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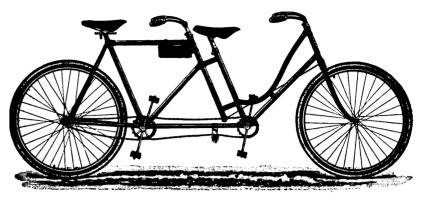
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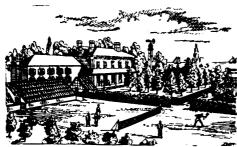
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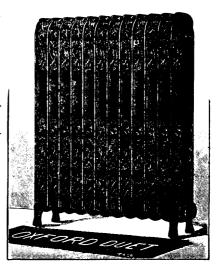
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# The Canada Lancet.

VOL. XXIX]

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1896.

No. 1.

#### THE CAUSES OF MENTAL IMPAIRMENT IN CHILDREN.

BY DR. J. MADISON TAYLOR, A.M., M.D., OF PHILADELPHIA.

SENSORIAL DEFECTS. DEFECTIVE ORGANS AND FUNCTIONS.

Faulty habits of thought and action, early established by accidental conditions, mould character and influence mental growth. Whether the effect will fall upon the individual only, or be transmissible, may fail to appear, but the presumption is that it does pass on. For example, a child of an active, restless brain exhibits amusing capacities in extravagant words and thoughts, and encouraged to cultivate this, forms the habit of using loose comments, inexact remarks merely of amiable hyperbole or acid derogation, misrepresentations, additions, and embellishments of simple facts, too often about people, colored by their own temporary estimate of these, a growing imagination, in short, lies and falsifications. Let this continue, and the outcome is moral astigmatism, growing into possibly creative fancies, and poetic or fictional scribbling, more probably a moral prevert or worse. A healthy contact with frank critics of a similar age and walk in life, plus a fair amount of good sense, and this facility may prove a boon. An atmosphere of silly adulation on one of shallow parts, and the resultant may be merely a blatant ass. Let these qualities arise in one of small moral fibre, or of selfish vanity, and a dangerous enemy to the community is fostered. At all events the character sustains thereby a warping which is permanent.

Take another illustration, suggested to me by a gentleman himself, an acutely sensitive sufferer from similar misfortune. Suppose a child to be endowed with normal brain and mind, but with perhaps less than usual audacity, and yet of impaired power of articulation as from some anatomic defect, cleft palate, or such like fault, or more commonly the disorder of stammering. As companions learn his difficulty in giving utterance to spontaneous thoughts, they take advantage of this in various ways, not aggressively it may be, but slowness to speak is recognized as a bar to many activities, both in the value of thought and physical movements. This child has certain ideas which should be promptly uttered to produce their best effects. They should come out clear and precise, just as the mind formed them, and in all this they fail. A second attempt is made to use other words, easier to phonate, or of shorter or simpler sentence construction, but of probably less vigor than first conceived. Even a

third time failure may result from attempts to express himself, and speedily the child makes less effort to speak at all. Inability to enunciate checks natural frankness and candor, and healthy boldness. Gradually such a sufferer shrinks from competitions in games which involve generally a good use of voice as well as of muscle. Soon the conviction grows that he is a defect, an undeveloped creature set apart from his fellows, not entirely of their company, and instead of the bold, vigorous stand for which his mind and limbs amply fit him, he drops into the background more or less. His character and mind are checked in growth; he fails to become what he should, no matter how well he may succeed. Of course there is precedent for stammerers attaining great success, vide Demosthenes, but there must burn within that unconquerable fire of genius, admitted by a rare possession.\*

Perhaps the most potent factor among sensorial defects is eye strain. Our distinguished fellow, Dr. George M. Gould, promised me a summary

on this subject from his forthcoming book, but is omitted here.

#### SURGICAL CAUSES.

In a personal letter in reply to my queries, Dr. DeForest Willard says:

"In my opinion the chief surgical causes producing mental enfeeblement in children are injuries to the brain during birth by the application of forceps, the traumatism of the brain substance and of the meninges with resultant inflammation, and inflammatory thickening producing changes which are frequently followed by both mental and muscular deficiency. Unfortunately a distinct fracture or definite depression is only occasionally capable of diagnostic demonstration; even localization symptoms in later years are only rarely demonstrable. When the evidences are definite, however, trephining is certainly indicated, and the same is true in regard to traumatism inflicted after birth.

"In respect to reflex irritation from phimosis, while I believe that muscular irregularities frequently result, yet I do not think that they produce a condition of mental deficiency save in rare cases. The same is true, too, of masturbation, although any drain upon the nervous system may assist in producing a low grade of mental as well as of muscular

tonicity.'

Dr. G. Hudson Makuen, whose experience in treating speech defects is

unusually large, in a personal letter, gives me the following:

"We cannot over-estimate the value of speech as a factor in the mental development of children. Some form of expression seems to be necessary to the fullest mental activity and growth. It may be conceded that thought precedes expression, but certain it is that the one not only follows hard upon but actually depends upon the other for its development. Deprive a child of all forms of expression and you remove the greatest incentive to mental action. The chief mode of expression is speech, and if you would make possible the fullest mental activity give great care to the cultivation of easy, natural speech. Look well after any obstruction

<sup>\*</sup> Stammering troubled Æsop, Virgil, Demosthenes, Alcibiades, Erasmus, Cato of Utica, and Charles V. (Arthur McDonald) abnormal man, p. 151.

to speech development in the vocal and respiratory organs. The slightest thickening of the nasal mucosa or of the pharyngeal or faucial tonsils greatly interferes with the formation of natural speech and thus indirectly makes an impress on the mind, the magnitude of which is out of all proportion to the cause of the trouble. In children with adenoid growths (in the vault of the pharnyx) the 'vacant stare,' which is a fairly accurate picture of the vacant mind within, is due not more to faulty breathing than to its concomitant faulty speech. Enlarged faucial tonsils which may interfere very little with respiration give the same facial characteristics, and I have seen cases of defective speech due to tongue-tie and other cases entirely independent of adenoid thickening in which arrested mental development was reflected in the continuance in exactly the same manner."\*

Dr. Harrison Allen, in a personal letter, gives me the facts concerning the effects of naso-pharngeal obstruction: "Clinging to the roof of the upper throat passage, or to its posterior wall, there is found in every individual a number of small seed-like masses, which have received the name of the lymphoid or adenoid bodies. We know little or nothing of the nature of these growths or the purposes they serve in the economy. Not infrequently they will be found large enough to interfere with comfort and health. If they prevent air from passing through the nose into the throat, while the mouth is closed, the development of the body is often retarded and natural functions perverted. The chest becomes deformed, the upper ribs being widely separated, while the lower ribs lie close together. In weaklings, in whom the bones are lacking in limesalts, the deformation of the chest is more marked than in sturdy subjects whose bones are normally developed. The upper jaw is narrowed from side to side, highly arched and, as a rule, the front teeth irregularly disposed. Occasionally deafness exists. The power of attention, the tenacity of the memory, the control of the will, and the emotions are all weakened. The disposition is apt to be sullen and occasionally intractable. The mouth is continually open and the face has a lack-lustre expression, the countenance has a pasty look, the general appearance of the child is one lacking in intelligence. In some instances, indeed, the child is actually mentally defective.

"If by any chance a child is already on the border line between normal and the abnormal intellection (and is a sufferer from adenoid overgrowth) we can well understand how the condition named may push it on the wrong side of the line, and keep it there.

"No rule exists by which the physician can determine the exact size or consistence of the growth; a small mass in a small naso-pharynx may be expected to excite more distress than does a larger and more vascular growth in a capacious naso-pharynx.

"When the growth is removed the symptoms named often disappear as if by magic. I say often, because it is not uniformly the case. Sometimes we observe a child whose general nutrition is impaired, who has inherited one of the numerous features belonging to an impaired constitution, and who happens, with the other evils, to have an obstructive adenoid

<sup>\*</sup> A remarkable case is reported by Prof. Forbes, Med. News, Sept. 2, 1893.

growth. It is not reasonable to suppose that the removal of the growth would have any effect upon taints by inheritance. Yet in the many cases of the kind I have studied I have notes of three cases only when the

operation was not followed by relief.

"Not infrequently in young people from fifteen to twenty years of age, (especially in girls who are growing rapidly) adenoid growths, which are not large enough to obstruct, will prove to be the cause of mischief. If catarrh be present, an otorrhea or deafness established, or an irritative cough and asthma exist, treatment is futile so long as these small adenoid growths are unmolested.

"Adenoid tissue is in close association with the tonsils and the lymph bodies at the base of the tongue. Early in life it is rare to find a large adenoid and small tonsil, therefore, we conclude that the two conditions are in some way associable. In consequence it is desirable always in children with large tonsils to be sure that adenoid growth may not be co-existent, or the treatment of the tonsil may prove quite ineffective to give relief. The basi-lingual bodies rarely attract attention at the time that the adenoid growths and tonsils are most active."

Dr. James K. Young, at my request, summarises the causes which impair mental development in children from the standpoint of the orthopedist, thus: "Among the pathologic causes which impair mental development in children, in my experience, a large number may be included un-

the following:

I. Congenital syphilis.

II. Cerebral palsies.

III. Rickets.

"I. Congenital syphilis particularly impairs development of the encephalon by premature co-ossification of the cranial sutures. In severe cases this lesion produces microcephalus, but in milder forms there is simply premature closure of the fontanelles. Between these two forms

every degree of impaired mental development may exist.

"II. Cerebral palsies. The number of cases of mental impairment from cerebral palsies is very large. They are not to be confounded with infantile spinal paralysis, in which there is no impairment of the mental development present. There may be a hemiplegia, a bilateral hemiplegia (diplegia), or a paraplegia. The hemiplegic cases are usually due to a hemilateral lesion of the cerebrum, either a sclerosis, an atrophy or porencephalus. The diplegic cases are due to the same causes, but the lesion is usually bilateral. The paraplegic cases are usually the remains of a slight cerebral lesion which has disappeared, but which has left a mild descending degeneration of the cord. In all these cerebral palsies there is more or less impairment of mental development.

"III. Rickets. In the majority of cases of rickets there is an impairment of mental development which apparently disappears sooner or later, as the child is relieved of its impaired nutrition; but the shorter stature, the changes in the cranial bones, and the tendency to excessive perspiration, which remains throughout life in some of these cases, is associated with slight impairment of mental development. Hydrocephalus is so rare that it may be excluded as a cause of impaired mental development

in children.

"The impairment of mental development in cerebral palsies varies from complete idiocy to slight backwardness. In the paraplegic cases genital irritation, priapism, masturbation and incontinance of urine, is sometimes present and might easily be mistaken for cause rather than effect were it

not for history of the case." The paranoiac and the high grade imbecile enjoy a wide liberty of action, rarely suspected by their families of being aught but folk of "peculiarities" (as in a large family of our acquaintance) is much given to marriage, and their offspring are worse than they. The victim of epilepsy which may be under fair control, and otherwise of good report, not seldom weds a nervous, hysterical person, and of them come degenerate offspring. The deaf mute, grafted into doubtful stock, has produced idiocy and imbecility in second and third generations. Syphilis is conceded to predispose to seventeen per cent. of idiots. The intermarriage of relations is always a peril, seeing that almost no stock is without taint or enfeeblement. Lowered health in one or both parents; maternal impressions and acute disease during pregnancy; senility of a father, one or all throw a great strain upon organizations of hereditary bias of different kinds and degrees.

A clear history or clinical picture of syphilis may explain a certain group of juvenile dementias after four or five years old, before that the status of the mind can scarcely be rated.\*

Febrile and post febrile states are responsible for many maniacs, classified by Nasse into those of the fever itself of protracted continuance of fever and of convalescence.

Spitzka (Keating's Encyclopedia) declares that during convalescence the more benign forms occur, and are common in adults, the first two of more frequent occurrence in children.

Those febrile processes bearing the burden of the largest responsibility in causing insanities are typhoid fever, scarlatina, measles, rheumatism and diphtheria.

The so-called reflex insanities are in truth probably only instances of exciting causes disturbing or destroying unstable mental equilibrium.

Spitzka also calls attention to a progressive form of hysterical insanity in girls about the time of puberty, which begins as dyspeptic states, shades off into aversion to food, with delusions about eating, and from this into other disorders of over-consciousness. Thus often are the hysterical insanities seen to begin in actual disease processes, often slight, and by gradual increments, colored by environmental influences, pass into serious mental disorders.

A very important instrumental cause of mind trouble is neurasthenia, the lowering of central energies by various forms of exhaustion, exhibiting widely varying states of neurosis, till the normal resistances are fatally impaired and manifested in the individual, and even more so in the offspring.

Depressing influences are especially hurtful to children, as deprivation of proper home comforts with harsh treatment, irrational punishment,

<sup>\*</sup>All this question of interlacing causes is treated of in "The Insane Disorder of Childhood," Journal Pediatrics, by J. Madison Taylor, Feb., 1894.

brutal scoldings or cruelties can crush out budding intelligence, and do worse in causing the child to stem the current of abuses by cunning, subtleties, lies and thefts. Then are varieties of acquired imbecility brought about; but this is more usually moral in tone, and thence is the transition affected to moral imbecility and criminality.\* The impressionable clay is fashioned to a vessel of evil, or if not so bad then wholesome tendencies fail to mature, and we have children of stunted minds and character who are reparable in very moderate degree.

The nutritive defects alone produce incalculable harm, even admitting that no physical bias coexists. Mind is absolutely conditional upon brain competence. Nutritional diseases, as rickets, tuberculosis, etc., are familiar backgrounds for all nervous diseases. Organic defects, as of kidney, heart, lungs, etc., are not shown to be of so grave an import as in the adult, but when present are occasionally responsible for manias. Excess of heat, either of fevers or sun or low temperatures long con-

tinued, exert a more recognizable effect.

City life may be accused of an immense deal of damage to germinating minds. The perpetual round of stimulants and excitements to the child, which, as Peterson says, "is a bundle of nerves and centres, and reflexes in a state of great activity, prepared to receive, store up and reenergize a world full of new impressions suddenly thrust upon it."

Other degenerative influences are the infectious diseases, depressing circumstances, want, exposure, deprivation of suitable hygiene, toxic inflexions, the use of opium, tobacco, etc.; the excitement of city life fiddling upon these over-sensitive nerves and reflexes with insufficient opportunities for repose and quiet; hurry of all kinds, hard, continuous labor, united to want and bad homes, vicious companions, especially parents who terrify and oppress.

Traumatism is an exciting cause of great rarity. Injuries to the unborn child by attempted abortion is, as Ireland remarks, "a probable cause of unknowable extent. Those received during protracted labor are appreciated, but not understood." † Sometimes the effect of the trauma soon pass away; at others they last as permanent crippling, or, worse, motor explosions, epilepsies, recurrent insanities, etc.

(To be Continued.)

TREATMENT OF WARTS.—The most effective cure is from Fowler's solution, two drops three times daily, (in children half drop three times daily) slightly increasing the dose each week. The warts crumble to pieces and disappear, especially when washing and drying the hands, so that the skin looks normal after two or three weeks. Relapses have never been observed.—Medical Herald.

<sup>\*</sup> D pine says the two great conditions for crime are moral insensibility and perversity, with two great accessory moral anomalies—inpudence and lack of forethought. Criminals rarely express remorse, the criminal insane never—Clouston, quoting this, add, that the most characteristic feature of the criminal insane and moral imbecile is inconsistency; they are stupid and careless, or cunning and hypochondrical.

<sup>†</sup> An inquiry into the causes producing cerebral injuries in the new-born. J. Mad'son Taylor, Annal. Gynecol. and Pediatrics, May, 1892.

#### OBSERVATIONS ON ANTISEPTIC THERAPY.

BY O. MCCULLOUGH, B.A., M.D., ERIN, ONT.

If Dr. Lusk's remarks apply to normal or natural labor alone, no objection can be raised, when he says that weak antiseptic solutions cannot destroy the streptococcus, and that very strong ones kill the tissues as well. But when the poison is supposed to have gained admission as indicated by the symptoms of septicaemia, it seems rational to attack it locally even at the xpense of superficial tissue destruction. It can do no more than remove the mucous membrane, and this is renewed subsequent to menstruation after the old lining has undergone fatty degeneration. In fact the mucous membrane is physiologically destroyed and renewed alternately from the advento fmenstruation until the menopause. These degenerative changes affect the body of the uterus but not the cervix. Pregnancy interrupts this fatty change until term, and in involution the old linning is cast away. So a strong uterine douche, if it is not poisonous, cannot be an objection because it destroys something which nature is destroying anyway. Bichloride and iodine solutions bear a good report clinically. In post-partum hemorrhage, the secondary form of which may occur sometime in the practice of the most careful physicians, these douches must be useful. The result is the same whether the cause of hemorrhage be retention of portions of the membranes or placenta, inertia, a patent state of the uterine sinuses, sub-involution, fibroids, polypi, malignancy, the rupture of varicose veins, cervical laceration, the hemorrhagic diathesis or any other of the many conditions known to be causative, and their name is legion. attended a case of labor not long ago in which the patient had a comparatively easy confinement, although the pains were not equal to the average. For the grinding pains of her first stage I gave the syrup of chloral in divided doses to which the os soon responded, although it was not markedly rigid. Moderate pressure on the abdomen as a vis a tergo with the natural assistance of the uterine pains soon completed the second stage, while the third stage followed after the usual interval. I always make it a habit to twist the partly expelled placenta and membranes round the finger to prevent possible retention of fragments, and this I did in the present instance. The uterus hardened in the usual way and the patient's pulse was considerably below one hundred It used no douches, but I used a weak sublimate solution to purify my own hands. There was no rise of temperature at any time, but the mammary secretion was delayed, and when it did appear it was small in amount. On the sixth day the patient sat up in bed to entertain some friends who had called to see her, and in deference to their request swallowed some brandy. Soon she felt a trickling in the passages, continuous but not excessive, and at once sent for me. When I arrived I found a quickened pulse and considerable blood with no clotting. When small amounts of blood pass through the vagina, as in menstruation, the normal acid secretion prevents clotting. But blood retained in the uterus for any

length of time becomes clotted, or when the hemorrhage is excessive we must expect to find clots. Thinking this might be a disturbance of the lochia, which after nervous excitement may become profuse and quite red, I had the feather mattress removed, leaving her a hard one which was below the other, and not permitting her to leave the horizontial position. I ordered the amount of bed covering to be reduced, raised the foot of the bed slightly, and enjoined a large supply of good ventilation, as the room was quite too warm. I ordered a cool but nourishing diet as the woman was anemic, recommended cool cloths to the hypogastrium, prescribed ergot and insisted on absolute quietness. This was Thursday evening. On Sunday morning she again called me saying that the bleeding had recurred. I inspected the external genital organs, and examined the cervix and so through a bivalve speculum. There was no laceration nor was it more patulous than one would expect. I thought it would cease. I gave a hot vaginal douche and ordered a continuance of the treatment described. The patient seemed nervous, but there was no rise of temperature, and no offensive odor in the discharge. I ordered the bowels to be kept open so that there might be no cause of congestion in a loaded rectum.

