

would have occurred when Marmoreck, with a view to demonstrating its innocuity, made his first experiments with it. At that period he used it only on patients in the last stages of the disease, when they were weak and without power to react against it.

Physicians, who have had much experience with consumptives are aware that in the late period of the disease death may occur very unexpectedly through such accidents as sudden hemorrhage, etc. Such accidents may happen in spite of the serum, and ill-disposed critics will not fail to attribute them to its use.

Dr. Jaquerod, in the article quoted above, says on this question: "Since we have been using the serum, we have observed in a certain number of cases (not treated by it) that various aggravating and unexpected complications set in. Among these cases, three had refused to submit to the new method, and though their conditions were serious, yet their chances of recovery were fairly good. One of them died at home, about a month later, from intestinal complication. Pneumothorax supervened about six weeks after in the second patient, from which, however, he recovered. Albumenuria came on two months later in the third case, and at this date there are dangerous uremic troubles setting in.

"We do not pretend to say that these accidents would not have happened if we had used the serum, but it is very likely we would have blamed it for them, and if we had met with them at the beginning of our experiments, our own judgment on the value of the serum would undoubtedly have been affected."

A similar opinion was given by Dr. Latham, of the Brompton Hospital, for diseases of the lungs and consumption, London.

"Two cases," he states, "in which I refused to use the serum, died very rapidly from pneumothorax. Another case where I had postponed its use, died five days after. In one of Dr. Marmoreck's patients where the first injection was delayed from Saturday until Monday, the patient died of sudden haemoptysis on the eve of receiving it. In all these cases had I used the serum I would have been led to form a very unfavorable and false opinion of it."

Such accidents are very common in consumption, so common indeed as to excite very little surprise, but let one of them arise in a patient undergoing the new treatment, and adverse critics will at once blame the serum for it. Physicians, unfamiliar, perhaps, with these complications and nervous about the new method which they may, but imperfectly understand, may also be tempted to decry it. To careful and conscientious experimentalists, however, who base their conclusions on an attentive and methodical series