

was first found by Prof. Leyden in the fluid from a woman of twenty-two years, with heart-disease and ascites. In the course of numerous tappings made for the relief of the latter, colorless gelatinous cells were found, often aggregated in nests. They changed their shape, threw out pseudopodial processes and withdrew them again, showing active motion at ordinary temperature (23° to 24° C.). They could also be observed to unite in peculiar meshes with nodes on the processes thrown out. These nodes were at time loosened, and in turn developed into cells. About the same time similar bodies were found in the ascitic fluid of a man of sixty-three years, who had carcinoma of the stomach. In the first patient nodular masses could be felt in the abdomen after tapping, so it was assumed that she, too, had cancer. The examination of the bodies was made by Dr. Schaudinn, assistant in the zoological laboratory of the University of Berlin. Dr. Schaudinn finds the cells are parasitic protozoa, the exact classification of which he does not wish to make in the present unsettled state of the subject. They are undoubtedly amœbæ, and perhaps nearly related to the free-living placopus.

The objection has often been made that the extensive work on parasitic protozoa, as those of malaria, dysentery, etc., has all been done by pathologists, not by specialists, and for that reason is often belittled by the said specialists. It is therefore a matter of congratulation that Prof. von Leyden availed himself of an expert "who for years has been working on protozoa." Whether he is able to distinguish these from body-cells any better than a Pfeiffer, an Adamkiewicz, or a Sudakewitsch, remains to be seen.—*American Journal of the Medical Sciences.*

THE DIAGNOSIS OF MALIGNANT TUMORS OF THE LUNG BY THE SPUTUM.

BETSCHART adds another to the small number of cases in which malignant disease of the lung has been diagnosticated by the sputum-examination. The sputum in this case was of variable color, often brownish-red, as in infarct, but never resembling raspberry-jelly, as was at one time thought to be the case in such conditions. Microscopically there were free fat-globules, leucocytes, and large numbers of epithelioid cells more or less aggregated. The sputum also contained particles visible to the naked eye—in fact, up to three mm. in length, yellowish or brownish, and gelatinous-looking, which proved to be carcinomatous. The diagnosis thus made was confirmed by post-mortem examination.—*Virchow's Archiv*, Bd. 143, H. 1.—*American Journal of the Medical Sciences.*