The bladder was regularly emptied all the while in the natural way. The oozing stopped till Monday night and then I saw there was no use of temporizing, so I prepared a solution of boiled water 120° and sublimate (1-10,000). With a catheter and Higginson's syringe I washed out the uterus until the water returned clear. There were some loose clots, but the discharge was perfectly sweet. With a small firm sponge attached to long blunt forceps, I scrubbed out the uterine cavity with antiseptic boiled water, slightly rotating the forceps so as to bring the sponge into contact with the whole uterine wall. Keeping my left forefinger at the os as a guide, I withdrew the sponge several times to dip it into the antiseptic solution, and saw what appeared to be small portions of membrane on the sponge. The last two times I applied it there was nothing visible, so I concluded that was all. I then dipped the sponge into a moderate strength of chloride of iron solution, and completed the toilet of the uterus. The bleeding did not return and the lochia itself ceased for a day or so. A soft, open-meshed sponge should not be used in these cases, as portions of it are liable to become detached. I followed Playfair's teaching and found it satisfactory. Had the bleeding been excessive, I would have mopped out the uterus at the first; I believe I did what was best under the circumstances. The small portions of the membrane-like substance were very thin, and may have been deciduous, or foetal for that matter. I did not examine them particularly as it was lamp-light, and the clinical

side was all important just then. The woman gave me her history. She said all her children were born alive and healthy, but three of them perished subsequently from diarrhoea and pneumonia. She told me that a year previously she "had a miscarriage," during which she lost a profuse quantity of blood, and was

found by her medical attendant in an unconscious state.

She was a long time improving, she said, so I concluded that her present anæmic condition was due in a measure to the accident described. Sub-involution or atony of the uterus may follow such accidents, and be primary causes of future hemorrhage, especially when the parts are congested as in menstruation and pregnancy. She suffered, too, from goitre which we find frequently associated with anemia. In all hemorrhage the indication is to arrest the bleeding at once by methods that have stood the test. Physical examination is necessary, for the cause is generally immediate. In the cases where the cause is a remote one, as in purpura and kindred diseases, the diathesis must be overcome by

medicine if possible.

Concluding the case, I would say that the lacteal secretion was not sufficient for the child, but between the mother's milk on the one hand and judicious artificial feeding on the other, she grew fat and healthy, and the mother was soon able to attend to the "economics" of her house. There are such cases, or at least similar ones, in the life-time of every practitioner, and it is rational to suppose that antisepsis ensures at least a cleanliness in method and application not otherwise obtainable But as a routine in normal practice, douches are not necessary. Everyone must be guided to a certain extent by his own judgment, for the textbooks fail us sometimes, and we can all say with Professor Lusk that we "are ready to change our opinion to-morrow if new observations should make a change necessary." Every one should read Dr. Lusk's suggestions on such an important subject. Antisepsis I think cannot be carried to excess in surgery; as the conditions are different, they are accidental and therefore always pathological. But labor is in most cases natural and for that reason physiological. Let the patient, physician, nurse and attendants observe the strictest hygiene, and then if septicaemia persists, its perpetuation cannot be laid at the doors of the medical men.

Modern surgery, magnificent and life-saving as it is, has been too frequently sacrificed to a rash specialism that, ignorant of general principles, has unsexed the victims of hysteria in the false hope that nature has

made mistakes somewhere.

In the surgery of the appendix too it is just as necessary to know when to operate as it is to know how to operate. No wonder that Goodell and McGuire have called a halt in these departments of practice.

Professor Lusk of New York has come to the rescue of our sisters at this juncture, and his timely words will not soon be forgotten by the conscientious profession of the civilized world.

Dr. Cantrell believes that, as a pus destroyer, no drug will take the place of ichthyol; therefore it is indicated in pustular acne, as well as in cases of furuncles and carbuncles, if seen early.—Phil. Polyclinic.

THE OLDEST PRESCRIPTION. A French medical paper prints what is believed to be the oldest known medical receipe. It is a tonic for the hair and its date is 4,000 B. C. It was prepared for an Egyptian queen, and required dogs' paws and asses' hoofs to be boiled with dates in oil. The modern hair restorer requires asses' heads.—Medical Record.

#### SURGERY.

IN CHARGE OF

GEO. A. BINGHAM, M.B.,

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#### COLLES' FRACTURE.

BY A. T. CLARK, M.D., GREENVILLE, PA.

My subject is not a new one. It is old, and I fear I shall not be able to make it interesting; but I feel that no apology is necessary. So long as the treatment of fracture of the lower end of the radius is as unsatisfactory as it is to day, both to ourselves and our patients, it is necessary that we give the subject more study; more frequently interchange views. If you will bear with me a few minutes, in return I will promise that the everlasting microbe shall not enter in; that the bacterial army and that of its deadly enemy, the leucocyte, shall not even skirmish here.

I propose to treat only of the simple fracture. If compound or comminuted, each case must depend upon itself; upon its own merits. With the simple fracture there is a marked unanimity—resemblance—between the cases. We recognize the injury at sight; even across a room. As far as my experience goes, nineteen out of every twenty cases are simple fractures. With this most common fracture and of so important a member, it is not creditable to our profession that the results are so unsatisfactory if it is possible to do better.

The fracture is unique; it has not a parallel in surgery. No matter how perfect a knowledge of fractures in general one may attain, he is not prepared to either diagnosticate or treat this one without special study. Of the three cardinal symptoms of fracture, deformity, increased motion, crepitus, we have but one, deformity. Motion at the wrist-joint is lost and there is no motion at the seat of fracture. Crepitus, if we get it at all, only occurs when the fracture is reduced. As a rule, no visible callus forms in healing. It is no wonder that our fathers mistook the injury for dislocation of the wrist-joint. It is not complimentary to the profession that it is sometimes done yet.

The fracture of any bone is a serious injury, and we shall probably never be able to attain quite the results we may wish in their treatment. In the one under consideration, too, there are a few conditions that render its treatment more than ordinarily difficult. The fracture is very close to the radial articulation with the scaphoid and semilunar bones. If it is within seven-eighths of the lower end of the radius, it is through the sigmoid cavity for the articulation of the head of the ulna—a very important articulation. Notwithstanding these difficulties, it seems to me that we can and ought to obtain better results. Wherein do we fail?

Nearly twenty years ago, when the American Medical Association met in this city, a very instructive paper was read before the surgical section on the subject of Colles' fracture. The discussion which followed was, if possible, more instructive, and was participated in by a number of eminent men; notably among whom were Drs. Moore, of this city and Rochester, and Frank H. Hamilton, of New York. If there are any here who listened to that discussion they will remember the enthusiasm of Dr, Moore as he described his three cases, which he designated as his diamond, his gold and his silver, naming them thus from the value he thought they possessed as a means of giving us instructions in this fracture. But the one point I wish to refer to here, is his method of dressing the fracture: simply an adhesive strap around the wrist over a compress placed under the head of the ulna, and the forearm supported in a sling extending from the elbow to the wrist, leaving the hand hanging over. The weight of the hand thus placed, he believed, prevented the lower fragment from sliding outward. Dr. Hamilton told us that he, himself, had received the injury, had reduced it himself, and operated for harelip four days afterwards. It may not be necessary, to-day, to offer evidence to show that there is very little tendency to displacement in this fracture, but so long as splints are being devised, no matter how awkward, if their inventors have the correction of that displacement in view, and as long as we frequently find the fracture dressed with apparatus as heavy as the forearm, it seems to me to be justifiable. If Dr. Moore's simple drapery was sufficient, and if Dr. Hamilton was willing to run the risk of displacement in his own wrist, to perform an operation four days after the injury, they certainly did not believe there was much danger of the fragments moving when they had been adjusted. Then, if we remember how difficult it is to move the fragments, one upon another, when we have the fracture nearly reduced and are not quite satisfied, we shall join with the great majority of the profession in the opinion that the fragments are not easily displaced when once placed in their proper position.

The trouble is that we do not properly reduce the fracture; set the broken bones. For once the populace are right with regard to our work. "It wasn't set right." A perfect coaptation of the fragments is more necessary in this than many other fractures. The bones are so thinly covered with soft tissues, that a little deviation in position is unsightly and is always in sight. What is of more consequence, a little deviation on the inner or ulnar side destroys the sigmoid cavity, and the head of the ulna is crowded out of doors, and here is just the place that the want of perfect coaptation is apt to occur. By thus permanently displacing the head of the ulna, the ulnar nerve is infringed upon causing contrac-

tures in the ring and little fingers.

When I was a student, surgical anatomy was neglected in our schools. From answers I have received from both young and old graduates, to questions I have put and requests I have made to point out bony landmarks in the living subject, I am led to believe that such teaching is not all that could be desired yet, and that the attainment of the student is not all that should be exacted. When we have all attained such profi-

ciency in this branch of study, to enable us to discern every process, every plane, every landmark perceptible to the sight or touch, to the eye or the finger, and know the tendency of every muscle to displace fragments in fractures, we shall be called to treat them, with less dread, and the results of treatment will be better. He that has accomplished this task has had no play-spell. We are in an era of specialties and specialists; another says: "There is nothing left for the general practitioner but a little space around the umbilicus four inches square." There is still room for another specialist. I, for one, shall hail with pleasure the advent of the bone-setter.

In this particular fracture the muscles have but little tendency to displace the fragments when they have been adjusted; but have we learned, and do we always have in mind the relations of the radius and ulna to each other, and to the surface of the wrist? Do we always remember that the plane of the posterior surface of the radius is not that of the wrist? That the posterior surface of the radius dips toward the head of the ulna at an angle of three, four, or even five degrees. If a straight edge be placed across the posterior surface of my own wrist—not unusually rough—I believe it will be three-eighths of an inch away from the surface of the radius next to the ulna.

Whether or not we have attained that knowledge of the contour of the bones of the wrist necessary, it is certainly a common error to leave the internal side of the lower fragment a little above the normal position. We do not bring this little piece of bone, sometimes an inch long, sometimes an eighth of an inch, quite forward to its place. If we fail to do this, what will be the result? If we only bring the internal portion of this fragment to a level of the posterior surface of the wrist, how will the wrist look, and what will be the disadvantages? Very slight tumefaction of the soft tissue will cover all irregularities when the fracture is first reduced. When we dispense with our dressing, and before absorption has come to our rescue, we will find something like the following: The wrist will be straight, which means a good deal to the laity; but the lower fragment will set diagonally upon the upper. The posterior surface of the wrist will be flat. The head of the ulna seems a little down, forward. Just in proportion to the displacement has the sigmoid cavity been narrowed or destroyed, and the head of the ulna cannot enter its articular cavity; consequently the posterior surface is a little wider than that of its fellow. As the lower fragment sits on the upper in a twist, it juts out a little into the external surface more prominently at that illy defined ridge, which separates the posterior from the external surface. It is to prevent this imaginary sliding out after reduction that so many splints have been devised. Near the centre of the anterior surface is a slight depression amounting to little more than a crease. With the exception of the prominence of the head of the ulna above mentioned, the internal surface is about normal. There may or may not be contractures of the ring and little fingers. So many fractured wrists have I seen that filled the above description, and so sure am I that these conditions depend upon this error or oversight in the reduction of the fracture that I have broken a rule I had always expected to adhere to, to let

others do the writing and volunteer this paper. In self-defense, or to prevent misunderstanding, I wish to say that I am presenting but one of the many errors that have been made in the reduction of this fracture; that I have no general rule for the treatment of all cases; I am not looking for panacea.

When we know just the position into which we wish to place a fragment, our work is plain, straightforward; but it is not always easy to

accomplish.

Direct extension—traction—in a line with the radius, will not reduce this fracture. The posterior surface of the lower fragment held back, as it generally is, by the untorn portion of periosteum, pealed up from the lower end of the upper fragment, renders extension alone worse than useless. It tends to tip forward the anterior segment of the lower fragment, but has little tendency to bring it forward to its place. We are frequently advised to extend the hand upon the forearm, and then bring it down again to its place. Others may succeed in that way; I have never been able to. It is, however, in accordance with a very good rule, in the reduction of fractures, to place the limb, as nearly as possible, in the position it assumed when fractured. In that same address of Dr. Hamilton, to which I have before referred (if he were among us he would request me to call it a talk), he told us that he reduced his own fracture. As soon as he arose from the deck of the ferry-boat, on which he had fallen, he saw that he had a "silver fork" fracture, as he called it. He seated himself, and taking the hand of the injured arm in that of the well one, placed the injured wrist across his knee and made traction. He looked and saw he had not brought the fragment quite to its place, drew again with the wrist across his knee and succeeded. In my opinion he placed the limb, possibly from necessity, in the best possible position for reduc-We need not use our knee. By placing our fingers on the anterior surface of the wrist, pressing, with the palm, well up against the ulna to support it, and with our thumb on the dorsal surface of the lower fragment close to the ulna, we can, by making strong traction, in a straight line, force them by strongly flexing the wrist, at the same time making pressure with the thumb. The fragment will slip readily to its place. There is no danger of its going too far. This is my way of reducing, and it has given me satisfaction.

The dressing should be simple. A splint of some kind is absolutely necessary. Twice I have ventured to dress with a simple roller bandage over a heavy layer of cotton. The results were good so far as the fracture was concerned; but in both cases I was told, very patronizingly, by my patients, that they guessed it was not broken much. A splint is necessary to keep in remembrance the fact that they have a fracture. Whatever splint you select adjust it. Let me say, parenthetically, that I believe splints have done more harm in fractures, than they ever did good. An anterior splint is as good as any; but the lower end should be as wide as the palm. A hand bent upon the palm longitudinally will be painful. If you doubt it, hold your hand in that position ten minutes.

# FAILURE OF CASTRATION TO CAUSE ATROPHY OF THE PROSTATE.

BY CHARLES B. KELSEY, M.D.

The patient, aged sixty-nine, came into the Post-Graduate Hospital suffering greatly with cystitis, due to enlarged prostate. He had been unable to pass water for two or three months, and had been catheterized by his wife every three or five hours. In addition to a very large prostate he had right inguinal hernia and hydrocele on the left. The urine was albuminous. Bassini's operation was done on the right side, and both testicles were removed.

After three weeks of careful catheterization and washing out of the bladder, there being very slight improvement, if any, in his symptoms, a perineal section was made and permanent drainage established.

Two weeks and a half later (five weeks and a half after castration) the patient died of chronic nephritis. As far as could be seen, his death was not in any way hastened by the operative interference.

Following is the report of the pathologist to the hospital, Dr. Brooks:

"New York, January 31, 1896.

"MY DEAR MR. KELSEY:—The following is a brief report upon the prostate removed from castrated patient.

"Report.—Mr. —, aged sixty-nine. Prostate removed six hours after death. Weight: 45 grams. Dimensions: antero-posterior diameter,

 $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches; transverse diameter (base),  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches; depth, 1 inch.

"GROSS APPEARANCE.—Color, dark red. Consistence firm, dense, moderately friable. The cut surface mottled and of a dark reddish-gray color; shows numerous delicate, silvery, grayish-white and grayish-red bands, united to form trabeculæ of greater or less density and thickness, encircling prominent, irregularly outlined, nodulated foci, which are pale yellowish-white in color and of succulent consistence. These foci vary in

size from that of a milletseed to that of a small pea.

"MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION.—In teased preparations from the fresh organ, the elements composing the stroma, unstriated muscle, fibrous and elastic tissues appeared to be well preserved and in normal proportion. Individual cells symmetrical; nuclei prominent, well-defined, and distinctly visible; protoplasm clear or faintly granular. Rarely a cell filled with minute droplets of fat was seen; also a few free fat droplets floating in the mounting-fluid (physiological salt solution) surrounding the fragments of tissue. Fibrous elements somewhat in excess of unstriped muscle structure. Most of the epithelial cells from glandular ducts presented no strikingly abnormal alterations. The greater portion of them possessed distinct nuclei and quite clear, nearly homogeneous, protoplasm containing but few granula. A very small number were partly disintegrated, slightly pigmented, and filled with minute fat granules and occa-

sional large oil drops. These disorganized cells were prominent by virtue

of their rarity.

