

off of which the skin was found to be cicatrised, a smooth dark-red stain marking the site of the vesicle. The number of vesicles was limited, varying in the different cases from two or three to two dozen. Their size varied from that of a split pea to that of a florin. The children became rather weak and anaemic while suffering from the eruption, but there was no marked constitutional disturbance.

REMARKS.—There can be but little doubt that these children were the subjects of milk-communited disease. It would appear that the milk, having had in the first instance a locally irritant action on the mucus membrane of the mouth, conveyed the germs of a disease which, after an incubatory period of at least two weeks, manifested itself in the shape of a vesicular eruption. There is a considerable degree of likeness between this eruption and that described by Professor Crookshank in his paper on the Hendon Cow Disease as having occurred amongst some of the milkers of "an infected herd." It is noteworthy that in the above cases the disease in the cow took chiefly the form of a red rash, while in the human being it displayed a vessicular nature.

BRAIN SURGERY IN DUBLIN.

At a meeting of the Surgical Section of the Royal Academy of Medicine, three successful cases of trephining were reported, and the discussion upon the papers was adjourned to a future night. These cases were all remarkable. Professor Thornley Stoker read particulars of a case in which a man fell from a cart while drunk. He came to the Richmond Hospital some days later, rather stupid, and with some lightly-marked paralytic symptoms. It was not easy to determine whether he had not had an attack of apoplexy. The paralysis becoming more marked, Mr. Stoker trephined in the region of the fissure of Rolando—there was no fracture—and struck the margin of a blood clot. He again trephined and more fully exposed the clot, which was washed out. The area so compressed was about three inches, and the clot measured nearly an inch in depth. The patient re-

covered and was exhibited. Sir W. Stokes read a paper on a case of successful trephining for cerebral abscess, and exhibited his patient. The man had been struck with a poker on the left side of the mesial line of the head, and about an inch anterior to the coronal suture. He was treated as an out-patient at another hospital, but ultimately applied at the Richmond, when he was admitted, several weeks having elapsed from the date of the injury. He soon presented brain symptoms, became convulsed and comatose, and it was determined to trephine. A small fracture was found under the scar; the dura mater bulging into the wound, an exploring needle was introduced to the depth of an inch and a half, and pus was at last found. The dura-mater was then incised, and one ounce and a half of pus was evacuated. The patient completely recovered, and is now attending to his ordinary work. The paper noted eleven other cases of abscess which had been operated upon by various surgeons, and discussed the questions involved. The third case was brought forward by Dr. O. B. Ball, of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, and the patient was also produced. The lad had been struck with a small knife over the squamous portion of the left temporal bone ten days before admission. The wound was healed, but he had some aphasia. Pain in the head and ear supervened, and the aphasia increased. It was determined to explore. He was trephined some weeks after the original injury. A wound was found in the dura-mater corresponding to the puncture of the bone. A sinus forceps was passed in, the wound opened up, and some blood clot escaped. The patient was decidedly better but next morning he was again aphasic. The wound was washed out, and more blood clot escaped. The aphasia almost disappeared, but two days later it returned, and the wound was again washed. After this the patient progressed favorably, and is now well. Dr. Ball pointed out the role of the brain lesion, as indicated by the various symptoms of aphasia. The group of cases was a very remarkable one, and the record of them cannot fail to influence the views of surgeons on the subject of brain surgery.