

were in use ten years ago, or have been introduced within that period, I have had recourse to with varying results, a few cases healing kindly, while others (the majority), in every respect favorable, have tried my skill and patience for weeks and even months.

During the past two years I have pursued one of two lines of treatment: 1. Teal's method of dissecting out the enlarged and inflamed glands and scraping old sinuses. I have resorted to this method in three cases, with results which were all that could be desired. The one objection to it is that it is quite an operation and can not be adopted without an anæsthetic. To this the parents and friends of the children frequently object, remarking that they would rather take a longer time than to have any operation performed on their little ones. 2. In the "Annals of Surgery" for December, 1885, p. 493, will be found an editorial by Dr. L. S. Pilcher reviewing an article in the "Revue de Chirurgie" for May, 1885, by Professor Verneuil, of Paris, on the treatment of cold abscess by drawing off the pus and injecting an ethereal solution of iodoform.

CASE I.—A short time (January 3, 1886) after reading the article referred to, I was asked to see a young lady who was suffering from cervical abscess on the left side. She had had a similar abscess on the right side three years before, which had healed, but had left an unsightly scar. Her general condition at this time was poor; she was anæmic, and her occupation (that of school-teacher) kept her closely confined to the house. She told me she could not afford to lose any time, and asked if there was not some way of treating the abscess by which to avoid leaving such an ugly scar. I stated to her that I knew of no operation other than dissecting out and scraping the cavity that would give her any relief, but that I would try and devise some form of treatment whereby she would lose no time. She reported at my office the following morning, when I drew off the pus in the abscess with the finest needle in my aspirating case. After the fluid had ceased running, I slowly injected 250 minims of a five-per-cent. solution of iodoform in ether. The patient complained of some heat and smarting at the commencement of the injection, but this all passed off before I had completed the operation. The small wound made by the needle was closed with collodion, and the patient was given a tonic containing arsenic, iron, and iodide of potassium.

January 5th.—Patient called at my house. The seat of yesterday's injection is quite swollen, but has lost its soreness and redness and causes her no annoyance.

6th.—Swelling much smaller, free from pain. On the opposite side, just below the old scar, I find a small enlarged gland, which feels soft in its center, but does not fluctuate. With the smallest needle I injected between 20 and 30 minims of a five-per-cent. ethereal solution of iodoform. The injection aroused some pain, which passed away in the course of an hour.

10th.—She says she has suffered no pain nor any inconvenience in or about her neck. The swelling over the site of the first operation is nearly gone, and the skin has resumed its natural color. The seat of the last injection is still quite hard, but the gland is much smaller.

April 3rd.—Patient's condition good. All glandular swelling is well gone. There is no evidence on the former site of operation.

The patient passed through a moderately severe attack of typhoid fever during the autumn of 1886. She is now feeling quite well, and is able to attend to her duties as school-teacher. She has had no further trouble with the glands on her neck.

CASE II.—Kate B., aged twelve, of strumous appearance, applied to me (March, 1886), suffering from an abscess of the cervical glands on the left side of the neck of about the size of a hen's egg. There was only slight redness of the skin, but fluctuation was well marked. By means of a fine aspirating needle I gave exit to a small quantity of thin pus. I then slowly injected into the cavity between 200 and 300 minims of a five-per-cent. ethereal solution of iodoform. She complained of some heat and pain at first, but both had entirely passed away before she left. She was ordered arsenic, iron, and iodide of potassium.

Six days later the patient called with her mother, who stated that her daughter had since not complained of any pain. The swelling was about half the size it was when I injected it. Over the site of the injection a small spot of induration could be felt. The mother called my attention to the child's tonsils, which were enlarged: I directed her to paint them with tincture of iron three times daily, and to keep on with the medicine. At the end of the ninth day the swelling was fully two-thirds smaller; no pain, redness, or heat; appetite good; and the patient said that she felt better.

I did not see this patient again until October, 1886, when the mother said that her daughter had had no more trouble with her neck since the operation, a statement which I was able to confirm a few days later.

CASE III.—July 1, 1886, Robert J., aged ten, in poor health. He had a swelling on the right side of his neck of about the size of an English walnut, bluish-red, evidently about to break. The case was an unfavorable one for injection; but, at the earnest request of the father, who had seen the effect in the first case cited above, I consented to operate. I drew off the pus, which was thin and watery, and contained small pieces of cheesy matter, and injected the cavity with a five-per-cent. ethereal solution of iodoform. The operation was performed with great care, but just before I applied the bandage I noticed a small space where the solution was oozing out. The case progressed fairly well for the next two or three days, when (July 4th) the patient went on an excursion contrary to my wishes. On the way back a severe thunder-storm broke over the grove. My patient got thoroughly wet, and, having no means of drying, had to remain