"In unstained sections from frozen tissue, the stroma was seen to be composed of well-preserved, tortuously distributed, unstriated muscle fibres, and more or less densely arranged fibrous connective tissue, the latter in excess. The stroma was decidedly greater in amount than glandular structure; though this was not much more pronounced than is frequently the case in the normal prostate, especially in the lateral lobes. On careful search, a few isolated cells containing distinct drops of fat, in minutest division, could now and then be found lying embedded between apparently normal muscle elements. Notwithstanding the presence of fat, the nuclei and general contour of these cells were perfectly retained. Sometimes free fat globules were seen lying between the connective-tissue fibres; but it is believed these could readily have been, and probably were, originated during cutting and mounting of these sections. The epithelia (often in double layers) lining the ducts appeared to be in normal relation to each other; contour uniform and nuclei distinct; protoplasm clear or but slightly granular. Fat was very rarely observed in the glandular structure, and then only in the form of minutest droplets, and confined chiefly to lumina. Occasionally the lumen of a duct, presenting intact lining epithelia resting upon basement membrane, was seen partially or wholly occluded by an amorphous or finely granular substance, enclosing several partially disintegrated cells and a few fat drop-The great majority of the lumina of the ducts were comparatively free, or showed but slight traces of granular detritus or deposits of other nature. On the whole, the changes observed in the fresh tissues were not sufficiently pronounced to warrant the assumption that atrophic process had, to any great extent, been established.

"Study of frozen sections, hardened in formalin and alcohol, and subsequently stained with Boehmer's hæmatoxylin and borax carmine, revealed even less evidence of atrophic changes. Excluding fat, the description given above under examination of fresh tissue applies here. The best-stained portions of the sections were invariably the epithelial' cells lining the tubules—the parts where alterations would most naturally be expected. The only change remarked was a slight increase in the amount of fibrous connective-tissues as compared with the muscular structure. This alteration seemed to be confined to certain areas. In other areas the glandular structure was in excess, the various lobuli being almost in apposition. In some parts the separating partitions were composed almost wholly of muscular tissue. A small number of corpora

amylacea were seen.

"H. T. Brooks."

It will be seen from this very careful examination that neither in gross appearance nor in microscopic structure was there the slightest sign of any atrophic or degenerative change in the prostate gland.—

Med. Record.

The old, as a rule, bear heat much better than cold. The hot-water bag will, usually, be more comforting to them than the ice coil.

# SOME MECHANICAL CAUSES OF INTERFERENCE WITH THE ACTION OF THE STOMACH AND THEIR SURGICAL RELIEF.

BY DR. W. J. MAYO, ROCHESTER, MINN.

The author divided his subject into two classes: first, those which act from within the cavity of the stomach, or within its immediate connections, such as a tumor, cicatrix, or a foreign body which may obstruct its inlet or outlet, or prevent its normal muscular action; and, second, those which act from without the stomach, and interfere either by pressure or adhesion, obstructing its inlet or outlet, or fixing some portion of its wall, thus preventing its functions. The history of the case, the physical examination, the distention with air, and the test meal constitute the main diagnostic resources. The diminution or absence of free hydrochloric acid, when taken into consideration with the physical examination and the history, is of some service. The treatment of forms of obstruction due to stenosis, as a result of scar tissue, is exceedingly trying, but some of the less resistant cases, when seen early, can be dilated by means of bougies used through the mouth. If it is impossible to pass a bougie, retrograde dilatation by means of gastrotomy is a rational procedure, and the olive-tipped whalebone bougies are of most value. Gastrotomy for the purpose of retrograde dilatation is perhaps best done by Fenger's oblique left lateral incision through the abdominal walls, which brings this opening more directly in line with the cardiac orifice. Gastrotomy for the removal of foreign bodies is an operation of great efficiency, while gastrotomy for the purpose of feeding is subject to great annoyance in the way of leakage. For temporary purposes the Witzel method is of the greatest benefit, as immediately after removing the tube the fistulous tract closes, while for permanent feeding Frank's spout method is undoubtedly the best. Obstructions at the outlet of the stomach are exceedingly common, and many cases, especially those of pyloric stenosis secondary to ulcer, are too often pronounced malignant without proper examination. For the relief of non-malignant stricture at the pylorus, the Hoenke-Mikulicz pyloro-plastic operation is the one of choice, and is wonderfully well adapted to the average case. The author briefly cited a case in which this operation had been done, and in which the recovery was prompt and the gain in weight remarkable. For inoperable obstruction, such as advanced malignant disease, gastro-enterostomy is the operation of choice. As a result of three of these operations, in which the Murphy button was used by the author, there were two successes and one death. Of the two patients who recovered, one has gained forty pounds up to the present time, which is one and a half years after the operation. The frightful mortality of pylorectomy in malignant disease without reported permanent cures is not encouraging, and the reason for this great mortality lies in the debilitated and starved condition of the patient at the time the operation is resorted to.

## As Sunlight is to Darkness

is the condition of the woman who has been relieved from some functional disturbance to her state before relief. Don't you know, Doctor, that there are few cases that pay the physician so well as those of women—and the Doctor that relieves one woman, lays the foundation for many more such cases—all women talk and your patient will tell her friends. ASPAROLINE COMPOUND gives relief in all cases of functional disturbance—Leucorrhæa, Dysmenorrhæa, etc., and in the cases it does not cure it gives relief. We will send you enough ASPAROLINE COMPOUND—free—to treat one case.

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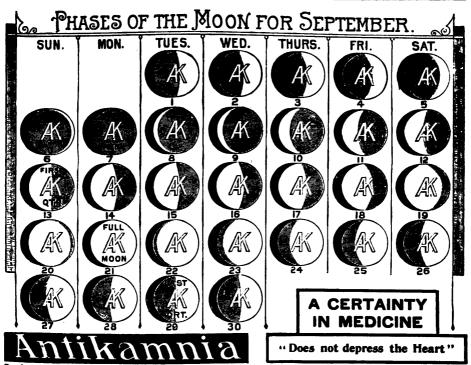
"I wish to inform you of the very satisfactory results obtained from my use of Asparoline. I have put it to the most crucial tests, and in every case it has done more than it was required to do. I recommend it in all cases of dysmenorrhœa."

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Among the external causes of interference with the stomach, adhesions of the pylorus or duodenum to the gall bladder, due to the inflammation excited by gall stones, is not infrequent. The most common cause of external interference with the action of the stomach is adherent omentum. Irreducible omental herniæ of any variety are almost always accompanied by gastric distress, which disappears after the radical cure of the hernia. The author mentioned the case of a man fifty-four years of age, who had suffered for seventeen years from gastric pain and chronic indigestion, and in whom, upon dilatation of the stomach, an old irreducible omental hernia was found. Radical operation on the hernia, with liberation of the omentum, promptly relieved the symptoms.—Am. Med. Assoc.

#### SURGICAL HINTS.

Despite the advances made in latter years in the diagnosis of abdominal troubles, an explanatory laparotomy will be necessitated in a large majority of doubtful cases.

Urethral strictures seldom if ever occur before a lapse of three months after the first gonorrheal infection. In ninety-nine cases out of one hundred it is nonsense to speak of gleet as being inoffensive; it is a sign-board showing the presence of gonococci, perhaps quiescent, yet able to awaken to their pristine energy, on small provocation.

When preparing the room for an emergency operation in a private dwelling, do not permit sweeping, dusting, or the taking up of rugs or carpets. This only raises dust which will later settle in the wound and probably cause infection. Cover every undisinfected object with a clean sheet or towel. The dismantling of a room may, however, be permitted if several days are to elapse between the preparations and the operation.

If you wish to make a neat scar and avoid the unsightly suture points, you can do so by sewing through the cut edge of skin laterally, so that the strongly-curved needle shall not at any point pierce the epidermis. The continuous suture lends itself most readily to this method, and even the knots at the beginning and end may be completely buried. A pretty girl who has the misfortune to require a cutting operation about the face will be very grateful for anything you can do to minimize the deformity of a cicatrix.

An enlarged non-syphilitic lymphatic gland may be safely treated by the ice-bag and internal medication as long as there is no fever and no tenderness. When the gland is chronically enlarged and is tender to compression with the fingers, a central pus focus should be suspected, and even a slight daily rise of temperature makes the diagnosis almost certain. Such glands, if they are not adherent by brawny infiltration to the surrounding parts, may be easily removed entire by dissection and the wound may be sewn up. Do not try to dissect out a gland which feels firmly fixed by hard, brawny adhesions. Such cases demand free incision and packing. No sutures should be used.

#### MEDICINE.

IN CHARGE OF

#### N. A. POWELL, M.D.,

Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, Trinity Medical College; Surgeon Out-door Department Toronto General Hospital; Professor of Principles and Practice of Surgery, Ontario Medical College for Women. 167 College St.

#### THE McINTYRE ELEPHANTIASIS CASE.

BY G. LAIDLAW, M.D., CHICAGO.

In this world of phenomena it is not strange that a physician and surgeon, practising his profession for a number of years, should occasionally meet with pathologic conditions more or less rare, but it is strange that some should meet the most remarkable cases at every turn, so to speak. In this connection I am sure that it is the privilege of very few professional men, outside of very large hospitals, to deal with more extraordinary cases than have come to the notice and care of my much respected friend and colleague, C. J. McIntyre, C.M., M.D. As a partial proof of the foregoing assertions, I take great pleasure in presenting to the reader four different views of a patient whom the doctor has had for several years, together with a few brief remarks upon the history of this particular case and the disease with which the lady is afflicted.

The good-natured, intelligent and respectable woman who so kindly allowed us to divest her of all metallic substance and garments and pose before the searching eye of the camera obscura, that by so doing we might obtain further light in medicine and be able to present to your view these pictures from life, is a native of America, and was born in Wisconsin. She is now 45 years of age and the mother of ten children, to five of whom she has given birth since the disease from which she now

suffers began.

Eighteen years ago, while engaged in a laborious task, she sustained an injury of the abdomen, near the umbilicus, which was followed shortly after by chills and vomiting. The cutaneous and subcutaneous tissues of the affected part presented redness, tumefaction and infiltration. In a short time the acute symptoms disappeared, leaving a well marked hypertrophy, which gradually increased until two years later, when the left leg began to be covered with scales and to enlarge somewhat. She was at this time in the fourth month of gestation with her sixth child. The abdominal trouble grew gradually worse, but the leg remained in about the same condition until seven years later, when she fell from a step-ladder and sustained a wound from a rusty nail on the right leg, just above the ankle, where, by reference to Figures 1 and 2, the mark of its point of entrance may still be seen. This accident occured on July

5th, and on August 15th she was attacked with chills and vomiting. The seat of the wound burne'd and throbbed and her sufering was great. The symptoms, as she described them, appear to have been those of tubular lymphangitis. At the end of two months from the date of the accident she had recovered from the lymphangitis and, as she remarked to us when relating the history as above, "was ready for more trouble." She did not have long to wait, for in November of the same year she again fell, this time into a register hole, and wounded her left leg, which as we have stated was the one on which the scales appeared two years after the abdominal injury. For a third time she was attacked with chills and vomiting, on the second day after the fall.



FIGURE 1.

Her physician pronounced the case, when he saw it, one of erysipelas. The entire limb from toe to knee was involved, and she was very ill for four months. The tissues never returned to their normal proportions, not even to the size which they were when the accident occurred, but, on the contrary, continued to increase in size, the trouble extending all the while further and further up the limb.

Some time after this, but just how long the patient does not remember, the right leg, which had been injured by the nail, began to enlarge.

We have how passed roughly over the first ten years of the history of this case, giving the story substantially as the patient related it from memory.

Dr. McIntyre began to see the case about this time, and has now been the patient's physician for about eight years, during which time he has



FIGURE 2.

had to deal with indolent, unhealthy and ever-increasing ulcers. the secretions from which have been composed of serum and pus. and very disagreeable to the sense of smell. The epidermis has at times become fissured and cracked; papillomatous excrecsences of no mean size, made up of conglomerations of many smaller ones, have appeared, while the lymphatics have exuded lymph in large quantities. When the fissures and ulcers have reached deep-seated nerves Dr. McIntyre has had to assuage the great pain which the patient would experience; and there have appeared at many places, but particularly on the inner aspect of the left leg (seen in Fig. 2), quite large and deep-seated abscesses, calling for evacuation and the institution of proper treatment to prevent septic absorption. Meeting all

indications as they have arisen from time to time, and supporting the patient in a proper manner amid conditions which at times have seemed hopeless, Dr. McIntyre has cared for the patient until now, when the case has assumed an insidious and chronic form. Large areas of vessels have become affected, and such wide-spread obliteration of them has resulted as to block up permanently their flow of lymph, thereby producing an everlasting lymphadema of the affected parts. From the history of the case it would appear that there resulted from the abdominal injury many years ago an ordinary erysipelas or reticular lymphangitis, and that from the invasion of the lymphatic channels at this time the disease dates. Later on we find one leg affected with eczema, the other with a septic wound, and finally, the eczematous one, after an injury, becomes the seat of a traumatic erysipelas. At these three seats

of original attack there have occurred successive attacks of diffuse lymphangitis, each recurrence causing an aggravation of the already bad condition. Thickening and induration of the skin and connective tissue have taken place, the dilatation and multiplication of the blood vessels keeping pace with the general connective tissue hypertrophy, until we have now a case of elephantiasis Arabum which, in some repects at least, is the most wonderful on record. In support of this last remark, I wish to state that it has been made after a careful examination of algreat many works on the subject under discussion, among which may be mentioned those of Hebra, Neumann, Kaposi, Ziemssen's Encyclopedia (the volume on Skin Diseases), Crocker, the London Lancet since 1878, A. H. Buck's Reference Handbook Medi-



FIGURE 3.

cal Science, Keen and White's American Text-book of Surgery, Hooper's Dictionary, published in New York in 1847 by Harper & Bros., Stephen Smith's Surgery, Dr. Titley in the Lances, Vol. xx; M. Clot-Bey, A. J. Howe, etc. Felkin's case in the Edinburgh Medical Journal, 1889, page 779, is the only case I have found which very closely resembles the McIntyre one. In this instance the patient was an Eurasian woman.

In a general way, I may close my remarks regarding this case by saying that the patient is a most hopeful, good-natured and happy woman, who, if it were not for the asthma, with which she has suffered much at times for the last six years, would not complain at all, notwithstanding the fact, that in addition to her terrible state, she has no husband to care for her and is in the most destitute circumstances, with several children still requiring the care that none but a mother can bestow.



FIGURE 4.

By reference to Figs. 2 and 3 a very interesting demonstration of a commencing lymphangiectasis may be seen on the lower part of the abdomen near the line of the groin. This condition is to the lymphatic vessels what dilatations and varicosities are to their congeners, the veins, and should the condition here seen, by confluence and aggregation, form distinct tumors, we will have what is called lymphangioma.

Extending downward from the umbilicus, corresponding to the linea alba, there is at present a fissure about four inches in length and two andone-half inches in depth (best seen in Fig. 3), the sides of which are in a state of ulceration and discharge a disagreeablesmelling mixture of serum, pus and lymph. During the past year the labia majora and minora and clitoris have become involved, but

are not as yet enlarged to any great extent, in fact, there is no chance for any considerable enlargement, for the abdomen as it hangs, or rather protrudes, downward is as stiff and unwieldy as any elephant's belly on earth. To the sense of touch, moreover, there is nothing that I know of which feels more like the hide of an elephant than this does. There is very little feeling in this thick, rough, wrinkly, unctuous and void-of-hair skin. In the edema produced by other diseases and other causes there is pitting on pressure, but no part of this growth pits, even when great pressure is applied. The blood recedes to quite an extent from the point of pressure to return very slowly, indeed, but that is all.

While elephantiasis Arabum, the synonyms of which are pachydermia, Dal fil, Barbadoes leg, Elephantenfuss, mal de Cayenne, etc., may be con-

sidered a pandemic disease, we must consider it when appearing in this climate and from the causes which appear to have been responsible for it in this case, a very sporadic malady. Authors of the present day speak of elephantiasis Græcorum as lepra, and elephantiasis Arabum as simply elephantiasis or pachydermia, it being now certain that the two are dis-I think that when we have a case like the one under discussion, and springing up in this part of the world from causes similar to those which appear to have been at the bottom of this case, the simple term lymphadema would be the best to employ, reserving the terms elephantiasis Græcorum for the lepra type, and elephantiasis Arabum for those cases found in hot climates near the tropics, particularly in Egypt, on the coast of the Mediterranean, the west coast of Africa, the Antilles (Barbadoes), Brazil, Malabar and parts of India, in all of which sections of the world it is most often met with and where, almost always, the cause of it is the entrance into the blood and lymphatics of the embryo of a nematode worm, the name of which is filaria sanguinis hominis, from its discovery in the human blood. For much of our knowledge in regard to this we are indebted to Wucherer, Salisbury, Lewis, Bancroft, Manson, et al.

With us in this country the disease probably always appears after chronic or frequently repeated acute inflammations of the blood and lymph vessels or anything which hinders the flow and favors the escape of the lymph in the lymphatics; and whether it be produced by an inflammation of the blood vessels or of the lymphatics themselves, or from external pressure, it matters not, we will have lymphadema, and following it there will be cell-proliferation and consequent increase in the sur-

rounding tissues,

In tropical countries, but particularly on the Guinea Coast of Africa, the home of the filaria sanguinis hominis, every native into whose lymphatics the filaria gains entrance is not effected with elephantiasis. In some it produces chyluria, and in some it does not appear to affect the health at all. This fact, therefore, goes to prove that there it not in this parasitic worm, per se, any special poison, the presence of which is necessary in order that either chyluria or elephantiasis may exist. For, unless the parasites block, by their presence, the lymph channels, there will not be chyluria; and unless they develop in sufficent numbers to produce stagnation in the lymph vessels, there will not be, from them at least, an elephantiasis. It is, therefore, apparent that it is not necessary that we should have in this country, in order to produce genuine cases of chyluria or elephantiasis, the worm which Manson has so well studied for us, and we do not belive that the filaria sanguinis hominis had any part in the cause of the McIntyre case which we have just reported.

