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HANDBOOK OF MEDICINE

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WHEELER'S
HANDBOOK OF
MEDICINE

BY

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PREFACE TO THE SEVENTH EDITION

IN the interval which has elapsed since the publication of the previous edition of this handbook, many advances have occurred in the science of medicine, advances which have involved both material alterations in the classification of disease, and some extension of the size of the volume. Thus the section upon specific infections has been subdivided in accordance with the varying etiology of its diseases, and new articles upon *Bacillus coli* infections and pneumococcus infections have been added to it; a note on vitamins prefaces the description of deficiency diseases; caisson disease has been transferred to the section on diseases due to physical agents; the article on diabetes mellitus has been almost completely rewritten, and diabetes insipidus is transferred to the section on the pituitary body; the article on jaundice has been materially altered in the light of recent work, and a description of acholuric jaundice is given under diseases of the blood; the section on cardiac diseases has been considerably enlarged; and in the section on nervous diseases there are new articles upon subacute combined degeneration of the cord, spino-cerebellar ataxia, encephalitis lethargica, progressive lenticular degeneration, and apraxia. Every part of the book has undergone careful revision, and it is hoped that it may be found as nearly as possible up to date.

The author desires as formerly to express his thanks,

and those of the publishers, to Messrs Hawksley & Sons for the loan of blocks in illustration of the sphygmomanometer and the polygraph; to Messrs Baillière, Tindall, & Cox for a print showing the position of the cardiac valves; to Mr Edward Arnold for an illustration showing the position of the heart and great vessels; to Messrs J. & A. Churchill for a diagram of an electrocardiogram and for a diagram illustrating the position of the images in diplopia; and to Messrs Shaw & Sons for an illustration of the venous pulse.

His cordial thanks are also due to the publishers, and especially to Mr J. M'Donald Walker, for their helpfulness in the preparation of the volume.

WILLIAM R. JACK.

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CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| I. FEVER - - - - - | 1 |
| Physiology of Fever - - - - - | 4 |
| Types of Fever - - - - - | 5 |
| The Typhoid State - - - - - | 9 |
| Delirium - - - - - | 9 |
| General Treatment of Fever - - - - - | 10 |
| II. IMMUNITY - - - - - | 13 |
| Theories of Immunity - - - - - | 16 |
| Vaccine Treatment - - - - - | 18 |
| III. SPECIFIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES - - - - - | 21 |
| A. BACTERIAL DISEASES - - - - - | 22 |
| Enteric or Typhoid Fever - - - - - | 22 |
| Paratyphoid Fevers - - - - - | 27 |
| Bacillus Coli Infections - - - - - | 29 |
| Septic Infections - - - - - | 30 |
| Erysipelas - - - - - | 33 |
| Gonococcus Infection - - - - - | 35 |
| Pneumococcus Infections - - - - - | 37 |
| Diphtheria - - - - - | 37 |
| Plague - - - - - | 44 |
| Cholera - - - - - | 47 |
| Dysentery - - - - - | 50 |
| Mediterranean Fever (Malta Fever) - - - - - | 55 |
| Pertussis, or Whooping-Cough - - - - - | 56 |
| Influenza - - - - - | 59 |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever - - - - - | 61 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis - - - - - | 65 |
| Anthrax - - - - - | 68 |
| Glanders - - - - - | 70 |
| Tetanus - - - - - | 72 |
| Tuberculosis - - - - - | 74 |
| Leprosy - - - - - | 78 |
| B. DISEASES DUE TO NON-BACTERIAL FUNGI (MYCOSES) - - - - - | 81 |
| Actinomycosis - - - - - | 81 |
| C. PROTOZOAN INFECTIONS - - - - - | 83 |
| Malaria - - - - - | 83 |
| Trypanosomiasis - - - - - | 90 |

