

patients soon feel very much more comfortable as a result of such remedies.

5. Any special symptoms, such as threatened heart-failure, urgent diarrhea, etc., must be met with appropriate remedies.

Under such hygienic and medicinal treatment most patients will slowly improve, and some will completely recover. But the majority will retain some traces of the disease, such as cardiac irritability, general nervous instability, and some exophthalmos.

The disease is a prolonged one, and the patient requires much patience and all the encouragement that the attendant can give; the latter should resort to mental therapeutics as much as possible.

Lastly, a few cases will get worse, and in a few of them surgical aid seems to be indicated; but this must not be lightly undertaken, as the immediate danger is considerable, and the results are by no means always satisfactory. Kocher has reported many cases now, in which operation has produced very brilliant results; but Ehrlich is much less enthusiastic, and mentions eight cases in which partial extirpation of the thyroid had been done. Several of them were not relieved, or suffered a recurrence of the old symptoms after a temporary relief. Ord and Mackenzie (Clifford Allbutt's "System of Medicine," Vol. 4, p. 502), reviewing the cases operated upon up to a few years ago, conclude that "If we compare the results of operation with those of other methods of treatment, we find no striking difference, except in the death-rate of 12 per cent., due to the operation."

The several cases in which I have seen the most marked benefit from operation have been ones in which a tumor has been present in the thyroid—*e.g.*, a fibroid—and Graves' disease has resulted. Here the tumor seems to have acted as an irritant, causing an overactivity of the gland, much as a foreign body in the eye will produce an excessive secretion of tears, and the removal of this source of irritation by operation has been followed by complete relief of the symptoms.