Manson says that this parasite resembles a delicate thread of catgut, animated and wriggling; and W. Essex Wynter tells us that the female has a diameter of about 1-100 of an inch and a length of 3 to 3½ inches. As yet no perfect specimen of the male has been found. The mouth is circular, without papillæ; there is a narrowing at the neck, and the tail is bluntly pointed. The parent worm is necessarily only found during operations involving the affected tissues, or in autopsies. On the other hand, the embryos occur in immense numbers and are readily found in

blood obtained by pricking the skin. They appear as active organisms, each being contained within a delicate sheath which projects slightly at one or the other end of the worm. Its length is about 1-90 of an inch and its diameter 1-3200.

Dr. Manson obtained ova consisting of oval bodies 1-500 by 1-750 of These are too wide to traverse the channels of the lymphatics and consequently become impacted and thus give rise to the conditions

of elephantiasis and chyluria.

The mosquito plays a part in the spread of this disease in hot climates. Dr. Stephen Mackenzie's experiments showed that the embryos only occur in the cutaneous vessels while the patient is asleep, whether by night or day. As to what becomes of them during the period of activity of the patient nothing certain is known. During sleep, however, while the filaria embryos circulate in the blood of the sleeper the mosquito fills himself with the infected fluid and flies to some stagnant pool of water, his natural haunt, upon the surface of which he drops to die. bryos of the filaria contained within the blood are thus set free and become ready to enter the circulation of the next thisty mortal who drinks the water.

### INTESTINAL FERMENTATON.

#### BY J. H. KELLOGG, M.D.

While much attention has been given during the last twelve years to the chemistry of digestion, comparatively little has been done in the study of the bacteria of the stomach in relation to practical therapeutics. this paper some conclusions are presented which are drawn from a careful comparative bacteriological and chemical study of the stomach fluid in three hundred and seventy-seven cases. The information sought by the mode of examination adopted was:—(1) The number of microbes per cubic centimetre of stomach fluid; (2) the presence or absence of gelatinliquefying bacteria; (3) the presence or absence of gas-producing bacteria; (4) the presence or absence of acid-forming bacteria; (5) the toxicity of the products of bacterial activity in the stomach fluid.

Within the past year three hundred and seventy-seven stomach fluids had been examined from more than three hundred and fifty persons. Of the fluids examined, one hundred and ninety-one were found to be absolutely sterile, while sixty-seven contained less than fifty bacteria per cubic centimere, a number so small as to be considered accidental, so that these also could be regarded as sterile; while one hundred and two contained bacteria from a few hundred to more than two million per cubic centimetre. I was not surprised to find large numbers of bacteria, but was considerably surprised to find so large a number of perfectly sterile stomach fluids, especially since Cadeac and Bournay have recently asserted that the stomach and intestinal fluids are not destructive of micro-organisms as was formerly supposed, and since the assertion is commonly made by bacteriologists and physiologists that bacteria are not only present in the alimentary canal but are useful in the digestive process.

The fact that no bacteria whatever were found at the end of the first hour of digestion in 50.8 per cent. of three hundred and seventy-seven stomach fluids examined, seemed to be all the evidence required to demonstrate the proposition that the normal stomach is able to destroy those microbes which accidentally enter it through the mouth and nose, and that microbes play no part in normal stomach digestion. Kürhoff and Wagner and othere were quoted for further confirmation of this view.

The method of chemical examination employed by me is based chiefly upon that of Hayem and Winter. In comparing the results of bacteriological examination with the results of chemical examination, I have carefully noted the relation of bacteria to: (1) the calculated acidity, which represented the combined value of free hydrochloric acid and the combined chlorines diminished by the fatty acids present; (2) the acidity; (3) the free hydrochloric acid; (4) the combined chlorine; (5) the coefficient of starch digestion; (6) the co-efficient of salivary secretion; (7) the co-efficients of chlorine liberation; (7) the co-efficient of absorption.

The summary was as follows:—Of the one hundred and ninety-one sterile cases, eighty-three were cases of hyperpepsia, eighty of hypopepsia, and in twenty-eight the amount of chlorine eliminated was normal. Of the eighty-three cases of hyperpepsia, combined chlorine was in excess, and free hydrochloric acid was normal, or in excess, in fifty-five cases; in twelve cases free hydrochloric acid was deficient, and in one it was absent. Combined chlorine was deficient, or less than 1.55 milligrammes per hundred cubic centimetres in sixteen cases. Of the eighty cases of hypopepsia, hydrochloric acid was deficient in sixty-eight, and normal, or in excess in quantity, in twelve. It thus appeared that a sterile condition of the stomach fluid might exist in hypopepsia, as well as hyperpepsia, and it was, indeed, a somewhat surprising fact that in forty-two per cent. of the sterile cases hypopepsia existed, whereas hyperpepsia was found in only forty-three per cent. of the cases. In forty-eight per cent. of the cases in which bacteria were absent free hydrochloric acid was less than normal in quantity, being below twenty-five milligrammes per hundred cubic centimetres of stomach fluid, and in 23.5 per cent. it was absent altogether.

It was noticeable that anærobic germs were found most abundant in cases in which the total acidity, the free hydrochloric acid, the co-efficient of liberation, and the co-efficient of absorption were the lowest. It appeared that the anærobics flourished better in an acid medium, or rather resisted the influence of hydrochloric acid better than did the ærobic.

The co-efficient of absorption in the class of anærobic infected cases

was 38 as compared with 34 in the sterile cases.

Turning now to the method of determining the relation of urinary toxicity to the bacteria in the alimentary canal, the normal urotoxic coefficient was 46. In the case of a lady suffering from a severe attack of migraine, stomach infected to a high degree, the urotoxic co-efficient was found six times normal. In another case of marked infection, that of a young woman suffering from epilespsy, the urotoxic co-efficient was found to be more than double the normal. Probably numerous similar cases could be cited.

A fact of considerable importance which these studies have established is that the tests for fermentation, heretofore relied upon, are of little value. Bacteriological examination is the only means by which it is possible to determine accurately the presence or absence of gastric infection.

For combating infection of the stomach, the stomach tube is certainly the most efficient of all therapeutic measures, but most important of all is careful regulation of the diet. Foods already undergoing fermentation or decomposition must necessarily be avoided, and for a time at least those foods which readily undergo decomposition of fermentation—that is, such substances as furnish favorable nutrient media for the development

of the micro-organisms found in the stomach.

In cases of excessive amount of free hydrochloric acid, suppression of foods containing ferments and perhaps for a time of foods which encourage the development of ferments is indicated. I find a dry farinaceous dietary of greatest service in these cases, contrary to the practice of many others; but care must be taken that the starch so far as possible is converted into dextrin. In extreme cases I use a starch-free dietary, or rather a dietary in which the starch is completely converted into maltose and combined with prepared nuts. Subnitrate and subgallate of bismuth, charcoal, and sulphur are useful. In hypopepsia and apepsia lavage is of vast service. Well-cooked farinaceous foods are digestible, but meats, butter, cheese, oysters, and fish must be carefully avoided for a few weeks or months in cases of mild infection. In dilation of the stomach dry aseptic food should be given; in gastric catarrh, kumyss, buttermilk, or, better, koumyzoon. Several other measures, including massage, etc., received consideration, and illustrative cases were cited.

## TREATMENT OF DIABETES MELLITUS WITH RECTAL INJECTIONS OF PANCREATIC GLANDS.

Lissère has treated two cases of diabetes mellitus with fresh pancreatic glands chopped fine and left twenty-four hours in a saline solution. As the stomach refused to tolerate this, he administered it in rectal injections once or twice a day. The results were that the polyuria was very much diminished, as also the amount of sugar in the urine. Both the sugar and the diuresis returned to their original conditions whenever the injections were suspended. They also exerted a favorable effect upon the general health; the patients gained in weight and lost their excessive thirst.—Nouveaux Remèdes, June 24th, from Med. Obozr., No. 4.

| ECZEMA OF THE VAGINA:                      |
|--|
| R-Ichthyol ammonparts iss-ij.              |
| Amyli tritici                              |
| Zinc. floraa parts xij.                    |
| Vaselineparts xxv.                         |
| M.—et. ft. pasta. Sig.—Locally.—Von Sehlen |

## OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.

IN CHARGE OF

J. ALGERNON TEMPLE, M.D., C.M., M.R.C.S., ENG.,

Professor of Obstetrics and Gynæcology, Trinity Medical College; Gynæcologist Toronto General Hospital; Physician to the Burnside Lying-in Hospital. 205 Simcoe Street.

### ECTOPIC GESTATION.

BY W. GILL WYLIE, M.D.

When the President asked me to read a short paper on ectopic gestation I agreed, for I knew that little would be needed after Dr. Mann had

read his paper.

I will do little more than give you a report of four or five of the more interesting cases that have occurred within the last four or five months in my private practice and clinic at Bellevue. Since November 18, 1895, I have had five cases of ectopic gestation in my private practice, four in my sanatorium, and one outside that I have operated on, and four in my service at Bellevue. Three were cases of large hæmatocele complicated by sepsis; the latter were operated on from the vagina, emptied out, and drained. All have recovered. This is a large number to find in so short a time; but as I grow more expert in diagnosis, and my practical knowledge of the subject increases, the relative percentage seems to increase, and some years it seems to show up in about five per cent. of all colioto-Then I have other cases in which I can only account for the symptoms, where I do not feel justified in operating, except by diagnosing probable extra-uterine pregnancy, causing hæmorrhage and local painnot enough hæmorrhage to greatly weaken the patient or cause a large mass or tumor to develop in the broad ligament. The real difficulty is to make an early diagnosis. In uncomplicated cases, when there is no hæmorrhage from the fimbriated extremity in the early weeks of ectopic gestation, or rupture of the tube before the second month, if one gets a chance to examine under these conditions, a diagnosis is not difficult. If the mass on the side of the uterus is as large as an orange the indication and justification for colliotomy is plain whatever the tumor may be, and an exact diagnosis is not important.

In all cases where there are any signs of dangerous hæmorrhage going on in the pelvis little time should be lost in trying to make a clear diagnosis, and the old "shilly-shally" delay to get your patient over the shock by stimulants, time to rally, etc., is intolerable. When hæmorrhage is going on inside, proceed to open the belly at once, and let some one else give hot saline rectal enemata and dypodermatic injection at the same time, while you get in and tie the bleeding vessels before the case is hopeless. Where the child is viable and beyond the fourth month, one

may be justified in waiting and watching till after the eighth month, so

as to save the child and mother both by an operation.

Ten or twelve years ago, and even six or eight years ago, I have known the time in this Society when I was almost alone in my advocacy in favor of laparotomy as soon as an ectopic gestation could be diagnosed, and I have always opposed the use of electricity. To-day there is no one to speak against cœliotomy, and I doubt if many will ever again use electricity in ectopic gestation.

The real difficulty is in making a satisfactory diagnosis in ectopic ges-

tation before hæmorrhage endangers life.

The belief, so commonly stated and so generally accepted in the past, and still held by many, that in tubal pregnancy hæmorrhage is not at all likely to occur until after the end of the second or well in the third month is wrong, and the chief motive in my being here to-night is to report in detail several cases demonstrating the fact that hæmorrhage frequently occurs very early in tubal pregnancy, and may be very trou-

blesome, if not dangerous to life.

November 17, 1895, I was called to see Mrs. K., aged twenty. She had been married about six weeks. Before marriage she had always been well; menstruated regularly without pain, normal in amount, and lasting four days. Her last menses (October 25th) came on about as usual, but three days after menses ceased there was some pain, especially on the left side, and a slight flow began and has continued most of the time for the last three weeks. At times the flow is quite free. She has kept quiet, and lately in bed. Has had no fever and the pain has not been very severe. At times she has felt faint and weak, but has not had regular morning sickness. On local examination, I found the uterus soft, somewhat enlarged, and lying back in the pelvis. In front of the uterus and a little to the right side of the median line I could feel what appeared to be the enlarged body of the uterus flexed forward, but the mass was large enough for a two and a half months' pregnancy. I could not trace out the direct connection of the softened cervix, as the upper part of the cervix lay well back in the pelvis. On the left side I could not define a tumor, but the broad ligament felt full and resisting. The patient, although giving a history of having enjoyed good health, was a frail and delicate little blonde, and had lost enough blood to give her a small pulse and very pale face. I advised examination under ether, and to be ready for either a curetting or any operation that might be indicated. the mother that it might be a serious case, as I suspected extra-uterine pregnancy, and wished to have the patient at my sanatorium. All arrangements were made to have her moved. Later her mother became alarmed and sent for her family doctor, who examined the patient and said he did not think operation necessary. Fortunately, I was in the neighborhood, and as the patient had not kept the appointment, I thought a severe hæmorrhage might have occurred, and on entering the house met the doctor. After explaining my views of the case, Dr. Mendleson readily agreed to my plans. The next morning (November 19th) I had the patient etherized, and I could easily make out that the mass in front and to the right side was a tumor separated from the uterus, which was

enlarged, softened, and pushed back in the pelvis, and that the right tube and ovary were not normal. The uterus was then curetted, but nothing more than some soft shreddy tissue was found. The abdomen was then opened in the median line, and, as the peritonæum was incised, black clots of blood were found scattered among the intestines, and a mass of loose black clots about the left tube and ovary. There was hæmorrhage going on at the time, apparently from the fimbriated extremity of the tube. The tube was enlarged, and about its centre was distended by a dark mass about the size of a big chestnut.

The right tube was normal, but the left ovary was a small ovarian cyst the size of a large lemon. Both tubes and ovaries were tied off, the abdomen cleared of clots, and the wound closed. The patient made an uninterrupted recovery, and has been in good health since. We thought of leaving the left ovary and the right tube, but decided not to make the experiment on so frail a subject. The uterus was left, as it was healthy,

and the patient young and married.

I can not claim that I made a positive diagnosis of ectopic gestation in this case, but my suspicions were strong, and the presence of the small ovarian tumor gave me the needed evidence sufficient to justify an exploratory incision.

The rupture in the tube occurred during removal. This case plainly demonstrates that serious if not dangerous hæmorrhage may occur before

the third month of ectopic gestation.

February 6, 1896, I was called to Brooklyn to see Mrs. B., with Dr. Arthur Paine, of Brooklyn. The following history was given: Aged thirty three; first married 1884, and had three children; married again 1892, and two years and a half ago had a child; was always healthy; had had no local trouble; menstruated regularly and normally. January 4th a flow came on which was not normal in quantity or color, being scanty; this kept up for a week, and then what appeared to be normal menstruation started up, and she flowed a week. In the midst of the flow she had a severe pain in the right groin and right leg. The pain was severe and lasted three or four days. She felt weak, but had no fever. January 29th she had a violent pain in the right iliac region which lasted five hours, with repeated attacks of faintness.

On February 5th flow began again, and the pain returned in her side and leg. Had no fever. After listening to Dr. Paine relate the case as above, I said it looks like an extra-uterine pregnancy, and if I find any mass on the right side, it will be a case for exploratory incision. The basis of my opinion was: a healthy woman, with no history of local disease, irregular menstruation, sudden and severe local pain over one Fallopian tube, and no fever. Return of pain and flow without fever. Faintness and local pain on one side and no fever. On examination, I found a softened uterus, with a distinct rounded tumor about the size of a lemon on the right side and some abnormal fullness and tenderness of

that broad ligament.

The patient was brought to my sanatorium, and the next morning the abdomen was opened. There were free clots in the abdomen and pelvis, with a mass of black clots about the right tube and ovary. There was

free hæmorrhage apparently coming from the fimbriated extremity, and the tube was distended with a dark-bluish mass. The right tube and ovary were removed. The clots cleared out of the pelvis and abdomen. The left tube and ovary and uterus seemed normal, and were not removed. The abdomen was closed without drainage. The patient recovered without rise of temperature, and has been perfectly well since.

The small cyst of the right side was not in this case a true ovarian cystoma, but was of material service in enabling me to confirm my diag-

nosis of ectopic gestation, and justified an exploratory incision.

This case was easily diagnosed, and the little cyst of the ovary made it easy to confirm. In this specimen the tube is not ruptured, and as the amount of blood was considerable, it demonstates that early hæmorrhage

from the fimbriated extremity of the tube may be dangerous.