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| Leishmaniasis (Kala-azar) - - - - - | 91 |
| Relapsing Fever - - - - - | 93 |
| Yellow Fever - - - - - | 95 |
| Spirochætosis Ictero-hæmorrhagica - - - - - | 97 |
| Syphilis - - - - - | 98 |
| Yaws - - - - - | 107 |
| D. INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF DOUBTFUL OR UNKNOWN | |
| ETIOLOGY - - - - - | 108 |
| Variola, or Small-pox - - - - - | 108 |
| Vaccination in Man - - - - - | 113 |
| Varicella, or Chicken-pox - - - - - | 114 |
| Scarlatina, or Scarlet Fever - - - - - | 115 |
| Morbilli, or Measles - - - - - | 120 |
| Rubella, or German Measles - - - - - | 122 |
| Typhus Fever - - - - - | 123 |
| Mumps - - - - - | 125 |
| Glandular Fever - - - - - | 127 |
| Dengue - - - - - | 127 |
| Rheumatic Fever - - - - - | 129 |
| Foot and Mouth Disease - - - - - | 132 |
| Hydrophobia - - - - - | 133 |
| Trench Fever - - - - - | 135 |
| IV. DISEASES OF METABOLISM AND DEFICIENCY DISEASES - - - - - | 138 |
| Gout - - - - - | 138 |
| Diabetes Mellitus - - - - - | 143 |
| Vitamins - - - - - | 154 |
| Rickets - - - - - | 154 |
| Beri-beri - - - - - | 157 |
| Scurvy - - - - - | 159 |
| Pellagra - - - - - | 161 |
| V. DISEASES DUE TO PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL AGENTS - - - - - | 162 |
| Sunstroke - - - - - | 162 |
| Caisson Disease - - - - - | 163 |
| Alcoholism - - - - - | 164 |
| Morphinism and Cocainism - - - - - | 166 |
| Lead Poisoning - - - - - | 167 |
| Arsenical Poisoning - - - - - | 170 |
| Food Poisoning - - - - - | 171 |
| VI. DISEASES OF THE ALIMENTARY TRACT - - - - - | 173 |
| 1. The Mouth - - - - - | 173 |
| Stomatitis - - - - - | 173 |
| Acute Tonsillitis - - - - - | 176 |
| Chronic Tonsillitis - - - - - | 177 |
| Vincent's Angina - - - - - | 178 |
| 2. The Œsophagus - - - - - | 178 |
| Œsophagitis - - - - - | 178 |

CONTENTS

ix

PAGE

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Stricture of the Œsophagus | - | - | - | - | 179 |
| Tumours of the Œsophagus | - | - | - | - | 180 |
| Dilatation of the Œsophagus | - | - | - | - | 180 |
| Œsophageal Diverticula | - | - | - | - | 181 |
| 3. The Stomach | - | - | - | - | 181 |
| Examination of the Stomach Contents | - | - | - | - | 181 |
| Acute Gastritis | - | - | - | - | 185 |
| Chronic Gastritis | - | - | - | - | 186 |
| Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer | - | - | - | - | 187 |
| Cancer of the Stomach | - | - | - | - | 194 |
| Hæmatemesis | - | - | - | - | 198 |
| Dilatation of the Stomach | - | - | - | - | 200 |
| Hypertrophic Stenosis of the Pylorus | - | - | - | - | 202 |
| Nervous Dyspepsia | - | - | - | - | 202 |
| 4. The Intestines | - | - | - | - | 205 |
| Enteritis | - | - | - | - | 205 |
| Appendicitis | - | - | - | - | 210 |
| Intestinal Obstruction | - | - | - | - | 214 |
| Tumours of the Intestines | - | - | - | - | 217 |
| Diarrhœa | - | - | - | - | 219 |
| Constipation | - | - | - | - | 220 |
| VII. DISEASES DUE TO METAZOAN PARASITES | - | - | - | - | 223 |
| Cestoda | - | - | - | - | 223 |
| Tænia Solium | - | - | - | - | 225 |
| Tænia Mediocanellata | - | - | - | - | 226 |
| Dibothriocephalus Latus | - | - | - | - | 227 |
| Tænia Echinococcus | - | - | - | - | 229 |
| Nematoda | - | - | - | - | 231 |
| Trichina Spiralis | - | - | - | - | 231 |
| Ascaris Lumbricoides | - | - | - | - | 233 |
| Oxyuris Vermicularis | - | - | - | - | 234 |
| Ankylostoma Duodenale | - | - | - | - | 235 |
| Filaria Sanguinis Hominis | - | - | - | - | 236 |
| Trematoda | - | - | - | - | 238 |
| Bilharzia Hæmatobia | - | - | - | - | 238 |
| VIII. DISEASES OF THE LIVER | - | - | - | - | 240 |
| Functions of the Liver | - | - | - | - | 240 |
| Jaundice | - | - | - | - | 243 |
| Icterus Neonatorum | - | - | - | - | 248 |
| Acute Yellow Atrophy | - | - | - | - | 248 |
| Abscesses in the Liver | - | - | - | - | 250 |
| Cirrhosis of the Liver | - | - | - | - | 252 |
| Syphilis of the Liver | - | - | - | - | 257 |
| Cancer of the Liver | - | - | - | - | 258 |
| Hydatid Disease | - | - | - | - | 260 |
| Lardaceous or Amyloid Liver | - | - | - | - | 261 |
| Fatty Liver | - | - | - | - | 262 |
| Passive Congestion of the Liver | - | - | - | - | 263 |

