

of observations extending over many weeks and not on a chance, or possibly unfavorable case, the question will be very different.

It is impossible for an impartial physician not to agree, as I do myself with Drs. Jacquero and Latham when they state that, "at this date we have acquired the certitude that the treatment of consumption by Marmoreck's serum is unattended by the slightest danger."

THE ANTI-TUBERCULOUS ACTION OF THE SERUM.

The anti-tuberculous action of Marmoreck's serum is not to be doubted to-day; this is frankly admitted by all who have used it in the treatment of tuberculosis.

To understand how it acts, a certain knowledge of the disease itself is necessary.

Tuberculosis is a disease caused by the development of the tuberculous bacillus in the tissues and organs, especially in the lungs, which bacilli brings about a series of local lesions and a general poisoning of the system.

Locally, they sometimes cause an infiltration of the tissues which thicken and assume a lardaceous appearance, more generally they give rise to tubercles. These tubercles are small granulations visible to the eye, and are accompanied by more or less congestion of the tissues surrounding them. They contain the bacilli and finally end by degenerating, producing ulceration and a breaking down of the parts. It is through this destruction that cavities in the lung substance are formed. While these lesions are being developed, the bacilli sets up a general poisoning by secreting a toxine in the blood, the chief symptoms of which are: fever, sweating, cough, pain and loss of appetite.

Some patients bear this toxine without apparent trouble just as many individuals can absorb great quantities of alcohol. In these cases the local lesions are developed more or less rapidly, while the general condition of the body remains for a long time to all appearances in a fairly good state. This is the chronic form of the disease and is accompanied by little fever. The malady develops slowly and if properly treated from the outset may be cured by ordinary means.

On the other hand, there are cases which react very violently against the toxine. From the beginning there is a general and very pronounced trouble. During the first weeks, the temperature rises to 100°, 102°, and even 103°. The patient rapidly loses appetite, coughs incessantly, is feverish and ill at ease, without courage or energy. "Very ill" is the only expression he can use to describe his condition. This