March 19, 1896, Dr. J. Kelley sent me Mrs. D., aged thirty-three; married sixteen years; has had four children, the last one five years ago. Has had one miscarriage; menstruation has always been regular till last December it failed to come. In January, at the regular time, or a little later, she thinks she had a miscarriage; since then she has had a constant slight flow. She has had some pain on the left side and felt weak and faint, but looks fairly well; no fever. I made a simple examination and found the uterus enlarged, and marked fullness and tenderness, especially on the left side. I sent her at once to my sanatorium to get ready for taking ether, as I expected to curette to stop the flow. When I examined her under ether I found a large, soft mass the size of a large orange in the left broad ligament, and nothing in the uterus except I then diagnosed probable ectopic gestation, and not being well prepared to do a laparotomy, and as her condition was excellent, I decided to let her come out of ether, notify her husband and Dr. Kelley of my Early the next day she was again etherized and the abdomen opened. The abdominal cavity contained many large black clots. left Fallopian tube was distended to the size of a good-sized sausage, and when pulled up had a rupture in it. The ovary contained a good-sized cyst, and was buried in old clots of blood. The left tube and ovary were tied off and removed, and the right was normal and was not disturbed. The abdomen was carefully cleaned of all clots that could be found and closed without drainage or washing out. The patient did well for eight days, when she had pain in her right side, with rise of temperature to 101° and the next day 102° and over. On examination, I found a mass the size of an orange on the left and back of the uterus, evidently due to an exudation around a lot of serum that collected and settled there from some old clot not removed at the time of operation, and would have been carried off if I had made drainage either by means of a glass tube upward or by gauze or rubber by the vagina. The temperature fell, and the exudation was absorbed, and she left the hospital in the fourth week in good condition. Had the sepsis been more decided, an abscess would have formed, or septic peritonitis might have resulted and caused death. It proves that drainage, as a rule, is safer than trusting to getting out all material liable to result in sepsis in such a case. Had the symptoms grown more serious, I was ready in this case to open the cul-de-sac and empty the fluid and drain.

When the abdomen was opened, dense adhesions were found in the pelvis. About the right tube was a large mass of clots, and the tube was distended with a dark mass the size of a lemon. This mass lay up in front on top of the bladder. The left ovary was the seat of a small tumor about the size of a lemon. There were no signs of pus, but there were adhesions about the right side that involved the vermiform appendix, necessitating removal by ligature. The uterus, both tubes, and ovaries were removed completely, and gauze drainage and rubber tube left in the vagina. The patient made a complete recovery. There was a slight rise of temperature for a day or two. No diagnosis was made until under ether, and salpingitis or extra-uterine pregnancy was mentioned.

The cyst on the opposite side again helped us.

December 5, 1895, I found ready for operation at my clinic Mrs. F., aged twenty-six; married; always healthy till after the birth of a child nine years ago. Since then she has had three miscarriages. After the last one, four years ago, she was in my clinic and was curetted, and the cervix and perinæum sewed up. She was well till last year, when she again had hæmorrhages and was curetted. This relieved her, and she was well until five weeks ago, when she had severe pain on her right side and began to flow. At first the flow was very free, and she has had more or less bloody discharge since. The patient was etherized, and on examination I found a softened uterus well back in the pelvis. On the left side was a small cystic tumor the size of a lemon. On the right was an enlarged tube and fullness of the tissues of the broad ligament anteriorly.

#### DISCUSSION.

The PRESIDENT called attention to the interesting points which had been dwelt upon by Dr. Wylie in his paper—namely, the difficulty of diagnosis where there has been hemorrhage from the tube, and especially without examination under an anæsthetic; the question of drainage—whether it is necessary to wash out and drain a simple non-infected case; and fever as a symptom of ectopic gestation in the absence of a sign of old trouble.

Dr. A. P. DUDLEY inquired whether the specimens had been subjected to microscopical examination, and whether chorionic membrane were

found to be present.

Dr. Wylle replied that in two or three of the Bellevue cases they were found, but the specimens present he did not think had been so ex-

amined.

Dr. Dudley said that his reason for asking was that it was difficult to make a diagnosis of extra-uterine pregnancy in the very early stages, especially such cases as had been reported, and also because of the fact that hæmatosalpinx due to menstruation or to pathological conditions attending menstruation was so similar in appearance to an ectopic gestation, that unless the tube and its contents were subjected to microscopical examination one would sometimes labor under a mistake. He had made it a practice for years to make laporatomy during menstruation, and he had never yet opened the abdomen of a woman while menstruating that

he did not find from two to four ounces of free blood in the abdominal cavity. He had found blood clots as well, and had found the fimbriated extremities, which were always sympathetic with the condition, much congested, and ready to bleed at the slightest touch and manipulation. He had found the tubes containing blood, some of them as large as his thumb. Another interesting point in the paper was the question of leaving a tube and ovary, even though it be somewhat diseased, in a woman who was just married. It seemed to him a terrible thing to have to remove tubes and ovaries from a woman who was only seven weeks married, even though there was a small cyst in the opposite ovary.

Dr. Wylie said that although it was a small cyst, it involved every part of the ovary, as would be seen by examination of the specimen.

Dr. Dudley (continuing) said that his reason for making his statement was that one of the gentlemen with whom he had been battling for a great many years respecting hysterectomy for different diseases of the female organs admitted that he would very soon report two cases of delivery of live children where he had removed both tubes and ovaries, so far as he knew, so that in all probability in both cases a portion of the diseased ovary was left, and in both cases the women impregnated and carried to full term. He found reported in a Berlin journal a few days ago a case of hysterectomy for uterine disease where both tubes and ovaries were left, the tube being brought down into the vagina, and the woman impregnated and carried for six weeks in the tube. If there be a quarter part of one ovary that could be left with the tube he would leave it in every case, and would make a laparatomy later on if it were necessary to remove the tube and ovary for disease. As to the method of attacking such conditions, he believed that the abdominl wall was the best route. It is not in the power of any man to work through a fiveinch narrow canal, and manipulate an adherent extra-uterine pregnancy of the intestines or omentum, and remove it with as much safety to the woman as though he went through the abdominal wall. The uterus certainly would not have to be removed in order to get at the pregnancy. The argument would not hold water, because one might just as well say, "Do a hysterectomy for a large pyosalpinx; do not attempt to break up its connections; drain it and leave it there." The woman will have as many reflex symptoms from the pyosalpinx as she will from the extrauterine sac. He believed that drainage through the vagina is the best. Break up the adhesions, pack gauze behind the uterus, and then open the cul-de-sac and bring the drainage down through If necessary, make double drainage. He had been in the habit of packing one piece of gauze into the pelvis and bringing its end through the vagina, and putting another one on top of that and bringing it through the abdomen, being able to pull the tube in different directions and give relief to the patient. believed that the tendency was to drift away from the foundations upon which surgery should be forever fastened, which was to conserve and save these organs to patients rather than to take them away. A week ago he received a letter from a patient where he had taken out an enormous ovary with the tube attached. The opposite ovary was diseased, and he took out a portion of it. The patient has been two and a half

years without pregnancy and is now carrying. He believed that experiences of that kind should lead to the saving for the woman of everything

that was possible to be saved.

Dr. W. E. PORTER said that he desired to refer to the comparative absence of pain in a great many of these cases of ectopic gestation. He had seen three cases in which there was a very considerable amount of hæmorrhage, which were undoubtedly cases of ectopic gestation, where the patient experienced at the time of the rupture a sharp pain, lasting but a short time in each instance, and the symptoms of hæmorrhage became finally most marked. There was one instance in particular where the hæmorrhage was very slight at first, apparently; there was practically no pain, simply an acute discomfort during an hour or more, which passed off, and there were evidences of continued slight hæmorrhage for a period of three days. Vaginal examination revealed a mass filling up the pelvis, so that when operation was done at least a pint of blood clots were found in the pelvic and abdominal cavities. The question of removal of the tubes must rest entirely with the condition of the individual case. If it was possible to leave one it was wise to do so. But if there was any considerable destruction of the tube, and if the ovary was badly diseased, it was best to remove it, preferably by the abdominal method, from the fact that complete command of the parts is obtained. Personally, he preferred to use very little drainage. If thorough abdominal irrigation, with plenty of sterilized saline solution is used, the clots can be flushed out, and there will be less difficulty afterward in the way of adhesions, and very rarely will there be any subsequent sepsis. If drainage is used at all, he preferred to use it through the vagina in the form of gauze rather than a glass tube.

DR. H. T. HANKS said that he remembered the last time he discussed the subject in this room. He was one of those at that time who had for a number of years believed in the use of electricity for the destruction of the feetus instead of resorting to an operation. He had been a firm disciple of Dr. Thomas, who had advocated electricity instead of the knife for this condition. Dr. Janvrin had advocated operating at that time for an unruptured pregnant tube. Later the conviction had grown upon him that when a case of ruptured tubal pregnancy was found the thing to do was to open the abdomen. He had said that where an operating gynæcologist could be had the scalpel should be used, but if one could not get a gynæcologist, electricity might be used to destroy the ovum. He did not care to qualify that statement to-night, but there are but few towns in the United States to-day where there are not one or two who can do an abdominal section. The question to-night is somewhat different from the old discussion. It is a question of which operation shall be done in There is no doubt that an operation, in many of the the different cases. cases, can be successfully done through the vagina. He could only emphasize the point made by him a few nights ago, that to treat all these cases in the same way was unnecessary and unwise. A good operative gynæcologist to-day should be an all-round surgeon, and should be able to attack it through the abdominal wall or through the vagina, as may be best for the patient. We ought to operate from above in all bad cases

of ruptured tubal pregnancy, even if the patient is in collapse. Of course not without proper stimulation first. But where there is an unruptured tube, which you are morally sure is a tubal pregnancy, the operation should be done through the vagina. Each case should be treated on its own merits. In ruptured pregnancy, where the hæmorrhage is only slight, but where you are sure it is a tubal pregnancy, operate from below; and where the rupture is into the broad ligament the operation should be from below. The records prove how easy a matter it is to open and empty the blood clots and control the hæmorrhage in the broad ligament. He differed from Dr. Dudley, who had said that all women were liable to have hæmorrhage in the abdominal cavity if the operation is done when they are menstruating. He had operated many times during menstruation, and never found blood in the abdominal cavity. As to the prognosis, he recently had two cases of tubal pregnancy at the same time. One was the wife of a wealthy gentleman on Seventy-first Street. She presented all the subjective and objective symptoms of tubal pregnancy, with slight hemorrhage, but they were unwilling to have an operation. She is alive to-day, and very well, but has a tumor on that side the size of a mandarin orange. The other patient lived on Fiftyeighth Street, a young woman, the mother of one child. She presented all the symptoms of a ruptured tube. He watched her for a fortnight before doing a suprapubic operation. An interesting point of the case was that the patient never carried any temperature—it was never half a degree above the normal, in fact. The operation showed, however, a ruptured tube on the left side and a pyosalpinx on the other.

Dr. Pryor said he wished to speak of the question of diagnosis. By looking over the anatomy the members present would find that the distance between the cul-de-sac and the vulva, and the cul-de-sac and the abdomen is about the same. Inasmuch as nearly all these women have had children before the ectopic gestation has occurred, there is usually ample room in the vagina if you use Trendelendurg's posture. The cul-de-sac is opened, and no matter how large the sac on one side, by pushing the uterus up behind the symphysis with Péan's trowel, and depressing the posterior flap, it is possible to look into the pelvis, and he had even demonstrated the vermiform appendix three times in that way. The diseased tube can be seen perfectly well, even if the uterus is crowded to one side and the pelvis is seemingly filled up by the ectopic mass on the other. The intestines are pushed up, and there is no difficulty in getting

them out of the way.

Dr. Vineberg (in closing) said the points of diagnosis were exceedingly difficult, and every one would admit that he had sometimes been mistaken. The cases which give him the most trouble are the dispensary cases, where the woman comes with an imperfect history, has perhaps aborted, but has had a continued irregular hæmorrhage, and on examination you find a somewhat enlarged uterus with a mass to the one side. The patient has not been under observation. It is impossible in such cases to tell positively whether you have a pyosalpinx there, following an abortion with some infections, or whether you have an ectopic gestation. He had before called attention to the fact that in intra-uterine

gestation there is an irregular enlargement of the uterus which will give rise to all the physical signs and some of the subjective symptoms of extra-uterine pregnancy. He had reported a case where a good diagnostician made a diagnosis of extra-uterine pregnancy, and the woman aborted in the usual way. Dr. McLean had reported an interesting case in which the condition was only ascertained after the abdomen was opened, and it was found that the gestation had occurred in the cul-de-sac, and the uterus was bound down by adhesions. As to the question of route, he favors the vaginal route wherever it can be adopted, but unless very favorably situated he prefers going through the abdomen for extrauterine gestation, for the reason that he does not believe good, safe surgery can be done unless you can deliver the uterus through that vaginal incision, and the uterus in ectopic gestation is very soft and pliable, and you are liable to lacerate it very considerably in taking it through the incision. He was interested in what Dr. Pryor had to say about being able to see these parts so distinctly through the incision in the posterior cul-de-sac. To him it appeared to be rather difficult, and he should prefer, as he has always done heretofore, to make an incision in the anterior

vaginal wall.

DR. WYLIE (in closing) said that he did not in his paper take up the question of operating, because he thought he had pretty plainly indicated which method he favored. He had so little trouble and so few mishaps in his operations for ectopic gestation that he saw no reason for changing. In some cases he had not known what it was, but where he did know and felt that he had the choice, he would nearly always take the upper method. In the two or three cases where he operated by the vagina it was a matter of necessity; the patients were badly septic and he did not consider it safe to open the abdomen and do a prolonged opera-As to operating during menstruation, he had done it a great many times, and had seen swollen and congested tubes, but he had not found any free bleeding in the peritoneal cavity unless there was some injury. He did not think the cases he had would have been mistaken for any such condition. The trouble was all in one tube, and the other showed plainly there was no trouble. For the satisfaction of the doctor he would say that in all the eight cases he only took out both tubes and ovaries in two cases, one of them being an ovarian cystoma which invovled the whole ovary, and the other a case of pyosalpinx where the tube was useless. He did not believe in taking out the tubes and ovaries of a young woman except in cases of necessity, but in the case in question he had consulted with the woman's husband and mother, and after due deliberation they thought they had better not make any experiments by leaving a healthy tube on one side and a probably healthy ovary on the other.

THE ECONOMIC SEASON.—Benham: "I wish you would ask Mr. and Mrs. Jones around to dinner to-morrow." Mrs. Benham: "What is your hurry about it, all of a sudden?" Benham: "I heard Jones' doctor telling him to-day that he mustn't eat any solid food for a week."—Texas Siftings.

## PATHOLOGY AND BACTERIOLOGY.

IN CHARGE OF

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## INSANITY FROM POISONS GENERATED IN THE INTESTINES.

Apropos of a paper recently read in London by Dr. Allan McLane Hamilton, of New York, the Medical Press and Circular said editorially

in its issue for May 27th:

"We are so much accustomed to regard insanity in its various forms as the outcome of hereditary influence plus special strain that it is useful to be reminded occasionally that mental disturbances are not always so strictly constitutional, and that mental aberrations may, in a certain proportion of the cases at any rate, owe their orgin to such ephemeral and preventible causes as functional disorder of the intestinal canal. on this subject was read by Dr. Hamilton, of New York, at the last meeting of the Medical Society of London, and although we are by no means prepared to admit the accuracy of all his deductions, it may fairly be asserted that he has succeeded in demonstrating that certain varieties of insanity are the direct outcome of the action of poisons elaborated in, and absorbed from, the intestinal tract. Years ago, Dr. Lauder Brunton directed attention to the phenomenal activity of the toxic products elaborated in the course of an ordinary attack of indigestion, and although he does not appear to have included the production of even temporary insanity among the troubles to which they may give rise, he established a striking analogy between their action and that of curare. tinal tract is the habitat of an almost incredible number of bacteria and fungi which, or some of them, assist in the process of food disintegration, preparatory to assimilation, and under normal circumstances they hold each other in check. It is easily conceivable that under altered circumstances, either in the direction of a change in the composition of the fæces or an altered environment such as would be afforded by a condition of chronic catarrh, the balance of bacterial power may be disturbed, the beneficent microbes taking a back seat while the more virulent species, temporarily at any rate, gain the upper hand. If we add to this an unduly prolonged retention of the abnormal fæces in the intestines, we have all that is required to provide, and permit of the absorption of, soluble toxic products capable, as laboratory experiments have repeatedly shown, of exerting marked pathogenic effects on the nervous system. Under ordinary circumstances, in the healthy animal organism, the liver acts the part of a chemical filter, eliminating from the blood all such toxic products which are thus prevented from entering the general circulation.

When the liver function, for any reason, is imperfectly performed, these products are permitted to pass, and are left free to work their effects on the delicate tissues of the central nervous system. In persons who have acquired the habit of periodical evacuation of the intestines, it is surprising what an amount of discomfort and inconvenience is entailed by even a moderate delay in the accustomed rite, and it can not excite surprise that the systematic neglect of the intestinal function should give rise to more permanent and more serious manifestations. According to Dr. Hamilton's observations, it seems that a fair indication of the condition of the intestinal canal can be obtained from a careful examination of the urine. He confessed that he had been unable to discover any definite standard of abnormal urine which could be held to be characteristic of insanity, or of any particular form of insanity, but he pointed out that intestinal putrescence determines the presence in the urine of an appreciable quantity of indican, and when indican is present there is also a more or less marked alteration in the ratio of preformed sulphates. These indications, he stated, are generally found in acute insanities, especially those characterized by rapidly developing symptoms. Changing illusions, hallucinations of unsystematized delusions, in association with insomnia, pallor, constipation, and rapid exhaustion, are, in his opinion, generally due to autotoxis of alimentary origin, and this condition is also responsible for various postfebrile, traumatic, alcoholic, and drug insanities. It is worth while recalling, while dealing with this subject, that the same effects have been attributed by various observers to the presence of uric acid in the blood, and as the effect of an excess of uric acid in the production of certain forms of mental disturbance is generally conceded, it is a difficult and a delicate task to distinguish which is primary and which secondary. The worst of the 'professors of uric acid' is that they ride their hobby to death or as near death as common sense will allow of. To listen to them, when they condescend to impart their views, uric acid is the fons et origo mali in most of the diseases, apart from the specific fevers, to which human flesh is heir. If the treatment based on the autotoxis hypothesis is shown to be successful in a certain class of cases we are assured that it is because this very treatment has incidentally for effect to favor the elimination of the surplus acid, and so on. Another class of crities object that the intestinal irregularity is the result, and not the cause, of the central nervous trouble, though, if treatment directed to the supposed intestinal focus proves successful, it is not easy to understand their process of reasoning. Under these circumstances it is well to go on broad general principles. We may take it as proved that a certain proportion of cases of insanity not obviously due to cerebral degeneration or other toxic influences may be immensely improved and even relieved by measures having in view the antisepsis of the intestinal tract. The washing out of the large bowl and the administration of antiseptics, such as naphthaline or salicylate of sodium, certainly seem to be attended by marked and favorable effects in these cases, and this is enough for the practitioner who may not have leisure to enter upon the judicial consideration of questions of ætiology and proximal therapeutics. The success of the treatment shows that, contrary to the dictum of Shakespearean skeptics, medicine can, under certain circumstances, 'minister to a mind diseased.' It may lessen the anxiety of the Government at a time when the increase of insanity is exciting dismay to be told that one of the most fertile causes is chronic constipation or intestinal catarrh. In any case the thoughtful and suggestive paper which Dr. Hamilton brought before the Medical Society of London, ought to have for effect to direct the attention of those in charge of the insane to an important department of clinical observation hitherto comparatively unexplored, which may possibly in the near future give a rich harvest of therapeutical results in a whole category of mental diseases usually assumed, on insufficient data, not to be amenable to medicinal treatment."—The New York Medical Journal.