| | PAGE |
|---|---------|
| IX. DISEASES OF THE GALL BLADDER AND BILE-DUCTS - | 263 |
| Cholecystitis - - - - - | 263 |
| Cholangitis - - - - - | 264 |
| Tumours - - - - - | 265 |
| Gall-stones - - - - - | 265 |
| X. DISEASES OF THE PANCREAS - - - - - | 267 |
| XI. DISEASES OF THE PERITONEUM - - - - - | 270 |
| Ascites - - - - - | 270 |
| Acute Peritonitis - - - - - | 273 |
| Chronic Peritonitis - - - - - | 276 |
| XII. DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM - - - - - | 279 |
| 1. The Heart - - - - - | 279 |
| Physical Examination - - - - - | 280 |
| Pericarditis - - - - - | 288 |
| Disorders of the Cardiac Rhythm - - - - - | 292 |
| Hypertrophy of the Heart - - - - - | 298 |
| Dilatation of the Heart - - - - - | 300 |
| Myocarditis and Myocardial Degenerations - - - - - | 301 |
| Acute Endocarditis - - - - - | 305 |
| Chronic Endocarditis - - - - - | 309 |
| Effects of Chronic Valvular Disease - - - - - | 310 |
| Cardiac Failure - - - - - | 313 |
| Valvular Lesions of the Heart - - - - - | 314 |
| Angina Pectoris - - - - - | 324 |
| 2. The Arteries - - - - - | 328 |
| Arterio-sclerosis - - - - - | 328 |
| Aneurysm - - - - - | 330 |
| Aneurysm of the Thoracic Aorta - - - - - | 331 |
| Aneurysm of the Abdominal Aorta - - - - - | 337 |
| XIII. DISEASES OF THE BLOOD - - - - - | 338 |
| Examination of the Blood - - - - - | 338 |
| Anæmia - - - - - | 340 |
| Symptomatic Anæmia - - - - - | 341 |
| Chlorosis - - - - - | 342 |
| Pernicious Anæmia - - - - - | 344 |
| Leukæmia - - - - - | 347 |
| Lymphadenoma - - - - - | 350 |
| Status Lymphaticus - - - - - | 352 |
| Hæmophilia - - - - - | 352 |
| Acholuric Jaundice - - - - - | 353 |
| Paroxysmal Hæmoglobinuria - - - - - | 355 |
| Purpura - - - - - | 355 |

| | | |
|------|---------------------------------------|-----|
| XIV. | DISEASES OF THE ENDOCRINE GLANDS | 358 |
| 1. | The Thyroid Gland | 358 |
| | Myxœdema | 358 |
| | Goitre | 361 |
| | Exophthalmic Goitre | 362 |
| 2. | The Suprarenal Glands | 365 |
| | Addison's Disease | 365 |
| 3. | The Spleen | 367 |
| | Movable Spleen | 367 |
| | Splenic Anæmia | 368 |
| | Splenic Tumour | 369 |
| 4. | The Pituitary Body | 369 |
| | Acromegaly | 369 |
| | Diabetes Insipidus | 371 |
| | | |
| XV. | DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM | 373 |
| | Examination of the Respiratory System | 374 |
| 1. | The Larynx | 380 |
| | Acute Laryngitis | 380 |
| | Œdema of the Glottis | 381 |
| | Chronic Laryngitis | 382 |
| | Laryngeal Tuberculosis | 382 |
| | Laryngeal Syphilis | 383 |
| | Perichondritis | 383 |
| | Laryngeal Tumours | 384 |
| | Laryngismus Stridulus | 384 |
| | Laryngeal Paralysis | 385 |
| 2. | The Bronchi | 387 |
| | Acute Bronchitis | 387 |
| | Chronic Bronchitis | 389 |
| | Bronchiectasis | 391 |
| | Asthma | 392 |
| 3. | The Lungs | 395 |
| | Emphysema | 395 |
| | Collapse of the Lung | 397 |
| | Œdema of the Lung | 398 |
| | Congestion of the Lungs | 399 |
| | Hæmoptysis and Infarction | 400 |
| | Lobar Pneumonia | 401 |
| | Bronchopneumonia | 407 |
| | Interstitial Pneumonia | 408 |
| | Tuberculosis of the Lungs | 410 |
| | Gangrene and Abscess of the Lung | 419 |
| | Tumours of the Lung | 420 |
| 4. | The Pleura | 421 |
| | Pleurisy and Empyema | 421 |
| | Pneumothorax | 428 |
| | Hydrothorax | 430 |
| 5. | The Mediastinum | 430 |
| | Mediastinal Tumours | 430 |

