

My conclusions, based upon the history of abdominal pain, the gastric irritation, the copious and constant vomiting (which disappeared in the latter stages, proving that the tumor, from its own weight, had dropped down, and was no longer in contact with the stomach), the increasing emaciation, the dark grumous blood ejected from both stomach and bowels, the fact that the tumor was nearly stationary on respiration, the pale yellow coloration of the skin, the fluid drawn in the tapping (dark brown, turbid, colorless, alkaline, specific gravity 1.012) the stools containing considerable fatty matters—were that the growth was located in the pancreas.

When the abdomen was opened, the tumor was found closely adherent to the omentum, the transverse colon and stomach being bound to the latter by a fibrous attachment several inches long. A ligature was thrown around the attachments and the tumor removed entire, including the tail of the pancreas.

The case progressed satisfactorily, and the patient now attends to the household duties, and has gained several pounds in weight.

Microscopic examination shows the specimen to be sarcomatous, although there is evidence of a pre-existing hydatid, shown by the hooklets of that tumor with the cells of the spindle-celled sarcoma. Dr. James also found hydatid debris in the liquid first submitted for examination.—*Waldo Briggs, M.D., in St. Louis Med. and Surg. Jour.*, March, 1890.

ORIGIN OF DIPHtheria.—The identity of diphtheria with the disease of chicken, known as pip, has been very vigorously opposed. Nicati published in *Marseille Médicale* (1879, page 105), cases showing the transfer of contagion from chickens to children. Meuziès, Dethil, Pamard, Bouchard, and Tei ier, published observations favorable to this opinion; Meuziès asserts on his personal observations that diphtheria is caused by the dejections of fowls. In Italy, Escolami and Pietra Santa assure us diphtheria among fowls is common. On the housetops many flocks of turkeys, chickens, pigeons, and rabbits, take up their residence, the excrements of which, washed by the rain, are carried into the wells containing the drinking-water of the people. In 1871, in Posilipo,

near Naples, Meuziès saw an epidemic of diphtheria attack the children of a colleague whose house and yard presented the above mentioned conditions. Of five children, four became sick and died. In another house there was a large dovecote; in that house a lady and four or five children were attacked by diphtheria, and three died. From these cases, the epidemic spread and became generalized.

The unfortunate professor, convinced that the diphtheria was due to the use of contaminated water, forbade his servant to use the water from the suspected well for culinary or drinking purposes, and ordered him to go to a neighboring well to get pure water; but the laziness of the servant defeated his purposes and caused an epidemic of diphtheria. The only child that did not fall sick was a suckling infant, who did not drink water; and a neighbour's child of seven years, who did drink the well water, took sick and died. Meuziès thinks that in every epidemic of diphtheria it is reasonable to seek the source of the trouble in neighboring chickenyards, dovecotes, dungheaps, and, above all, in barnyards and deposits of manure. The island of Skiatos, on the north of Greece, inhabited for about fifty years, has a population of about 4,000, and, with the exception of some fevers, it is very salubrious. Bild, in a practice of thirty years on the island, had never seen a case of diphtheria. But a flock of turkeys was brought to the island, and among them were several that clearly had diphtheria, of which they died; in a few days the disease attacked children, and rapidly spread over the whole island. 125 persons were attacked; the deaths were 36 during the summer and autumn of 1884. The objection raised by Liebermeister must be borne in mind, viz.: that diphtheria chiefly ravages cities and large communities in which there are no barnyards, chicken-coops, or pigeon-houses, and that the false membranes cast off by the sick birds are scattered over the fields in the country, where they are at the mercy of the first urchin who plays in the sand. From these facts we must conclude that the belief in the identity of the diphtherias of man and birds rests upon accidents which rarely occur, considering the frequency of both diseases.—*New Orleans Med. and Surg. Jour.*