## CYCLIC ALBUMINURIA.

PIERRE MARIE (Sem. Med., February 5th, 1896) reports a case and discusses the subject. He defines the disease as albuminuria (1) occurring in apparently healthy subjects, (2) being intermittent in its course, and (3) subject to certain conditions. As regards (1), the discovery of albumen may be perfectly fortuitous, or the patient may suffer from general debility, heaviness of the limbs, palpitations, headaches and hæmorrhages (epistaxis or hæmoptysis). (2) Intermittence: many healthy persons may have transitory albuminuria under certain conditions. Hwass found albumen in 98 out of 635 apparently healthy soldiers (15.4 per cent.), the quantity of which was not influenced by exercise. Capitan and Spiegler found albumen, probably from reflex causes, present in 100 cases of scabies. Thus transitory must be distinguished from true cyclic albuminuria. (3) Conditions: it is doubtful whether cases which are influenced by food or cold are examples of this disease, for in perfectly typical cases they have often no effect. The cardinal symptom is that albumen is present only when the upright position is assumed, and vanishes on lying or sitting down, even when hard work is done by the patient on an exercise apparatus ("postural albuminuria" of Stirling). In the case reported by the author, however, albumen appeared sometimes when the patient was in bed, at times of great annoyance or stormy weather. Albumen.—The quantity is always small. Its chemical composition varies with the individual and in the same individual at different times. Serum albumen, peptone, propeptone, nucleo albumin, etc., have been found. Urine.—The quantity is not much affected. If at any time it is less than normal there is said to be a corresponding increase in the albu-The specific gravity varies, but is usually normal or higher (1020 to 1030). The acidity is usually plus. Teissier gives the following cycle in this disease: (a) plus excretion of colouring matter, (b) albuminuria, (c) plus excretion of urates, (d) plus excretion of urea. Etiology.—(1) Sex, more common in females. (2) Age, adolescence and early adult life. (3) Heredity, especially in children of gouty and arthritic parents (Teissier). (4) Disputed antecedents are renal affections, colds, overwork, and infective fevers. After reviewing the various theories as to the nature

of this complaint, the author states that he considers it to be a special morbid entity, probably depending on perverted function of sympathetic nerves, and having a close analogy to migraine. He does not agree with those who believe the cause to be a "minimal" organic renal lesion, as the almost indefinite time the disease can last without bad effects, and its not being influenced by the quality of the food, are against that theory. Casts are not generally present, but Marie does not consider the presence of casts in small numbers to indicate organic disease, for Hwass, by means of centrifugalisation, found them 69 times in 74 healthy soldiers. Of these, 48 alone had albuminuria, and that of a transitory character.—

British Medical Journal.

EXTRA-PULMONARY LOCALIZATIONS OF THE PNEUMOCOCCUS.—NICOLAY-SEN (Norsk Magazin for Lagevidenskaben, April, 1896) reports the following cases: A boy, aged 4, died after a month's illness, the symptoms of which suggested pulmonary tubercolosis, followed by meningitis. At the necropsy was found a double, non-tuberculous, lobular pneumonia, double empyema, purulent meningitis, and a left suppurative otitis media. In the pus and in the organs attacked Fraenkel's pneumococcus was demonstrated by means of cultures and experiments on animals. other patient, a boy, aged 4 months, also presented somewhat complicated symptoms, and died after 4½ months. The necropsy in this case revealed a double empyema, pyopericardium, bronchitis, and a pyarthrus of the elbow-joint. Before death, the pneumococcus had been found in the blood and in the pus from the abscess, and post mortem it was also demonstrated in the implicated organs. The author believes the lung to have been the primary seat of infection in both cases. After reviewing the various affections caused by the pneumococcus, both as complication of pneumonia and as independent affections, the author considers that at least three facts may be looked upon as certain: (1) That the pneumococcus has been found in the oral and nasal cavities in healthy subjects, and may infect neighboring tissues; (2) that pneumococci from an infected organ can be carried by means of the lymphatics to other organs; (3) that they may escape from one focus into the blood, and be carried by the circulation to any other place in the organism. The author also quotes a number of cases from the special literature, which appear to prove that the pneumococcus, more frequently than has been thought, passes from a pneumonic lung into the blood, not only in fatal cases, but in many others that recover.

PNEUMOCOCCI AND THEIR LOCALIZATION AND PNEUMOCOCCIC PERICAR-DITIS.—ZUBER (Th. de Paris, 1896, No. 3 5) says that while in man pneumococci are generally localized in the lung, they may invade the whole system and pass into the blood, and that pneumonia in its most intense form is a general infection—a septicæmia. Even in the localized form of the disease a few cocci may pass into the circulation, but do not multiply there, and to demonstrate their presence a considerable amount of blood must be submitted to examination by culture and inoculation.

Cocci thus entering the circulation multiply and form infectious foci at the spots where they are arrested, causing metastasis of the original disease (arthritis, meningitis, abscess, etc.). These secondary localizations probably depend on the pathological condition of the parts in which they are situated, though this is not always to be proved. Pneumococcic osteitis has been met with consecutive to a fracture or at the seat of an old osteomyelitis and pneumococcic suppuration of a joint containing uratic deposits, and these are not merely coincidences; in animals infected by pneumococci, secondary localization has been provoked at the seat of physical or chemical injury, and in man the use of certain drugs for hypodermic injection has had the same effect.—Oski (Th. de Paris, 1896, No. 358) points out that in 1886, Netter demonstrated the possibility of a pneumococcic pericarditis without declared pneumonia, but though such pericarditis may rarely be a primitive manifestation of a general infection, it is, as a rule, secondary to pneumonia by contagion through the pulmonary lymphatics. It occurs more often in adults and in males than in others, in pneumonia of the right lung than that of the left, and during grey hepatisation rather than in the other stages of the disease. often passes unnoticed, being masked by the signs and general symptoms of the pneumonia. It is suggested by a sudden depression of the temperature curve with algidity and cyanosis of the extremities or by a rise succeeding a more or less marked depression. The prognosis is more grave, especially in the purulent or hæmorrhagic form; paracentesis may give a chance of recovery.

TUBERCLE OF THE FEMALE GENITALS IN CHILDREN.—Maas (Archiv f. Gynäk., 1896) has collected 8 cases, one in his own experience. In the first, the Fallopian tubes and uterus were diseased. Infection probably originated in the umbilicus, as a line of tuberculous granulations were detected running from it over the peritoneum. The second was an instance of tuberculous disease of the intestines. Infection of the ovaries had occured, the disease passing from the rectum. In the third, the genital disease was secondary to pulmonary phthisis. A fourth case was a true example of primary tubercle of the genitals. The fifth was identical in course and character with the second. The sixth was of special A child, aged 13 months, had vulvitis and tuberculous disease interest. of the genitals. The mother was phthiscal, and direct contamination must have taken place. In the seventh the father was tuberculous, and, as in the sixth, the disease began with vulvitis. The eight patient had tuberculous pneumonia after measles, and a vaginal affection, also clearly The parents were healthy. The primary seat of disease tuberculous. The tubercle may have been carried from the lungs remained uncertain. to the vulva by the lymphatics, or more likely the child had touched the vulva with fingers soiled with sputum.

VERY STRANGE.—"You say I was born in Leeds, papa. Where was mamma born?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;In Liverpool."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Isn't it strange that we three should have got to know each other?"

### NOSE AND THROAT.

IN CHARGE OF

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THE INFLUENCE OF SEA AIR ON AFFECTIONS OF THE NOSE, THE THROAT, AND THE EARS.—The November-December number of the Archives internationales de laryngologie, de rhinologie et d'otologie publishes an article on this subject in which the writer, M. Lavrand, of

Lille, gives the results of his experience in this direction.

Persons, he says, who suffer with chronic nasal affections, such as hypertrophy of the mucous membrane of the turbinals, acute and frequent attacks of coryza, ozæna, and suppuration of the sinuses, may be benefited by remaining at the seaside for a certain length of time. The mental rest, the open air, the sun, and the frequent exercise modify the progress of these diseases by their effects on the general health. General bathing is beneficial; but salt-water douches or sprays are of moderate value only in these affections, with the exception, however, of ozæna, in which affection this treatment has several times given good results. On the whole, says M. Lavrand, all nasal affections that are not acute may be favorably influenced by sea air. By very excitable persons and by those in whom the pituitary membrane is particularly sensitive and the exhilarating and exciting effects of sea air are not well borne.

With regard to throat diseases, hypertrophy of the tonsils frequently appears in lymphatic subjects, and such persons are benefited by the sea air, which exercises a favorable influence on the organism and increases its vitality, in this way causing the reduction of the tonsils. If the hypertrophy is of long standing, however, the local condition will not be benefited, although the general health may be favorably influenced.

Nasopharyngeal, pharyngeal, and laryngeal catarrhs, says the author, may be divided into three classes: 1. Those which are provoked and aggravated by sharp air. In such cases the sea air is contraindicated, unless the patient gradually becomes accustomed to it. 2. Catarrhal atony induced by defective vital energy of the mucous membranes. In this class of affections sea air certainly exercises an ameliorating influence. 3. Catarrhs resulting from vocal or general overtaxing. Of persons thus affected, those who are nervous, arthritic, or predisposed to congestion, should avoid the seaside; the others are marvellously benefited by the air, the sun, the bathing, and the exercise, provided the latter are taken gradually and in moderation. Acute affections of the throat are distinct contraindications.

With regard to diseases of the ears, says M. Lavrand, acute diseases are also a contraindication to this mode of treatment, and chronic affections of the ear are not usually influenced favorably by sea air; gener-

ally it aggravates the trouble. Diseases that are engendered or aggravated by a bad general condition, on which sea air exerts beneficial results may be excepted.

M. Lavrand's conclusions are that a residence at the seaside for a certain length of time may be beneficial in the chronic affections of the nose, the throat, and the ear. The following exceptions, however, may be made: 1. If there is constant or intermittent suppuration of the ears. 2. If there is sclerotic otitis with buzzing of the ears. 3. Diseases of the pharynx and of the larynx in persons subject to congestion, in excitable tuberculous persons, and in arthritics who are predisposed to congestion or to acute or subacute attacks of inflammation of mucous membranes.

THE NOSE AS A GERM-FILTER.—The experiments of St. Clair Thompson and R. T. Heirlett (Medical Record, June 6, 1896) emphasize the importance of having a healthy nose. Their researches show that, under very favorable conditions, the lowest number of organisms contained in the inhaled air of an hour was tifteen hundred; and that in a large city, the air that passes through the nose in the same period is charged with from twelve to fifteen thousand. Tyndall has shown that the last portion of an expiration is free from impurities. Other authorities have demonstrated that the interior of normal nasal cavities is perfectly aseptic. The vibrissæ, which line the vestibules of the nose, however, are usually well-laden with micro-organisms. This clearly proves that this portion of the respiratory tract acts as an excellent filter, and that a large number of bacteria meet destruction at this site. Furthermore, pathogenic organisms which have reached the interior of the nose are readily ejected. The following experiment substantiates the last remark: A pure culture of bacillus prodigiosus was placed upon the nasal septum, some distance from the vestibule. Cultures were made every few moments. falling off of the growth in the culture-medium was observed, until at the end of two hours no growth of the bacillus could be detected.

THE PROPHYLAXIS OF NASAL CATARRH.—The well-known author, Carl Seiler (N. Y. Med. Journal, July, 1896), states that the fundamental origin of this affection arises from the so-called rearing of children by over-feeding, over-clothing and over-care-taking. Fresh air, he remarks, is nature's best remedy, and should be administered with a lavish hand. Too much care in the handling of young ones should be avoided. the unwholesome desire to over-dress the body. Cleanliness, not only of the body, but of the nasal cavities, should be practised. It is an important part of an individual toilet, and prevents the putrefactive process, and thus avoids the possibility of systemic infection by the ingestion of the products of putrefaction in the susceptible system of a young child.

As early as possible a child should be taught to snuff up the nose a warm saline or alkaline solution, with or without the addition of antiseptics, either from the hollow of the hand or from a small cup or glass, three or four times morning and evening. In this manner the habit is

formed, and the routine cleansing becomes a regularity. Atomizers and douches should be avoided at this period in life. The solution employed must be non-irritating and at a suitable temperature, so as not to chill the mucous membrane and cause unpleasant symptoms. Cold applications, in the form of sponging the neck, chest and arms, are recommended.

THE RESULTS OF INJECTIONS OF ERYSIPELAS TOXINS UPON MALIGNANT GROWTHS.—The following conclusions were offered in a report before the New York Surgical Society by Drs. Stimson, Gerster and Curtis (Annals of Surgery, July, 1896):

1. That the danger to a patient from this treatment is great.

2. Moreover, that the alleged successes are so few and doubtful in character that the most that can be fairly alleged for the treatment by toxins is that it may offer a very slight chance of amelioration.

3. That valuable time has often been lost in operable cases by postponing operation for the sake of giving the method of treatment a trial.

4. Finally, and most important, that if the method is to be resorted to at all, it should be confined to the absolutely inoperable cases.

SIMPLE ACUTE LARANGITIS AND BRONCHITIS.—According to clinical observation (N. Y. Med. Journal, July 18, 1896), an acute inflammation of the respiratory tract is of free progression. Resolution may have taken place in the larynx and trachea, and yet the lower tissues may be in an acute stage. The important factors tending towards recovery are a free flow of mucus and serum from the mucous membrane, and the getting rid of the foreign element as soon as possible. Retained secretions irritate and ferment, thus reinfecting the parts. Remedies that will stimulate secretion are indicated. The bronchial mucus is the best sedative to an inflamed larynx, and a flow of this non-irritating secretion should be For five years the writer has found apomorphine, in a encouraged. freshly compounded acidulated mixture, to be the best of all relaxing expectorants. He gives it in one-thirtieth grain doses, at two or three hour intervals, and it rarely fails to do its work. Rest is also necessary in Sulphate of codein, in one-fifth grain doses, p. r. n., is also these cases. given. Carbonate of ammonium he found to be the most serviceable stimulating expectorant.

Some Observations in Laryngeal Tuberculosis.—Among some of the more obscure points in the symptomatology of this affection, Vander Poel (N. Y. Med. Journal, July 18, 1896) mentions the simple weakness of the voice, without organic change in the larynx. This, he thinks, is due to the weakened tensors of the vocal cords. The latter appear shortened and shrivelled. The appearance of the parts resembles the picture of hysterical aphonia; except that, in the latter ailment, the abductors are usually affected and not the tensor muscles. The paralysis of the right vocal cord, which is at times seen in tubercular disease of the larynx and lungs, is supposed to be due to the right recurrent nerve being

imbedded in the hard, thickened pleural tissue about the apex of the right lung. (Edema naturally interferes with the usual movements of the crico-arytenoid articulation, and so may give rise to the symptom in

question.

As a preliminary symptom to the development of a tubercular manifestation, the author has noticed "a slight thickening of the mucous membrane, associated with the presence of a white, milky, somewhat purulent, mucous fluid, which secretion contains no tubercle bacilli, but which he considers almost pathognomonic. It is chiefly found in the region of the aryteno-epiglottic folds, or may coat the interior of the larynx." He has seen this catarrhal state six weeks to two months before the usual symptoms developed. A case in point is mentioned.

A NEW POSITION FOR MAJOR NASAL OPERATIONS.—Carl Seiler describes a new position for major operations within the nasal cavities (Maryland Medical Journal). Where general anæsthesia is necessary, as in large fibroid tumors or rhinoliths, it is very often necessary to plug the posterior nares and perform tracheotomy, making the operation more tedious and complicated. To avoid this, he has for several years employed a method which he has found satisfactory in these cases. places the patient on a table in a ventral recumbent position, with the head projecting over the table, and held in a horizontal position by a band around the forehead, which is held by an assistant or by a firm support attached to the table. While the relative topography of the parts are changed, still this does not render the operation more difficult than when the patient is in a dorsal or lateral position. operation, the blood flows downward from the mouth or nostril, without any risk of suffocating the patient. While operating he depends much upon the sense of touch; but where the light is necessary he lies upon his back on the floor and reflects the light in the usual manner; when in this position the relative topography of the parts are re-established.

