

During the course of our investigations, however, Swiezynski, in the November number of *Centralblatt für Bakteriologie*, has recorded a somewhat similar instance, though merely of a periarticular inflammation, and the observer further notes the uniqueness of his case and his inability to find a parallel in the literature at his disposal. That ordinary pyogenic organisms are responsible for most of the suppurations in enteric fever has been amply demonstrated by Vincent, who further pointed out that wherever streptococci were associated with the typhoid germ the prognosis is always grave. On the other hand, the association of staphylococci could not be regarded as an unfavourable sign so far as recovery is concerned.

The correctness of these views is perhaps strengthened by the experience met with at the Royal Victoria Hospital, where a patient in whom streptococcus infection was super-added to his enteric fever succumbed to the disease. On the other hand, the numerous cases in which we have found staphylococci in various complications of typhoid fever, have all terminated in recovery.

As regards the treatment of suppurations occurring secondary to enteric fever, it has been urged by Dr. Meisenbach, of St. Louis, that in cases where Eberth's bacillus is the sole cause of the abscess formation, exactly the same surgical treatment is required as in cases where pus arises from infection with ordinary pyogenic bacteria. However, if it be true that a fresh growth of typhoid bacilli when inoculated into rabbits is fatal, and that the same growth a few hours old loses entirely this virulence, could not the same apply to the abscess formations in the human body? In other words, where Eberth's bacillus alone is the sole factor in producing suppuration, its virulence is so rapidly lost that the mere removal of the mechanical and chemical irritation, *e g.*, by ordinary aspiration, might suffice for treatment without other operative interference. In our own case, although pus was present in considerable quantity, there was never any tendency to pointing of the abscess, and its whole character after the first few days took on the appearance of a chronic affection in which all signs of active progress had disappeared.