

Correspondence.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

From our own Correspondent.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23rd.

The medical profession of this city have had a great treat of late, in the presence among them of some of the most distinguished surgeons and physicians of Europe, who have been attending the Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons, held at Washington, Sept. 18th, 19th and 20th, 1888. Among those who visited us were Prof. Esmarch, Drs. Graily Hewitt, David Ferrier, Pye-Smith, Mr. Victor Horsley and Mr. Durham. Prof. Esmarch was tendered a reception at the New York Hospital by Drs. W. T. Bull and R. F. Weir. All medical men of note of the city were invited to meet the professor and shake hands with him. He performed the operation of removing the glands of the neck at the New York Hospital, and was again favored by having a very large number present to see him operate. Unfortunately the professor has since been very ill, and his friends were apprehensive of his dying here, but at this writing he is doing well. The celebrated gynecologist, Graily Hewitt, of London, was entertained by Dr. W. Gill Wylie at his house.

The New York State Medical Association held their meeting on Oct. 9th, 10th and 11th at Hotel Brunswick. The meeting was very interesting. The first paper read was entitled, "The Medical Profession and the Public," by the president, Dr. John Cronyn. It would be well if the profession was more harmonious in instructing the public to distinguish between true and false, between the charlatan and the conscientious physician. This will take a long time, but the profession can accomplish it in the end. Physicians, too, often encourage ignorance; they should strive to enlighten their patients. Genius, ambition, and love of profession could never make a physician, if the quality of the genius was not medical. A physician was born, not made, he must have reverence for the possibilities of his profession; he should be swift in action, possess power of immediate perception, analysis and induction. ■

Dr. F. W. Putnam read a paper entitled "Hic-cough, with Notes on Treatment." Milder cases

he said are cured by domestic remedies, but in cases of long standing, electricity applied to the diaphragm, the phrenic nerve, and the use of dry-cups over the phrenic nerve are of great benefit. There are many drugs that can be used with good effect, as chloroform, ipecac., valerian. Dr. C. A. Leale reported a very interesting case, and showed specimens. "Raspberry seeds mistaken for Gall-stones," presented at the last annual meeting by Dr. R. H. Labine, consisting of small hard corrugated bodies passed by a woman. There were in amount about half a pint of them. They were at first thought to be gall-stones but proved to be raspberry seeds.

Among many others, a paper entitled, "Does the Menstrual Flow originate in the Tubes," was read by Dr. E. J. C. Minard. The paper was based on a case in which menstruation was going on at five months after child-birth. The patient was nervous and prostrated; the flow was very free. On examination the uterus proved to be inverted, the tubes dragged down to the peritoneal surface of inverted uterus. The tumor that was formed was dark red with some darker spots over the surface, which might be said to resemble the tongue of scarlet fever without any coating. From the surface there could be found no flow, but from the tubes a dark, healthy menstrual flow could be wiped away; it was non-fibrinous, passed out drop by drop, and when the tubes were pressed upon would form quite a stream for an instant. Now, if it does always come from the tubes, it will, says the Dr., explain many things in gynecology that are now dark.

At the meeting of the Academy of Medicine, on Oct. 4th, Dr. E. J. Janeway read a paper of great interest, "Remarks on the Diagnosis of Diseases of the Liver and the Fever accompanying Biliary Obstruction." The Dr. told of the difficulties in making diagnosis of the cases as compared with diseases of the heart, lungs and kidneys. Physical examination alone he said would never prove sufficient in the majority of diseases. That in the kidneys, the urinary examination will give a clue. He went over the ground thoroughly, giving many points to aid in diagnosis. He mentioned a case of acute yellow atrophy of the liver, in which the bile duct was not obstructed, and there was no bile in the stools. The writer had a case of acute yellow atrophy of the liver