THE ETIOLOGY AND TREATMENT OF POST-NASAL CATARRH.—W. Freundenthal, in the Journal of the American Medical Association, gives some useful points regarding the treatment and etiology of post-nasal

The naso-pharynx is a part of the respiratory tract, as it is lined with columnar ciliated epethelium. Although Aschenbrandt has demonstrated in his experiments, that the greater portion of the warming and moistening of the inspired air is carried on in the nostrils, still these experiments were conducted in normal subjects. Freundenthal has made a number of experiments in pathological subjects, as well as normal, and has found that the naso-pharynx is a very important adjunct to the nostril in its In a case in which the nostril of the patient had respiratory functions. been extensively cauterized for four years, so that the nostrils were able to carry on only 25 per cent. of their function, yet this patient felt no inconvenience whatsoever, (?) showing that the naso-pharynx had contributed very largely in preparing the inspired air in this case. He attributes much of the prevalent catarrhal troubles to defective methods in warming houses, the heat of which is almost always too dry. The common idea that we catch cold on account of defective dress, is erroneous; the true reason being that we do not live enough in the open air, and do not admit enough fresh air into our houses. Children who go barefoot are not as subject to colds as those who wear shoes. The underwear should only be worn to the extent that it is necessary, so as not to interfere with the cutaneous respiration.

SARCOMA PRESENTING IN THE NASAL FOSSA.—Four months after removal of what seemed to be a myxoma, the right nasal cavity was found to be occluded by a round-celled fibro-sarcoma, in a female twenty-six years old. Repeated curettage was carried out, but it became necessary to remove the body of the ethmoid bone by external operation. It is supposed that the polyp was the result of irritation due to the presence of the malignant tumor.—Harding, British Med. Journal, Feb. 29, 1896.

DISEASES OF THE MOUTH, NOSE AND THROAT AS PATHOLOGICAL FACTORS IN GASTRITIS.—F. B. Turck, in the *Medical Fortnightly* has an article on "Disease of the Mouth, Nose and Throat as Pathological Factors in Chronic Glandular, Gastritis, with Bacteriological Studies of the Pharyn-

geal Vault."

Bacteriological studies have shown that upon the mucous membrane of the mouth, nose and pharynx groups of micro-organisms are found, which are also present in the stomach during gastritis. Under normal conditions the mucous membrane of the stomach does not favor colonization upon its walls, but during pathological processes micro-organisms may The mouth, nose and throat, in diseased conditions, are incubators, ready to infect the stomach when diseased conditions permit the development of growing micro-organisms upon its walls; these bacteria being carried into the stomach during the act of swallowing. his clinical and experimental work, has demonstrated groups of microorganisms obtained from the gums and cavities of the teeth, similar to those found in the material from the walls of the stomach, obtained by the gyromele (revolving round). He reports several cases, in which he shows that many of the patholigical micro-organisms present the identical biological and physical forms in cases of gastritis as found in the mouth and post-nasal cavities of the same patient.

ASTHMA.—A case of asthma cured by the inhalation of the vapor of peroxide of hydrogen is reported by Dr. W. B. Ketchum (*The Texas Health Journal*). The patient had been subject to cases of asthma for ten years, until she was directed to inhale the vapor from an inhaler which contained equal parts of glycerine and peroxide of hydrogen After she had used this treatment for one month, the patient reported herself as "cured." (?)

### PAEDIATRICS.

IN CHARGE OF

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## THE MANAGEMENT OF INFANT FEEDING.

BY LOUIS FISCHER, M.D., NEW YORK.

All pediatrists will agree that nothing more difficult confronts them in their daily practice than to decide exactly what to feed a baby, and in this paper I shall discuss the subject under two divisions: First, infant feeding in health; second, infant feeding in disease. The term "infancy" is here used to include all times from birth to the end of the second year, or until the completion of the eruption of the milk teeth. No one will dispute the fact that the feeding of a sick baby is an entirely different matter from the feeding of one in good health. I shall therefore first consider feeding in health. An infant may be fed in two ways: First, from the human breast; second, from a bottle, otherwise known as hand-feeding or artificial feeding.

NURSING OF THE NEWLY BORN.—An infant should be put to the breast as soon after birth as the mother's condition warrants, which is usually between six and twelve hours. The first milk contains colostrum, which consists of laxative salts, and clears the child's intestinal tracts. It does contain some nourishment, and the usual addition of sugar water to the dietary, or milk and water where colostrum is given, is deleterious.

The proper secretion of milk in a normal breast rarely takes place before the third day. An infant should be put to the breast every two hours. By this stimulation it aids the formation of milk and also the contraction of the uterus. Should there be a deficiency of milk supply, however, then cow's milk might be advantageously given, diluted as follows:

One-third cow's milk,

Two-thirds water,

One piece of loaf sugar and some salt.

The minutest instruction should always be given as to the interval between each nursing, as to the quantity that a child should take, for some children with a good appetite require both breasts for one meal, as to regularity in feeding and about feeding at night.

A healthy child during the first two months requires the breast every two hours, from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.. The child should not sleep with its mother, but be trained to sleep in a crib for at least six hours, so as to insure some rest at night for the mother.

This is a vital point in my opinion, as, from the prolonged lactation, the quality and quantity of the mother's milk must never be lost sight of, and unless the mother has her proper rest the milk will be deficient in quality.

I wish to emphasize the fact that we must individualize our method of feeding, and remember that while some children merely require food once in three hours, others will require feeding every hour and a half.

The strong, newly born infant has a stomach capacity of about one and one-half ounces. It has been found that an excessive feeding over this amount may cause vomiting. Slow nursing extending over fifteen minutes is preferable to quick nursing. In this way a child would probably receive about twelve ounces of milk in each twenty-four hours during the first week. The infant could be fed once every two hours, giving us ten feedings in twenty-four hours and allow four hours for rest.

As the child gets older and stronger the stomach capacity increases, and the interval of two hours between each feeding can be prolonged so that one feeding every two and one-half hours or eight feedings in twenty-four hours would be sufficient, never omitting the interval of rest at night for the recuperation of the mother. Between the third and fourth month the child need be nursed only every three hours, and experience has shown that an infant takes about three to six ounces at each feeding, or between twenty-four and thirty-six ounces in twenty-four hours. This will amount to six or seven feedings in twenty-four hours.

WET NURSES.—If the infant's own mother cannot nurse her child, then we can and should try to secure a wet nurse.

The wet nurse must be carefully examined as well as her child for the presence of syphilis. With your permission, I beg to refer to a short paper on this subject, published in the American Medico-Sergical Bulletin in January, 1894:

1.—Never have a baby fed by the milk of its mother if the latter suffer with general debility or tuberculosis. Extremely nervous mothers should not nurse their babies.

Syphilitic babies (hereditary) can only be nursed by their own mothers, owing to the risk of infecting the wet nurse. Very frequently the life of the child is dependent on its being nursed by its mother in syphilis.

- (a) The return of menstruction is no contra-indication to the continuation of nursing.
  - (b) The moment a woman is pregnant nursing should be stopped.
- (c) Children should not be nursed at night unless for some special reason.
- (d) Weaning should take place gradually, and only in the eighth to the tenth month.
- (e) It is understood that weaning should not be commenced during the hot summer weather.

The main factor in determining the time of weaning is "weighing." Children must be weaned, when, although in perfect good health, they remain below normal weight.

(f) Prolonged nursing will induce rhachitis.

2.—If, for various reasons, a child cannot be nursed by its own mother, we then resort to the wet-nurse.

(a) She must be carefully examined as to her physical condition; tuberculosis, all chronic disorders and diseases would prevent proper Hereditary nervous troubles, epilepsy or syphilis would exnursing. clude nursing.

Milk requires examination to determine amount of fat, the condition

of the emulsion, etc.

(b) It is a good point to procure a wet-nurse suckling a child about as old as the one we wish her to nurse, although it is quite common to find nurses who have older children than the one they wish to nurse and to find the latter doing well.

(c) The proof of the usefulness of the wet-nurse is the condition of the baby after some time. If the child thrives it will increase in weight.

Hence scales must be frequently used.

WEANING.—When a child reaches the age of six months. it is well to think of weaning. I have very successfully tried gradual or partial This consists in giving at the age of six months one handfeeding of six to eight ounces during the twenty-four hours. It is to consist of cow's milk three ounces, and, if the bowels are regular, three ounces of barley gruel, made with water, and about ten-fifteenths grains of ordinary table salt and one-half lump of cane sugar.

Each month following the sixth month we can withdraw one breastfeeding and in its place substitute an artificial feeding, so that by the ninth month the infant is weaned. Unless it be mid-summer, or on account of some special condition, complete weaning should take place

about the tenth month.

In addition to giving a bottle in the method of partial or gradual weaning, a small piece of crust of bread or zwieback can be added to the

dietary, besides a little thin beef soup or expressed meat juice.

If an infant while nursing does not increase in weight between five and six ounces weekly, then it is better to advise a careful examination of the breast milk. For this purpose numerous instruments have been devised, as Marchand's lactobutyrometer, but probably the simpler method of examination for cream and fat devised by Holt is best. This little instrument, which I show you, is known as the creamometer, and shows the relative percentage of cream and fat in the milk. A drop of milk placed under the microscope will easily tell the story.

HAND OR ARTIFICIAL FEEDING.—If we cannot give our infant breast or human milk, then we must resort to artificial feeding. Our choice will lie between giving peptonized, humanized, pasteurized, sterilized,

modified or boiled milk, or possibly some patent food.

The method of peptonizing milk with pancreatin and soda is too familiar to mention, and, as it is only used in sick babies, I will only allude to it.

Humanized Milk.—A pint of milk is set aside until the cream rises, and this cream is skimmed off and kept. To the milk remaining is added enough rennet to curdle it. The whey is strained off the curd and added with the previously separated cream to a pint of fresh cow's milk. This is known as humanized milk. In some infants it will be well borne during the first three months, and to this can be added farinaceous liquid

for dilution if required.

Pasteurized Milk.—This is really partially sterilized milk, and consists of sterilization at a temperature of 167° F. instead of 212° F. This sterilization to be continued for from twenty minutes to half an hour. Pasteurized milk should only be used during the twenty-four hours following this process. A good apparatus for this purpose is the one known as

Dr. Freeman's Pasteurizing apparatus

Sterilization.—I desire to be put on record as stating that with our present knowledge nothing better than sterilized milk has yet been devised. On November, 12, 1891, I demonstrated an improved Soxhlet sterilizer before the Section of Paediatrics of the New York Academy of Medicine. The sterilizers which are in actual use in this country are easily tampered with, so that there is no guarantee of the milk remaining sterile, wheras in the Soxhlet apparatus when the stopper is removed the bottle of milk mnst be used at once. The difference is very apparent if you will compare the two bottles.

FLUIDS FOR DILUTION OF MILK IN HAND-FEEDING.—Barley Water.—Take a teaspoonful of pearl barley, grind it in a coffee grinder, or pound it in an ordinary mortar, add one pint of cold water, and allow it to simmer slowly for about an hour. Strain and add enough water to make

one nint

Oatmeal Water.—Take a teaspoonful of ordinary coarse oatmeal, and add one pint of water. Allow it to simmer slowly, for one hour and strain. Add enough water to make one pint. The same directions apply to making a household mixture of farina water, rice water, or sago water, using the same proportions as above.

Arrowroot.—Add two teaspoonfuls of arrowroot to one pint of water:

allow it to simmer for half an hour, stirring it constantly.

Pasteur found that subjecting milk to a temperature of 160° to 170° F. for fifteen or twenty minutes will destroy all germs of tuberculosis, scarlet fever, diphtheria and pneumonia. As this is all that is necessary to make milk sterile, it answers all practical purposes. Heat above 165° F. destroys the starch fermenting ingredient of milk, called galactosine,

which is an important loss to the infant.

Lact albumen, which is allied to serum albumen, is coagulated by heat. This produces the unpleasant smell which characterizes boiled milk. Milk sugar is destroyed or changed. Cream can be seen floating as fat globules upon the surface of sterilized milk, and it is necessary that the digestive function should change it to an emulsion before it can be absorbed. Caseine is also changed by sterilization. Baginsky states that it requires more rennet and a higher temperature to effect the digestion of the caseine of sterilized than that of new milk.

Since sterilization produces the effect just noticed, Pasteurization, which is sufficient to destroy pathogenic bacteria, will answer our purpose better. Pasteurized milk however cannot be used after twenty-four hours. What asepsis in surgery is to antisepsis, so pure, natural, sterile

milk is to artificially sterilized milk. Should we ever be able to receive milk from our dairies free from micro-organisms, then we can easily discard artificial methods of sterilization and Pasteurization.—Pediatrics, July 15th, '96.

We print the following as bearing on the case referred to in last issue:—

#### MEDICAL ITEMS.

The Death of Dr. Langerhaus' Son Explained.—A full and satisfactory explanation of the sudden and tragic death of the little son of Dr. Langerhaus immediately following an injection of antitoxin serum has been reached through the subsequent investigation. In the first place, the analysis of the serum proved it to be reliable, and no irregularity in the method of its administration could be discovered. It was found, however, that the child had just completed an unusually heavy meal, and as the necropsy showed his larynx and trachea well filled with a material identical with that found in his stomach the accepted inference is that while faint from the shock of the injection he was unable to eject the vomited matter from his throat, and instead drew it into the air passages, with fatal effect. It may be concluded, then, that what appeared to be quite damaging evidence against the serum is really the result of a very simple accident.—Medical News.

| For | Bron | CHO-PNEUMONIA IN CHILDREN. Rév. Internat.:—      |
|-----|------|--|
|     | R.   | Sodii hangoatia                                  |
|     |      | Sodii benzoatisgr. viii                          |
|     |      | Animonii acetatis                                |
|     |      | Spiritus vini Cognac f $\alpha$ ;;               |
|     |      | Misturæ acaciæ                                   |
|     |      | Syrupi simplicis                                 |
|     | S.   | From one-half to one fluid dram every two hours. |

NEURALGIA.—A local application much used in the clinic of Dr. S. Solis Cohen, *Phila. Polyclin*. for the relief of vague pains localized at different points upon the surface of the body, as well as in the treatment of intercostal neuralgia and the pleuritic stitches of chronic pulmonary tuberculosis, is the following:

B. Menthol, Chloral Hydrate, Camphor,

M. Sig.: Apply to painful part with camel's hair brush once daily, or as symptoms may indicate.

In this prescription the liquefaction of the solid ingredients takes place when they are brought in contact. The resulting fluid is slightly stimulating, slightly irritant and decidedly analgesic. Should its too frequent application result in vesication its use is intermitted until the parts heal.

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# Starch \* Dyspepsia.

We are now able to relieve a large number of persons suffering from faulty digestion of Starch, and can aid our patients, during convalescence, so that they speedily regain their weight and strength by the ingestion of large quantities of the heretofore indigestible, but nevertheless very necessary, starchy foods. We trust that the readers of the Gazette will at once give this interesting ferment a thorough trial, administering it in the dose of from 1 to 5 grains, which is best given in powder, or, if the patient objects to powder, in capsule.—The Therapeutic Gazette.

Pepsin is of no Value

In ailments arising from Faulty Digestion of Starch.



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The Largest Circulation of any Medical Journal in the Dominion.

#### Editorial.

Truly this is a day of disillusionments—a time when shattered idols are more common than those in the odour of sanctity. Homer seems to nod more frequently than ever. The last issue of the Practitioner contained an appreciative, not to say flattering, review of a so-called Metaphysical Magazine, palpably not written by the genial and well-beloved physician who is editor-in-chief, and certainly inserted without his knowledge. The Magazine in question is the organ of the most advanced faddists of Theosophy and Christian Science, and the very number received with such favor by the Practitioner contains, among other choice pieces of verbose obfuscation, an article proving that the "respiration" (meaning the breath) "during a time when an evil emotion is dominant, contains volatile poisons which are expelled through the breath and are characteristic of these emotions." The sage investigator goes on to say that by applying chemical agents to the breath he can produce a precipitate and so detect these poisons, and that, "in the case of grief the color will be pinkish."

Ever since we read that review in the *Practitioner*, our breath has been of a beautiful pale pink at the thought of the game some one has played on the Editor, and we quite expect him to display a bright scarlet played for a week after discovering the trick by which his apparent flambeau for a week after discovering the trick by which his apparent endorsation has been secured for the maunderings of a lot of people gone queer over Esoteric Buddhism.

#### DIET IN TYPHOID.

The advent of the season for "autumnal fever" makes timely some reminders as to details in the feeding of those who cannot take milk well. It is needless to say once more that nursing and feeding are the agents of cure, and one may add that intelligent supervision will make more demands on the physician here than in almost any other disease. It is generally admitted, that the routine habit of trusting blindly to

milk, as came to be the rule a few years ago, is to be deprecated. must not be forgotten, however, that in cases that digest milk well, are not constipated or rendered tympanitic and flatulent by it, and do not pass undigested flakes and curds of casein, there is no other article of diet to be compared with it. It contains the necessary food elements, is an excellent diuretic, (and one often forgets the urgent need of assistance to the laboring emunctories in typhoid when the waste matters are heaped up in excess at points of exit temporarily reduced in capacity.) It furnishes the fluid necessary, and is more easily digested in a larger number of cases than any other one food. Incidentally one may mention as a disadvantage the increased care of the mouth in typhoid which its use necessitates. No other food remains in the mouth to provide so suitable a nidus for bacterial growth and it is quite probable that in some cases milk is sufficiently polluted in the act of swallowing to ensure its fermentation in the stomach and intestines, with the resulting vomiting, tympanites and intestinal stagnation that we all recognize as so evil. So that the milk-fed patient is especially in need of a mouth wash; listerine and boracic acid, with or without black wash or glycerine. after every ingestion of milk, with the daily use of the tongue scraper if the tongue is very foul; a strip of ordinary whalebone for dress waists, bent into an oval, will do well.