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| XVI. DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS - - - - - | 432 |
| Examination of the Urine - - - - - | 432 |
| Albuminuria - - - - - | 441 |
| Hæmaturia - - - - - | 444 |
| Uræmia - - - - - | 445 |
| Acute Bright's Disease - - - - - | 447 |
| Chronic Bright's Disease - - - - - | 451 |
| Lardaceous (Amyloid) Disease of the Kidney - - - - - | 458 |
| Pyelitis, Pyelonephritis, and Pyonephrosis - - - - - | 459 |
| Hydronephrosis - - - - - | 461 |
| Renal Calculus - - - - - | 462 |
| Renal Tuberculosis - - - - - | 465 |
| Renal Tumours - - - - - | 465 |
| Movable Kidney - - - - - | 466 |
| XVII. DISEASES OF THE FIBROUS TISSUES, MUSCLES, AND JOINTS | 468 |
| Fibrositis - - - - - | 468 |
| Myositis - - - - - | 469 |
| The Muscular Dystrophies - - - - - | 470 |
| Thomsen's Disease - - - - - | 473 |
| Myasthenia Gravis - - - - - | 473 |
| Rheumatoid Arthritis - - - - - | 475 |
| Intermittent Hydrarthrosis - - - - - | 478 |
| Hypertrophic Pulmonary Osteoarthropathy - - - - - | 479 |
| XVIII. DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM - - - - - | 480 |
| 1. Introductory - - - - - | 480 |
| The Neuron - - - - - | 480 |
| The Spinal Cord - - - - - | 481 |
| The Motor Path - - - - - | 484 |
| The Sensory Path - - - - - | 485 |
| 2. General Symptomatology - - - - - | 489 |
| 3. Diseases of the Spinal Cord and its Membranes - - - - - | 496 |
| Spinal Meningitis - - - - - | 496 |
| Meningeal Hæmorrhage - - - - - | 499 |
| Acute Myelitis - - - - - | 501 |
| Syringomyelia - - - - - | 503 |
| Landry's Paralysis - - - - - | 503 |
| Compression Paraplegia - - - - - | 504 |
| Tumours of the Cord - - - - - | 505 |
| System Diseases of the Cord - - - - - | 506 |
| Primary Spastic Paraplegia - - - - - | 507 |
| Progressive Muscular Atrophy - - - - - | 508 |
| Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis - - - - - | 511 |
| Subacute Combined Degeneration - - - - - | 512 |
| Hereditary Ataxia - - - - - | 514 |
| Spino-cerebellar Ataxia - - - - - | 515 |
| Disseminated Sclerosis - - - - - | 515 |

