of fibrillary twitching. The attacks often last several days (seven to twelve), unless terminated by the very free use of morphia. The galvanic irritability of the nerves is found to be greatly increased, also the mechanical irritability of both nerve and muscle. Knee jerks exaggerated during attack, absent in intervals. Œdema of the hands and arms, with herpetic eruptions frequently to be seen after particularly severe attacks. The quantity of urine excreted during attacks is usually normal in amount, and contains urea and indican in great excess. Patient has been under observation for more than three years, and it has been noticed during the past two years that he has been getting gradually dull and apathetic. It takes him a long time to answer questions, he complains of general numbness, his face and lips are swollen: symptoms closely resembling those seen in myxœdema.

Tetany may be divided into three varieties: (1) Epidemic or "rheumatic" tetany, common in Europe, but rare in America. This course is acute and favorable. (2) Tetany from exhausting causes, as lactation, diarrhœa, etc. Course is chronic and favorable. (3) Tetany from removal of the thyroid glands. Course generally is usually either quickly fatal or chronic and incurable. (4) A form of tetany occurring in cases of dilatation of the stomach. Very fatal. Infantile tetany is excluded from above division, as what is so frequently called tetany in infants is not that disease. No doubt true tetany may occur in childhood.

Experimental Tetany.—When the thyroid gland is removed from cats, dogs or monkeys, a condition very similar to the typical tetany of the human subject is observed, namely, fibrillary tremors and intermittent spasmodic contractions. Death usually follows in a week, and no changes can be found to adequately account for it. The fact that there is a great increase in the electric irritability of the nerves after the removal of the thyroid glands is strong evidence of the similarity of the tetany of man and animals. Of the many forms of muscular contractions seen in man, in none, with perhaps the exception of the cholera, do we find any marked increase of the electric irritability of the nerves and muscles.

Morbid Anatomy.—No changes that in any way can be considered characteristic have been described.

Nature of.—All recent observers tend to confirm the conclusion of Schiff that the tetany following removal of the thyroid gland is directly due to the loss of the gland, and that the thyroid gland in some way has a direct influence over the nutrition of the nervous system.

It is difficult to explain how causes so diverse in their operation, as "rheumatic" influences, diarrhœa, pregnancy,