Evidences of mal-assimilation of milk apart from those of dyspepsia already mentioned, are rapid emaciation, constipation, clay colored or white stools, tympanites, and even the scurvy-like bleeding gums and swollen tongue. In cases such as these, and in those to whom milk through mere distastefulness cannot be given, it may not be necessary to at once or entirely give it np. It should be given hot, or sterilized, or peptonized, or flavored with strong tea or coffee or cocoa in limited quantity, as junket, as whey, koumiss or buttermilk. An excellent form sometimes is the egg-nog, or milk-punch, or milk-jelly. The latter is made with rich milk, peptonized if necessary, an equal quantity of hot gelatine, flavored with sherry or rum, essence of lemon or orange, a pinch of salt and sugar to taste, eaten cold. The hot egg-nog is another excellent device, an egg beaten smooth poured into a half-pint of scalding (not boiling) milk, predigested if necessary, and either sweetened and flavored with an essence, making really a sort of custard, or salted and peppered or flavored with celery salt. Tomato soup, strained, consisting mainly of milk, is often welcomed as a change.

Should none of these devices succeed, the milk need not be entirely given up, or if so, may sometimes be resumed advantageously in a day or two.

Substitutes for it are mainly of two kinds: a. Animal broths of one sort or another, including gelatine, egg albumen, and the meat extracts of commerce, and b. farinaceous gruels.

Discussing the former seriatim, it may be said: 1. That good authorities look on proteid matters as risky from the tendency to febris carnis, "meat fever," from absorption of ptomaines produced in the intestine from the decomposing animal matter. Bacteriology certainly claims to prove that bacilli fed on beef juice produce more poisonous ptomaines

than those fed on milk, and physiological chemists claim that starches do not make ptomaines. This class of foods, too, is more apt to cause diarrhœa, especially beef and mutton broths. Veal and chicken broths

seem to tend less in this direction.

2. That gelatine and egg-albumin are looked on as "tissue-repairers." The gelatine may be given with white of egg as "snow pudding," or as a jelly flavored with coffee, sherry, or rum; or with milk as already mentioned. The egg-lemonade or albumin-water, made by pouring into a weak lemonade or "orangeade" the unbeaten white of an egg, is more than a mere drink. Egg-albumin may also be given as sherry-flip.

3. That the commercial meat extracts if given are not to be considered

valuable as food.

As to b.—Farinaceous gruels are occasionally of advantage but mainly as admixtures with milk, serving to prevent precipitation of large curds. The broad objection to them is that they are apt to excite tympany, as they are digested normally in the intestine, which is usually in these cases less fit for work than the stomach. The secret of success with them lies mainly in thorough cooking, and thorough straining, so that only the predigested diastatic portions may reach the patient. It has long been taught that prolonged cooking changes starch, partially at least, to diastase. Convenient forms are gruels of arrowroot, sago, tapioca, oatmeal, rice, barley (barley water.) Lately banana flour has been highly recommended by Gilman Thompson, of New Nork. The prepared foods, such as nourishing meal, Mellin's, Ridge's, Horlick's and Nestles, are also useful. They will usually do better, and be better liked, if they are not too sweet, and are often more acceptable with a little lemon juice or cream.

A word as to quantity. The daily amount should be carefully noted, apart from the drinks taken not as food but to quench thirst. Any untrained nurse can note this if started at it by the physician. The amount should never exceed the patient's powers of assimilation. It is painful to think of the amount of "stuffing" and consequent damage that occurs in the management of some cases. From one to three quarts of milk, or its equivalent, should suffice as food, and from two to three and a half quarts of water (including that given in the fluid food) are usually J. T. F. enough.

#### THE RELATIONSHIP OF PROGNOSIS OF GENERAL HEALTH IN TYPHOID FEVER.

We are again entering upon the season of the year characterized by a great increase in the number of cases of Typhoid Fever—a disease to the study of which we return with untiring interest. Its wide distribution, occurring in city and hamlet throughout the length and breadth of the land; its victims, chosen from all grades of society; its assaults, alike on the strong and the weak, make its consideration a matter of universal con-In no other disease do we have so many lamentable and unlooked for fatalities. In no disease is the prognosis so uncertain. That the gen-

eral health of the patient forms a poor guide in estimating his chances for recovery is only too well known, for it is a matter of frequent observation and comment, not only with the profession, but among the laity, that a strong, robust, healthy individual will succumb to the disease, while one of miserable physique and poor vitality will recover. So frequently is this the case, that some solution more satisfactory than accidental circumstances must be sought to explain away the apparent

We have happily passed the day in medical science when such occurrences were attributed to special visitations of Providence not to be too closely inquired into, at the which the fatalist would shrug his shoulders and sanctimoniously ascribe to divine interposition what was really the

That a person of strong and rugged constitution would, other things being equal, stand the best chance in resisting or throwing off a disease seems, at first sight, a fact so apparent as to be axiomatic.

In so long and exhausting struggle as Typhoid Fever is, one would naturally expect the organs and tissues of a robust individual particularly qualified to withstand the deleterious effects of the toxines and to main-

tain the body functions.

Moreover, scientifically considered, the individual cells would possess greater resisting power and should be better able to react in the formation of protective proteids in the blood serum, or in the elaboration of antitoxins to neutralize the poisons absorbed into the system; or according to the theory of Metschinkoff, greater numbers of healthy phagocytes should be attracted to the seat of attack to repel the invasion and feast on the invaders.

Why then is the prognosis not more favorable in this class of patients? The explanation that in strong individuals there is a greater quantity of the material necessary for the maintenance of the bacteria present in the system is no longer tenable since the theory of exhaustion is exploded.

Apart from the fact that particular cases might be explained by circumstances in connection therewith, there are some considerations which

appear generally applicable in answering the question.

A strong individual does not so soon seek treatment, but goes about as long as possible trying to fight off the disease. Fagge, insisting on the necessity of complete rest from the very beginning of the fever, says, "that men are apt to do themselves irreparable injury by struggling on day after day," and quotes Sir Wm. Jenner, who declared that some of the worst cases of enteric fever which he had ever seen appeared to owe their gravity to the circumstance that the patient had travelled after having begun to feel ill, in order to reach home. There must be few clinicians who have not had abundant opportunities for observing cases where the prognosis was rendered serious by neglect of the patient to go to bed as soon as taken ill.

Again, being undisciplined by sickness, robust persons are usually much more difficult to manage, tossing about and using muscular exertiou that not only taxes their strength, but tends to produce hæmorrhage or perforation—the accidental causes of death in Typhoid.

But probably the most important factor—and one too much lost sight of in making a prognosis—is, that absorption, like all other physiological processes, is much more active in a healthy individual, and thus a greater quantity of the toxines generated by the bacteria will be taken into the system to produce the symptoms of the disease. So also the tendency to general bacterial infections by organisms other than the B. Typhosus—mixed infections as by streptococci or staphylococci—is greater where absorption is more active. It would thus appear that the degree of toxemia is, to a certain extent, governed by, and proportioned to, the strength of the individual.

And so, apparently, in our very strength there is a source of weakness—a consideration in which there should be at least, a grain of comfort to those who have not been endowed "by dissembling nature" with a strong physique. Were the dose of poison constant, no doubt the robust individual would stand by far the best chance for recovery, but here, as elsewhere, we have a beautiful example of the "law of compensation."

H. B. A.

#### "TURN THE RASCALS OUT."

It is to be regretted that any firm of manufacturing chemists whose methods and dealings with the drug trade have always been fair and considerate should find it necessary to protect themselves against the unprincipled substituter, as explained elsewhere in this issue. It is hard to believe the testimony which Fairchild Bros. & Foster have gathered against retail druggists, who have substituted other preparations when Fairchild's was distinctly ordered by physicians. We fail to comprehend what a druggist is thinking of when he permits such practices behind his prescription counter. Where is the profession of pharmacy drifting to if it has gotten to that point that a physician cannot depend upon a druggist filling his prescriptions with what is ordered? We should discredit these reports if they came from a less responsible source. Such practice if continued will work untold injury to the credit and standing of the entire pharmaceutical profession. Physicians are constantly claiming that one of the principal reasons why they handle their own medicines is that they are then sure of what they are administering. such wholesale accusation against the integrity of druggists is as unjust as it is untrue. There are thousands of conscientious, upright, honorable pharmacists, who would no more think of substituting in a prescription than they would of trying to pass a counterfeit bill. It is unfortunate that reflection must be cast upon these honest druggists by the acts of their unscrupulous brothers, but all of this hue and cry on the part of manufacturers about substituting cannot be ignored. Where there is so much smoke there must be some fire. Fairchild Bros. & Foster, by their action, place the charge where it belongs and this cannot fail to benefit honest dealers.

Every honest druggist owes it to himself and his profession to speak plainly on this subject. He should adopt the most strict rules for his own establishment; improve every opportunity to condemn the practice of substituting, and see that resolutions to this effect are passed by his local, State and national associations. Each druggist should make it a point to give his physicians and his customers to understand that when a prescription comes in to his establishment, it is filled with exactly what it calls for. There can be no middle ground, no compromise, no question on this point. Physicians who prescribe them and the manufacturers who make the goods must have no good cause for such complaints. The honor of the drug trade demands that this stigma be removed. It is not a question of dollars and cents alone, but professional honor is at stake, and we know that every honest pharmacist will join with us in the statement that the druggist who substitutes in his prescriptions is a disgrace to his profession.

Personal.—Dr. Ryerson recently passed the "efficiency examination" required of Volunteer Medical Officers in England before a board appointed by the War Office. He has been appointed the representative in Canada of the British Red Cross Society. He returned home early last month and resumed his practice.

Personal—We notice with great regret the death of a daughter of Dr. Burt, of Paris, Ont., aged only 10 years. The accidental upsetting of a lamp as she was playing in her own home, burned her so seriously that she died soon after. Her father was himself seriously burned about the hands in attempting to extinguish the flames. His many acquaintances will extend him most hearty sympathy.

New Operation for Removal of Enlarged Cervical Glands.—Dr. Dollinger in Centralbl. f. Chir. describes an operation for the subcutaneous extirpation of tuberculous lymph glands in the neck and submaxillary region. The posterior half of the scalp having been shaved, and the whole of the scalp and the skin of the affected side of the neck carefully disinfected, an incision is made commencing behind the external ear, and carried in a curved line with the convexity backward and downward, toward the middle line of the neck behind. The skin and superficial fascia are divided, and the anterior and lower flap is undermined by finger and elevator until the enlarged glands are reached; these, if they have not broken down or contracted firm adhesions with surrounding soft parts, may now be readily detached by the elevator and drawn through the wound. The skin forming the lower flap is so yielding, especially in women and children, that it is possible by this operation, the author asserts, to reach glands situated near the chin, and even those in the supra-clavicular region. The wound, when made under strict antiseptic precautions, heals quickly, and the scar is hidden by the new growth of hair.

The Treatment of Gout and of Uric Gravel.—X. Delmis, M.D., in Gazette des Hopitaux, recommends piperazine for these conditions. This substance is a crystalline organic base, soluble in water. The urate of piperazine is several times more soluble in water than the urate of lithia. Piperazine dissolves uric acid and uratic concretions in the proportion of half its volume. A number of physicians have proved that the first doses of piperazine causes an abundant expulsion of gravel and small stones, at the same time that a relief of the pain is manifested. In acute gout, piperazine causes a rapid amelioration of the pain and a progressive diminution of the swelling and redness. In chronic gout it appears to have an elective action upon tophi and upon the articular stiffness. The author has seen voluminous tophi disappear, and deformed limbs assume an almost normal aspect, thanks to the persistent usage of the remedy which is possible by its harmless action upon the organism.

In the scanty and tenacious secretion of bronchitis, Benedict (Am. Therapist) prescribes:

R. Pilocapin Hydrochloratis gr. i
Sanguinarin. Nitratis gr. i
Syr. Tolutani et Aquæ, q. s. ad ž iii

Sig.: Teaspoonful four times a day.

DIACHYLON PLASTER IN ATONIC WOUNDS AND ULCERS.—Balduzzi, in La Sem. Med., in atonic wounds or ulcers, either of spontaneous or operative origin, advises compression by means of strips of diachylon plaster. It has the advantage of being easily carried out, and is especially adapted to country practice. It is also of service in ulcers of the leg. In fact, in all atonic wounds of whatever origin, it exercises a beneficial action. The wound or ulcer should first be rendered aseptic, and this repeated at each time that the dressing is renewed.

GONORRHEA IN THE FEMALE.—This complaint though usually not so troublesome as in the male, sometimes gives continuous worry for months. A very sensible plan of treatment is given by Dr. H. C. Bloom, in the Philadelphia Polyclinic. It entails a little trouble, but the physician will be amply repaid for this by the results. He advises immediate washings of the vagina and contiguous parts with solution of hydrogen dioxide, which seems to be the one agent that searches every fold and crevice, cleansing and putting them in condition for the next step, which consists in the thorough application of silver nitrate in solution (sixty grains to the ounce) over the entire surface. This is at once followed by the careful packing of the vagina with powdered boric acid, and the placing of a small soft wool tampon. The patient is requested to return in twenty-four hours, when the tampon and packing are carefully taken out, with probably a cast or exfoliation of the destroyed or infected tissue if not as a whole, then in large flakes and sufficiently deep to destroy the gonococcus in the papillary layer of the mucosa. This practically cures the gonorrhoea. A simple wound remains, and the next step is to wash this raw surface with a solution of mercuric chloride, 1:4000, following this by loosely packing the vagina with moist iodoform gauze, which is allowed to remain seventy two hours. Upon its removal the surface will present a clean, healed appearance. The rapid cure almost does away with the probability of future pelvic involvement.

| HAY FEVER.—A prescription much lauded for the Am Med. Rev.   | hig affaction |
|--|---------------|
|  |               |
| Eucalyptol   | `             |
| EucalyptolGlycerineTinct. opium  | 1 oz. each    |
| Tinet. opium.  | 9 1 1         |
| Aqua destilte  | z drachms     |
| S—Use with atomizon the state of the state o | o make 6 ozs. |

S.—Use with atomizer three times a day.

| As a | DEODORISER IN UTERINE CANCER.— |
|------|--------------------------------|
|      | D CANCER.                      |
|      | R—Acid salicylicigr. vj.       |
|      | Sod. salicylat                 |
|      | Sou. sancylat Z jij            |
|      | Tinct. eucalypt                |
|      | Tinet. edcarypt Z vi           |
|      | Aq. dest                       |
|      | Try, ucsu                      |

M. Sig.—Two or three tablespoonfuls to a pint of water as an injection, frequently repeated.—London Practitioner.

| FORMULA FOR ACUTE RHEUMATISM IN ADULTS:-  |
|---|
| D G THE MATISM IN ADULTS:—  |
| B-Sodium salicylete   |
| B—Sodium salicylate   |
| Potassium acetate   |
| 2 ottobrum acetate  |
| Tinet. nux vom  |
| THE UNIX VOIII  |
| Tinct. digitalis, aa  |
| Times. digitalis, aa  |
| Aq. menth, pip  |
| 214. menun, pip   |
| Tingt singham   |
| rinch cinchona comp n a ad 7 iv   |
| M. Sig — Z i every three hours 10 3 5 14.   |
| Tinct. cinchona compq. s. ad $\mathfrak{Z}$ iv. M. Sig.— $\mathfrak{Z}$ j every three hours.— $Phil.$ Polyclinic. |
| Titol, I delication;  |

VINEGAR AN ANTIDOTE TO CARBOLIC ACID.—Vinegar is said to neutralize the action of carbolic acid. Applied to the skin or mucous membrane burnt by carbolic it will cause the rapid disappearance of the characteristic whiteness as well as the anesthesia produced by the carbolic. It also prevents the formation of the slough. It also neutralizes the effect of carbolic in the stomach; therefore the first thing to do when carbolic has been swallowed is to make the patient drink vinegar mixed with equal parts of water and then wash the stomach.

THREE WARNINGS OF INTEREST TO OBSTETRICIANS.—K. Milton Mahlott, M.D., (N.Y. Medical Journal) says: "There are three warnings which obstetricians should have constantly in mind, which are almost uniformly neglected.

First.—Warn a woman not to neglect any kind of hemorrhage during pregnancy.

Second.—Warn a woman during labor that she must keep her hands away from her vulva and vagina so long as she is confined to bed.

Third.—Warn a nursing woman never to fall asleep with the infant at her breast."

### Palatable Laxative Acting without pain Or Nausea.

## **WEYTH'S**

## Medicated Fruit Syrup,

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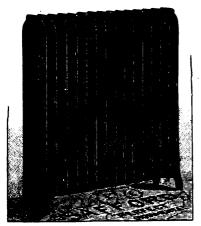
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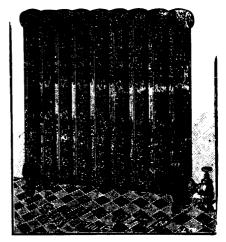
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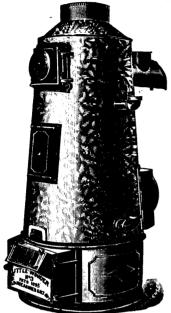
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