CONTENTS

xiii

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| 4. Syphilis of the Nervous System - - - | 519 |
| Locomotor Ataxia - - - | 519 |
| General Paralysis of the Insane - - - | 524 |
| Cerebral and Spinal Syphilis - - - | 526 |
| 5. Diseases of the Medulla Oblongata - - - | 528 |
| Progressive Bulbar Paralysis - - - | 529 |
| 6. Diseases of the Brain - - - | 532 |
| Anatomy of the Brain - - - | 532 |
| Blood Supply of the Brain - - - | 534 |
| Functions of the Brain - - - | 536 |
| Cerebral Meningitis - - - | 541 |
| Hydrocephalus - - - | 545 |
| Sinus Thrombosis - - - | 547 |
| Encephalitis - - - | 548 |
| Abscess of the Brain - - - | 549 |
| Cerebral Palsies of Infancy and Childhood - - - | 551 |
| Progressive Lenticular Degeneration - - - | 552 |
| Paralysis Agitans - - - | 553 |
| Cerebral Hæmorrhage - - - | 555 |
| Cerebral Embolism and Thrombosis - - - | 558 |
| Hemiplegia - - - | 560 |
| Tumours of the Brain - - - | 563 |
| Aphasia - - - | 566 |
| Apraxia - - - | 569 |
| 7. Diseases of Peripheral Nerves - - - | 569 |
| Cranial Nerves - - - | 569 |
| Olfactory Nerves - - - | 570 |
| Optic Nerves - - - | 570 |
| Third, Fourth, and Sixth Nerves - - - | 573 |
| Fifth Nerve - - - | 579 |
| Seventh Nerve - - - | 581 |
| Eighth Nerve - - - | 584 |
| Ninth to Twelfth Nerves - - - | 586 |
| Spinal Nerves - - - | 587 |
| Phrenic Nerve - - - | 588 |
| Brachial Plexus - - - | 588 |
| Musculo-spiral Nerve - - - | 589 |
| Sciatic Nerve - - - | 589 |
| Neuritis - - - | 590 |
| Multiple Neuritis - - - | 590 |
| 8. Functional Diseases of the Nervous System - - - | 592 |
| Neuralgia - - - | 592 |
| Migraine - - - | 594 |
| Epilepsy - - - | 595 |
| Jacksonian Epilepsy - - - | 599 |
| Infantile Convulsions - - - | 600 |
| Tetany - - - | 601 |
| Hysteria - - - | 602 |
| Neurasthenia - - - | 606 |
| Chorea - - - | 607 |
| Spasmodic Torticollis - - - | 609 |
| Raynaud's Disease - - - | 610 |
| INDEX - - - | 613 |

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

| FIG. | | PAGE |
|------|--|------|
| 1. | Continued Fever : Case of Acute Miliary Tuberculosis - - - | 6 |
| 2. | Remittent Fever : Case of Phthisis Pulmonalis - - - | 6 |
| 3. | Intermittent Fever : Case of Tertian Ague - - - | 7 |
| 4. | Gradual Rise of Temperature at Onset of Enteric Fever - - - | 7 |
| 5. | Decline of Fever by Crisis : Case of Lobar Pneumonia - - - | 7 |
| 6. | Decline of Fever by Lysis : Case of Broncho-pneumonia - - - | 7 |
| 7. | Riva-Rocci Sphygmomanometer : Martin's Modification - - - | 285 |
| 8. | Mackenzie's Clinical Polygraph - - - - - | 286 |
| 9. | Polygraphic Curve showing the Waves of the Venous Pulse - - - | 287 |
| 10. | Diagram of Jugular and Electrocardiographic Tracing - - - | 288 |
| 11. | Pulsus Alternans - - - - - | 295 |
| 12. | Pulse of Aortic Stenosis - - - - - | 319 |
| 13. | Pulse of Aortic Regurgitation - - - - - | 319 |
| 14. | Irregular Pulse of Mitral Regurgitation - - - - - | 320 |
| 15. | Pulse of High Blood-Pressure, from a Case of Bright's Disease - - - | 452 |
| 16. | Descending Tracts in the Spinal Cord - - - - - | 482 |
| 17. | Ascending Tracts in the Spinal Cord - - - - - | 483 |
| 18. | Position of Tracts of Fibres in the Internal Capsule - - - | 484 |
| 19. | The Motor Decussation in the Bulb - - - - - | 485 |
| 20. | Connections of Nerve Fibres in the Spinal Cord - - - - - | 486 |
| 21. | The Sensory Decussation in the Bulb - - - - - | 487 |
| 22. | Connections of the Crus with the Basal Ganglia - - - - - | 488 |
| 23. | Connections of Posterior Root-Fibres with Cells of the Cord - - - | 490 |
| 24. | Blood Supply of the Internal Capsule - - - - - | 535 |
| 25. | Localisation of Cortical Motor Areas - - - - - | 538 |
| 26. | Localisation of Cortical Sensory Areas : Outer Surface of Cerebrum - - - | 538 |
| 27. | Localisation of Cortical Sensory Areas : Inner Surface of Cerebrum - - - | 538 |
| 28. | Effects of Lesions of the Motor Path at Different Levels - - - | 540 |
| 29. | Nuclei of Origin of the Cranial Nerves - - - - - | 575 |
| 30. | Images as seen in Diplopia from Paralysis of Ocular Muscles - - - | 577 |

