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Society Proceedings.

MONTREAL MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

Stated Meeting, March 8th, 1895.

DR. G. P. GIRDWOOD, PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR.

Dr. R. A. Westley, of Alexandria, was elected an ordinary member.

Experimental Cachexia Strumipriva.—Dr. WESLEY MILLS exhibited a dog from which he had removed the thyroid gland. The animal was in good condition at the time, and bore the operation so well that he feared the usual symptoms were not going to develop. The operation was performed on Monday evening, and on Friday most pronounced symptom of dyspnoea and fibrillary twitchings appeared, which, however, lasted but a short time and had almost disappeared when the animal was shown. The only symptom then present was the dog's extreme dullness. The temperature was about 98°, which was for the dog slightly subnormal. The subject had been thoroughly investigated by Continental and English scientists, notably Horsley. The symptoms differed in different animals; but were most pronounced in the carnivora.

Those referable to the nervous system were increased and then diminished function such as spasms, and later cretinism and myxœdema. The dullness (cretinism) was manifest in this dog; although the contrast between his present and his usual behavior was not marked. Myxœdema in some cases needed careful investigation to find; it was certainly not pronounced in either of these cases. In another dog operated upon, dullness, emaciation and dyspnoea were the prominent symptoms. The explanation was, that by excision of the thyroid a controlling influence over metabolism was removed. The dyspnoea was caused by the venous condition of the blood, and by the influence of toxins on the respiratory centre. The œdema, dullness, etc., were explained by alterations in nutrition and in the nervous system.

Dr. F. J. SHEPHERD suggested that some of the symptoms might have been due to the effects of the operation.

Dr. JAMES BELL was surprised that Dr. Mills should consider that the changes described could have taken place in so short a time.

Dr. W. S. MORROW corroborated what Dr. Mills had said of the animal's condition.

Gastro-jejunostomy.—Dr. F. J. SHEPHERD exhibited a woman, æt. 68, upon whom he had performed this operation, and who had been sent to his wards by Dr. G. Gordon Campbell