

contents. The palsy of the limbs is mostly found on the side opposite to that hemisphere of the brain which presents that greatest meningeal affection. No such definite relation exists with regard to the optic discs. In many cases of tubercular meningitis which run an indefinite course, especially those which are secondary to some other advanced disease, the optic changes share the indistinctness of the other symptoms. The ophthalmoscope countenances the idea that some cases of tubercular meningitis recover, and, even in fatal cases, a temporary improvement may occur in the discs. Tubercles of the choroid appear to be an uncommon complication.—*The Lancet*.

Gas in Peritoneal Cavity in Typhoid Fever relieved by Puncture.—Mr. GEORGE BROWN read a paper before the Clinical Society of London on a case as above. The patient, a young man aged twenty-one, was under Mr. Brown's care for typhoid fever in October last. The temperature was high throughout, ranging from 102° to 105.2° during the height of the fever. The case was complicated with double pneumonia. In the third week of the fever tympanites developed, which was at first localized to the parts of the abdomen occupied by the intestines, but a few days later the physical signs indicated that gas had escaped from the intestines into the peritoneal cavity, or was being generated in the cavity itself. The distension of the abdominal wall gradually became more and more extreme, the tympanitic note entirely masking the hepatic and splenic dulness, and could be elicited over the sternum as high as the articulations of the fourth costal cartilages. Through the upward pressure on the diaphragm there was urgent dyspnoea, the respirations reaching as high as 50 per minute, and the heart was displaced upwards and outwards, so that the apex-beat was half an inch outside the nipple and in a line with it. Mr. Brown pierced the abdominal wall with a small aspirator trocar an inch below the umbilicus, and on withdrawing the cannula a rush of gas took place which continued for several seconds. The gas was odourless. The relief was immediate, the heart regained its normal situation, and in a few minutes the