be a swelling a little to the left and below the umbilicus. No other abnormal condition of the abdomen could be found. He complains of pain in the region of the heart, with palpitation.

August 5th.—Patient died this morning, apparently from starvation. Had severe pain in the region of the heart.

*Post-mortem appearances.*—Body extremely emaciated; weight, about sixty pounds; height, five feet eight. On opening the abdomen

found the liver slightly congested: weight, two pounds three ounces. It was a matter of difficulty to find the stomach. It did not appear nearly so large as the transverse colon. Its weight, with the contents as removed, four ounces. The lower margin appeared thickened. On opening it, found it to contain a mucous substance. The mucous membrane had a peculiar granulated appearance and the rugæ were very prominent. In some parts it was of a dark red colour and in others greyish. It did not anywhere present the pink colour ordinarily seen. It was thickened and indurated in some places, and in others, it appeared thinner than normal. There was no special thickening towards the pyloric orifice. The organ would not hold more than twelve ounces of fluid.

Kidney appeared normal, but very small: weight, three ounces. Heart weighed four ounces: no valvular lesions; pancreas, two ounces; spleen, two ounces. Lungs were healthy. I am sorry that, for want of time we were not able to examine the mesentery and *receptaculum chyli* as well as we might have done. We found no tumour of any kind.

From the observations I have made of the patient, and from my reading, I would call the case one of chronic gastric catarrh. This disease is described very fully by Niemeyer in his "Practice of Medicine." Catarrh of the stomach is common in Germany, caused, I think, by too great consumption of lager. In Reynolds' "Practice of Medicine" there is also an excellent article on this subject. The principal symptoms given by these authors are feeling of weight in the stomach after eating, together with fulness, rifting, vomiting, the latter not a constant symptom. The food sometimes undergoes decomposition in the stomach, causing an accumulation of gases. Hunger and thirst annoy the patient. There is generally obstinate constipation. Emaciation, anxious, discontented face, and contraction of the skin are given by Reynolds.

*Causes.*—Venous obstruction, constant use of food which disagrees, medicinal substances and constant use of alcoholic beverages. There is very frequently some other disease present: phthisis, heart-disease, or Bright's