FULL-PAGE ILLUSTRATIONS

| | |
|---|-----|
| The Heart and Great Vessels <i>in situ</i> - - - - - | 280 |
| Situation of Cardiac Valves and Areas of Valvular Murmurs - - - | 280 |
| Diagram to show the Results of Backward Pressure in Cardiac Disease - - - - - | 312 |
| The Optic and Visual Tracts - - - - - | 571 |



HANDBOOK OF MEDICINE

FEVER

A FEVER, as the term is semi-popularly used, is a disease characterised by a grave disturbance of the system attended with increase of temperature and diminished secretion, or, in other words, more fire and greater accumulation of ashes. Fever, in its more limited sense, means simply pyrexia or elevation of temperature, and hence the word has come to be used as the designation of the group of diseases of which pyrexia is one of the striking symptoms. But in this sense, as has just been said, the term is now semi-popular, and the group of ailments known as "the fevers" is to-day included in the wider class of *specific infectious diseases*. Their common feature is that they are due each to a special organism, for the most part bacterial, but sometimes (*e.g.*, malaria, sleeping sickness) caused by an animal parasite. In most of these diseases the causative organism has been identified, but the cause of others is still unknown, and these are classed among the specific infections from their general similarity to other members of the group.

Broadly speaking, the most common causes of fever are two: (1) central disturbance of the heat-regulating apparatus, as in certain forms of nervous disease (*e.g.*, lesions of the pons Varolii); (2) the presence in the blood-stream of poisons chiefly of bacterial origin (*toxins*), which act partly by the disturbance of metabolism they produce, and partly by their effects upon the heat-regulating mechanism in the central nervous system. It is with the latter cause that we have here to do. Suppose we put into a sterile bottle water, sugar, and barm; then close it with a sterile plug, and let it stand in a warm place. The result is the formation of CO_2 and alcohol, and of a sediment which sinks to the bottom. That is, the sugar has been changed by the living yeast cells into poisonous compounds. The process ultimately stops, as so many waste and poisonous products are formed that the yeast cells themselves are killed.

Again,—put into a bottle some sugar and a solution of nitrogenous material (say clear mutton broth), and instead of corking, expose it to the air. A scum soon forms on the surface, and on microscopic examination the scum is found to consist of masses of unicellular organisms (bacteria). The fluid itself, once innocuous, has at the same time become highly poisonous, and gives off a putrefactive odour.

In these two simple instances of fermentation, the one induced by cells introduced by human agency, the other by bacteria which entered from the air, we have examples of the formation of poisonous products as the result of the vital activity of low organisms. *In vitro* the process tends to spontaneous arrest, for the organisms are either ultimately killed by their own poisonous products (*toxins*), or die from exhaustion of their suitable food. But in the body, where their food supply is unlimited, and where their toxins are washed away by the lymph or by the blood-stream, there is no such natural limitation of the process, and its end is brought about by other means.

If we apply what has been said to the case of any specific fever of definite microbic origin, for instance enteric fever, it will be seen that a period must elapse after the settlement of the organisms, during which they multiply and elaborate their toxins, before definite symptoms are produced. The patient will probably in that stage have symptoms of the kind known as *malaise*. Later, when either the organisms or the toxins have got into the blood-stream, there occurs the protective reaction, accompanied by fever and by the specific symptoms of the particular disease. If the reaction is adequate, there follows a decline of symptoms, leading to convalescence. If it is inadequate, there follows an overcoming of the systemic resistance by the toxins, leading to the ultimate stage, still known as the “typhoid state” (for symptoms *see* p. 9), and finally to death.

Acute infective diseases arising from microbic infection therefore have—

1. A period of multiplication of the organisms, known as the period of *incubation*.
2. A period of onset, or initial stage, often attended by chilliness, rigor, or convulsions in children.
3. A period known as the *fastigium*, in which the circulation of the organisms or their toxins evokes the characteristic symptoms of the particular disease.

