

increased. If, after the operation, the blood tension be low, and the heart's action weak or irregular, the author would endeavor to increase the force of the circulation, and to strengthen the heart by subcutaneous infusion of salt solution, and by suitable tonic and stimulating medication. Much improvement is attached to high elevation of the foot of the bed, and such treatment is strongly advocated, not only in surgical practice, but also in cases,—such, for instance, as enteric fever, chronic entero-colitis, and chronic peritonitis,—in which an anemic condition, general exhaustion, and a morbid state of the blood, may favor the development of venous thrombosis of the lower extremity.—*Dr. Lennander, in Centbl. f. Chir. Brit. Med. Four., Post-Graduate.*

A NEW ABSORBABLE LIGATURE MATERIAL.

The author reports the clinical results of his experience with a new absorbable ligature and suture, which he finds to be absorbed a little more slowly than catgut, but to be capable of absolute sterilization. The ligature is made from the *ligamentum nuchae* of the reindeer by dividing it in the direction of its fibres. The process of preparation is the following: Removal of fat in ether, soaking in juniper oil for 14 days, removal of oil with ether and alcohol, soaking for two days in a one-third per cent. sublimate solution; preservation in alcohol. Bacteriological examination and the clinical test of 83 major operations have proved the absolute sterility of this material, and that it is absorbed as soon as desirable. *Dr. Sneguireff, in Centbl. f. Chir., Am. Four. Med. Soc., Post-Graduate.*

TREATMENT OF BURNS AND OTHER SURFACE WOUNDS.

In a recent issue of the *Railway Surgeon*, Dr. G. Archdall Reid states: "I venture to place before the profession a method of treating surface wounds so simple and obvious that I think it must have been tried before. Briefly, I do not place the surgical dressings on the wound, but on a light wire cage or support, which thus, while permitting them to afford protection, prevent them acting as foreign bodies. The wire support is easily manufactured. If the wound be on a flat surface—as the chest—a stout wire of suitable length is bent into such a shape that when placed over the wound it surrounds the latter, but rests everywhere on uninjured tissue. On this wire as basis is woven a wide network of lighter wire, so that a shallow dish of wire work, shaped somewhat