

slight inflammatory swelling of the peripheral part of the nerve, which leads to compression of its fibres. Parotitis, tumours, swelling of the cervical glands and wounds of the cheek are also causes. In the course of the nerve within the aqueductus falopii it is very apt to be involved in the severe forms of disease of the petrous portion of the temporal bone ; also in caries and necrosis depending upon scrofulous inflammation of the tympanum. A box on the ear has produced it, and the result in more than one such case has been the discovery of a small clot pressing on the nerve in some part of its course. Inside of the skull the nerve may be implicated in lesions at the base of the brain. In such cases other nerves are involved, and there is distinct evidence of cerebral disturbance. Even the new-born may be attacked by peripheral paralysis of the facial nerve, if delivery has been effected with forceps, and one blade of the instrument, from improper application or slipping, has exerted undue pressure of the trunk of the nerve at the ear or at its division on the cheek. Members of nervous families and those who indulge excessively in intoxicating liquors appear predisposed to this form of paralysis, probably because the resistance of the nervous tissue to injurious influences of various kinds has been diminished. Occasionally persons are attacked with this form of paralysis several times in the course of a few years—generally on the same side, but the other side may be attacked.

*Symptoms.*—Inability to move the muscles supplied by the facial nerve. Cannot frown, laugh or smile—when this is attempted one side of the face remains destitute of expression. The forehead cannot be wrinkled—no creases around the eye, no dimples on the cheek or chin. The eyelids cannot be closed. In the effort the eyeball is turned up till the pupil is almost lost to sight. The patient cannot whistle or spit or blow. The cheek falls away from the teeth, owing to paralysis of the buccinator muscle. The food collects on the affected side, outside of the teeth, and must be removed by the finger. In speaking, the labial con-