

gold-beating, or whatever it may be, and do it every day without any variation of the monotony, and apparently without any consciousness of the monotony. Chinese school-children will undergo an amount of confinement, unrelieved by recesses or changes of work, which would drive western pupils to the verge of insanity; even Chinese infants remain as impassive as "mud gods."—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*.

**TETANINE.**—The researches of Flugge, Nicolaire, Rosenbach and others, having proved that tetanus is produced by a bacillus, led to Brieger's experiments by which he succeeded in isolating a special ptomaine from cultivations of the tetanus bacillus. In the present communication he carries the subject a step further by demonstrating the presence of this ptomaine—which he calls tetanine—in the human subject during life. A workman received severe injuries to the right arm, the result of a machinery accident. On the ninth day after the accident the initial symptoms of tetanus set in—trismus and cramps of neck and abdomen—and on the following day clonic convulsions. The injured arm was amputated and immediately transferred to Dr. Brieger for chemical examination. The soft parts were detached and finely divided, and then treated after Brieger's method for the isolation of ptomaines. The result was that a small quantity of an extremely easily soluble, crystalline, double-salt of platinum was obtained, which corresponded with tetanine platinum chloride in percentage of platinum. The physiological action of the ptomaine, after the removal of the platinum, proved the presence of tetanine. Some of the tissues were examined microscopically and various bacilli, as staphylococci and streptococci in addition to the tetanus bacillus were found. The fluid from these tissues when subcutaneously injected into mice invariably produced tetanus; dogs submitted to the same experiment were unaffected, as was also a horse. Cultivation from these tissues yielded tetanine, but no tetanoxine nor spasmodoxine, both of which were present in the original cultivations from Rosenbach. A large dose of tetanine injected into a horse produced violent muscular contractions, but no actual tetanus. It is worthy of remark that in two cases in

which tetanus was the cause of death neither pathogenic organisms nor tetanine were found in brain, cord, or nerves.—*Medical Chronicle*.

**SURGICAL TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS OF THE BLADDER.**—Dr. Guiard reports several cases of radical cure of vesical tuberculosis by operative interference. The cases best suited for operation are those where the tubercle is primarily vesical and not secondary to tubercular disease of the testis, or prostate. The bladder is laid open by section above the pubes in the middle line, and all the tubercular nodules and masses brought into view, scraped with the curette, and cauterized with the thermo-cautery, so that they are completely destroyed. The results in several cases thus treated have been all that could be desired.—*Journal de Médecine de Paris, Septembre, 1888*.

**LESION OF THE GASSERIAN GANGLION.**—A young man, age 28; unmarried; shepherd by occupation; in good health previously, was, as the result of severe sun-stroke, seized with fever and headache with loss of consciousness. At the end of three weeks the headache alone remained, but sufficiently severe to cause the patient to apply for admission to the Madrid General Hospital. He then presented the following conditions: pallor, general emaciation, paralysis, insensibility of the left half of the body, ptosis with slightly contractible pupil and absence of vision in the left eye. Examination with the ophthalmoscope showed the right eye to be healthy, and in the left insensibility of the cornea, the histological elements of which were intact, dilatation of the pupil, pallor of the retina with decrease in size of its arteries, and an almost varicose condition of the veins. The rest of his organism was in a normal condition. Dr. Espina, of Capo, diagnosed a *lesion of the left gasserian ganglion*, and gave a grave prognosis after beginning a treatment with potassi iodidum, the patient was carried off by an intercurrent pneumonia.

**Post-mortem.**—The left gasserian ganglion was found degenerated, and so adherent to the bone that it could not be removed without tearing off with it the periosteum and several fragments of the temporal and sphenoid