

changes of voice. On the other hand, it is known that section of the recurrens in dogs (Arnsperger), just as paralysis of the laryngeal muscles in man, from whatever cause, does not give place to pulmonary diseases. Laryngeal paralysis, like the entrance of buccal fluids and fragments of food, is, *per se*, inadequate to the explanation of the facts observed by Nasse and Bernard; the former having ascertained that the lung of the side on which the vagus had been cut had been more diseased than the other, the vagus of which was cut some time afterwards; the latter found pulmonary disease only on the side on which the vagus had been cut. A remarkable contribution to this subject has been presented in the experiments of Genzmer, who observed no pulmonary lesions in rabbits on which he cut one vagus only.

Recently a parasitic doctrine has entered the field. Schow, in three out of seven cases of pulmonitis in rabbits with both the vagi cut, succeeded in discovering an elliptic coccus of medium size, which was not colored by the method of Gram. This coccus he regards as pathogenetic of vagal pulmonitis. When directly injected across the thoracic cavity, or through the trachea, into the lungs, in the form of a culture, it developed a typical vagal pulmonitis. But this coccus was found in only 1 out of 25 animals, the buccal liquid of which was examined; it could not from the mouth pass into the air passages of the rabbits on which the trachea had been cut and a canula inserted to continue their respiration; it could not be the cause of pulmonitis in dogs in which the cutting of the vagus did not produce paralysis either of the larynx or the œsophagus. It might, at the most, be found in the air inspired through the larynx or the canula; but then, even admitting its specificity, this would not explain why, after cutting the vagi, that is to say, after preparing a soil suited to its development and its pathogenetic action, or, in other words, creating pathological, structural and functional conditions, without which, at least in dog and man, it proves ineffective.

The fact that the form of pulmonitis spoken of is frequently associated with degeneration of the vagus, inclines us to regard it, as does Vulpian, as a trophic disturbance, arising directly or indirectly from the degeneration of the pneumogastric.