

three teacupfuls, and if possible more. This was taken every evening during the first hour and a half after retiring, the amount varying from three to six cupfuls. The result was very good, a calm sleep following, which lasted on an average eight hours. It was worth while to note that this result was obtained in an individual in whom sulphonal and chloral had not produced the slightest somnolence.

THYROID EXTRACT IN MYXŒDEMA.—The series of papers and illustrated cases which have been published during the past eighteen months in the *British Medical Journal*, will have sufficed to prove to our readers that, in the treatment of myxœdema by thyroid extract, scientific medicine has achieved one of the most striking and significant triumphs which has ever been won in the field of practice. Much interest was excited at the meeting of the Clinical Society last week by the presence of a series of patients who had been treated in this way. Four of them had been treated by Dr. Arthur Davies with thyroid extract in powder, one powder (corresponding to an eighth of an entire thyroid from the sheep) being given every day in tepid beef tea. All the patients had rapidly improved, one special indication of the improvement being the somewhat rapid loss of weight, which commenced as soon as the treatment was begun. Another patient had been treated by raw gland given twice a week, at first with half a small gland for a dose, and lately with a whole gland daily. This was too large a dose, however, for after the administration of five glands in the above manner toxic symptoms were developed, accompanied by extreme feebleness of the heart; whereupon the quantity of the gland taken was reduced. Dr. Calvert's patients had been treated with half a thyroid three times a week, fried sufficiently to render it palatable. Dr. G. R. Murray (Newcastle), detailed his experience of glycerine solution of thyroid juice. He now injects very slowly under the skin 15 minims of a solution, of which 90 minims correspond to one sheep's thyroid. He had found that to produce the same effect four times as much had to be administered by the mouth as was required when the remedy was injected beneath the skin. The treatment occupied two stages, the first lasting until the subsidence of the symptoms; the second,

when a much smaller dose was required, was designed to maintain the patient in health. The actual dose that sufficed for this purpose was a fortnightly injection of 20 minims. The very great benefit accruing to the patients, in whatever way the remedy might have been administered, was very evident, and, as Dr. Ord observed, was all the more gratifying from the fact that two years ago the disease was regarded as incurable.

THE AMERICAN GIRL.—This young compatriot of ours (*Harper's Bazar*) no longer laces herself to breathlessness and a red nose and a pimpled forehead, pushing what flesh there is into regions where it makes deformity; she wears corsets, but only to outline and partially support, never to press or pinch, and thus her digestive organs are kept free to do their work and assist in preparing the rounded and velvety surfaces, the glow in the eye, the blush upon the cheek, the dye of the soft lips; for, unpoetical as it appears, the laboratory of beauty is in the stomach. In addition to all this, the American girl is no longer ashamed of her foot. She used to think it a disgrace if she wore a larger shoe or boot than a No. 2½; if she wore fours, she managed them; if she wore fives, she hid her foot. Now she understands that it is a law of statuesque beauty that a body should have an extremity apparently equal to its support—a woman a foot big enough to stand on, and *bien chaussée, bien gantée*, she never dreams of lengthening her skirt because her shoe is a six or seven, or of keeping her hands out of sight because they did not stop growing when she was ten years old. Owing to this last act of wisdom she can walk with freedom where she will, without pinched feet or any of the discomfort that urges her to sit still; and thus she takes with delight the exercise which does so much for her, which fills her lungs with fresh air, and oxygenates her blood, and gives it all its life and sparkle wherever its effects are visible. After all, it is common-sense, the appreciation that nature says how much to eat and what to wear that has reformed an ailing and early withered woman into a beauty of the old Greek type.

OPERATIVE TREATMENT OF WANDERING KIDNEY.—Herezel (*Beitrag zur klin. Chir.*—*Br. Md. Jour.*) concludes a report on the surgical treatment of