

We cannot help questioning whether the figure he shows to illustrate this condition is not taken from the margin of a more developed tumour, and not, as he appears to assume, what one might call the nucleus of a growth. He found the first appearance of the molluscum body in that part of the epithelial cell directed towards the opening of the tumour. He concludes that the earliest stage of the molluscum body is an extruded or migrated 'plasmosoma.' This, he explains to mean an eosinophilous nucleolus. He does not regard it as in any way like a nuclear parasite, because it corresponds in staining capacity with the nuclear 'plasmosomata' in the lowermost epithelial cells. He maintains that parasitic elements would not undergo the degenerative changes which result in the production of a molluscum body. This is somewhat of an assumption, for many competent observers are of opinion that the process is a formative rather than a degenerative one. He also found by staining experiments (iodine and sulphuric acid) that the bodies situated above the eleidin layer gave a very distinct reaction, showing the presence of eleidin and keratin, an observation which he does not seem to notice is distinctly against his degenerative theory; indeed, he states that these are deposited in the degenerated (dead) bodies. It is to be regretted that he has not carried his investigations into the literature of the subject further than 1889, and has thus lost the benefit of the interesting discussion on this subject at the German Dermatological Association last year."—*Medical Chronicle*.

THE WHITE CORPUSCLES AS PROTECTORS OF THE BLOOD.—Werigo (*Annales de l'Institut Pasteur*), when examining under the microscope the blood of a rabbit which had received, some minutes before, an injection of several cubic centimetres of a culture of *B. prodigiosus* in the auricular vein, was surprised to find the blood almost destitute of leucocytes. He repeated the experiment, with the same result, and became convinced that the phenomenon was constant. In order to prove this, he made a series of experiments, in which he injected cultures of different microbes into the blood, counting the leucocytes before and afterwards. The main fact brought forward receives the following explanation:—The leucocytes disappear from

the blood under the above named circumstances, because, when they have engulfed the microbes injected (which they speedily do), they are arrested in the organs, especially in the liver, where they pass on the ingested material to the endothelial cells of the organ. The rapidity with which the microbes become enclosed in the leucocytes is most astonishing—it is far greater than we have been accustomed to suppose. It is not the leucocytes alone, however, which undertake the clearance of the microbes from the blood, for the cells of the spleen pulp, and also the endothelial cells of the liver, take on direct phagocytic functions. The author's researches also lead him to consider that the first event after the injection of any microbes, of whatever virulence, is their inclusion in cells.—*British Medical Journal*.

SALOL IN TYPHOID FEVER.—V. D. Posajnyi (*Bolnitchnaia Gazeta Botkina*) tried salol as an intestinal antiseptic in forty-nine cases of typhoid fever in patients aged from eleven to thirty-two. Cases were selected in which there were present either severe diarrhoea or meteorism, or indican in the urine. In about fifty per cent. of the cases the primary disease was complicated with bronchitis or catarrhal pneumonia, otitis, nephritis, etc. The daily dose varied from 0.35 to 1.5 gramme, the drug being given thrice daily alone in water. The administration was continued from one to eighteen days. Of the forty-nine patients, three died (from complications, such as croupous pneumonia, chronic catarrhal pneumonia, and pachymeningitis); relapse occurred once, intestinal hæmorrhage twice. In about twenty-five per cent. salol did not appear to have any favourable effect on the patient's condition. In the remaining seventy-five per cent. the remedy markedly inhibited the intestinal fermentation processes. The stools quickly lost their specific typhoid features; while the abdominal distension and tenderness subsided, appetite improved, and the proportion of indican gradually decreased. In about twenty-five per cent. of cases the diarrhoea, etc., ceased after one or two days' administration of the drug, and never recurred after discontinuing the latter. Not infrequently subsequent constipation occurred, necessitating the use of enemata. No antipyretic effects were observed, nor were any unfavourable effects