

of the blood, which here too is the consequence of the failing respiration and circulation. The appearance of rigidity during exposure, either to cold or heat, indicates excessive lack of oxygen in the blood. This rigidity is, like the rigor mortis, an anæmic muscular tetanus. If, however, we put coagulation, or, in other words, coagulation of the muscles, out of the question, tonic muscular rigidity is not commonly met with in cases of refrigeration or insolation.

The deleterious action of extreme temperatures on the organism is heightened by other weakening influences which tend to impair the supply of oxygen and to exhaust the resisting power of the system. Here must be mentioned, particularly, the misuse of alcohol. In addition to these acute effects of the action of cold and heat, there are analagous chronic conditions, which must be ascribed to the gradual action of extreme temperatures in the organism. They are characterized by manifestations of anæmia or exhaustion, and in their higher grades partly constitute the basis of the tropical and polar cachexias. It is still an open question whether any other specific diseases owe their origin to the influence of heat and cold. The fact that abdominal typhus occurs most frequently during the latter part of summer and towards the end of winter, has not yet been satisfactorily accounted for; and, as in many cases, no external source of infection can be discovered, it is, in fact possible that the morphotic and chemical alterations of the blood and tissues, which have been proved to be the pathological effects of insolation and refrigeration, play at least a subsidiary role in the production of the infection.—(*Allg. Med. Cent. Zeit.*, No. 47, 1878).—*Medical Record*, N. Y.

The Surgical Treatment of Lupus.—

In an article by M. Hillariet, quoted in the *London Medical Record*, the writer says:—

“It was Veiel who first introduced acupuncture. The method consists in pricking the surface of the lupus with needles, either in bundles, or fixed in the same handle, but separated from one another by some millimeters. The needles, before being used,