4. A period, in favourable cases, of decline, where the bodily resistance has overcome the microbic attack. The temperature may fall rapidly, by *crisis* (κρίσις, a decision), or more gradually, by *lysis* (λύσις, a remission).

It is not, however, only by the direct action of the organisms that fever is produced. They may be entirely localised to a particular part of the body, but the products of their vitality may enter the circulation, and cause, besides fever, the phenomena of toxæmia, on which many of the nervous and cardiac symptoms largely depend (delirium, cardiac irregularity or tachycardia, and so on). Fever, it may be more than plausibly said, is a reaction of the previously healthy body against the organisms of disease and their products, or, as Adami puts it, it is "the process of adaptation to such toxic agencies as can be neutralised by the development of antibodies." In many instances the reaction is excessive, and destroys by its over-exuberance the life it was meant to guard. But that it is a protective reaction is shown in the diseases of the old. In them, where the body has no longer its former resistant power, there is little or no fever, even in such affections as pneumonia. A young man, previously healthy, may regain perfect health after a pneumonic attack, although in its duration his temperature may have risen to 105° F. or more. An old man suffering from pneumonia may have a temperature but little elevated, and yet the disease almost inevitably tends towards death. In the one case the febrile reaction expresses the resistance of the body; in the other its absence expresses a failing power to combat either micro-organisms or their toxins.

It is evident from these remarks that fevers must be fought upon two lines :—

- (1) *Prophylaxis*. Microbic life does not flourish except upon suitable soils, which must be rendered unsuitable by measures of hygiene and sanitation. In the actual presence of an epidemic, those exposed to infection can sometimes be immunised by serum or vaccine treatment (*see* p. 18).
- (2) *Treatment*. (a) The body of a patient attacked by one of the fevers may be looked upon as a suitable soil for the specific organism. We must endeavour to make the soil *unsuitable* by such means as internal antiseptics, tonics, and stimulants; in other words, to

fight the bacteria by making the resistance greater, through increasing the vitality of the tissues.

- (b) In certain instances (diphtheria, etc.), by the use of antitoxins, we may administer a direct antidote to the toxins formed by the specific micro-organism. In other instances (pneumonia), by the use of vaccines, we may attempt to promote the bactericidal power of the blood.

To sum up: decrease if possible the number of bacteria attacking, and make the soil more resistant; also support the patient's strength till the fight is finished. Remember, too, that in the fight against the acute infections, victories have been won by prevention rather than by "cure." We owe it to sanitation and to better feeding, not to treatment, that typhus fever is now so uncommon.

Morbid Anatomy of Fever. General Changes.—Each specific infection has its special foci, but usually in addition to their peculiar lesions, *all, when fever is prolonged*, show more or less change in the tissues generally, viz.:—

1. Except in cholera, where there is an excessive loss of water from the bowel, the blood is dark and more fluid, and the red corpuscles are diminished in number. There is usually an increase in the number of leucocytes, known as leucocytosis. Small hæmorrhages may occur under the pleura and pericardium.

2. The muscles are dark-coloured, and show granular degeneration (*cloudy swelling*), or coagulative necrosis.

3. The heart is softened, perhaps dilated.

4. The viscera are softened and congested, the *spleen, liver, and kidneys* particularly. The liver and kidneys show cloudy swelling.

5. There may be congestion of the lungs, in part produced by position (*hypostatic congestion*).

Physiology of Fever.—In fever we have to do not only with the direct action of the toxins upon the tissues, but also with a disturbance of the heat-regulating mechanism, which in health maintains a balance between heat production and heat loss. An excess of heat production is the result, and this is usually accompanied by a diminished loss of heat. The excess

of heat production cannot be accounted for by increased intake and combustion of food-stuffs, for the diet in fevers is generally restricted ; and it must therefore be due to increased metabolic changes, *i.e.*, to increased disintegration of tissues, and consequent accumulation within the blood of the products of tissue waste, which are imperfectly excreted owing to the engorgement and cloudy swelling of the excretory glands. Thus the disturbance of the heat-regulating mechanism set up by the action of the toxins upon the centre or centres in the brain or cord, or in both, leads to a number of secondary disturbances, of which the following are the chief: The effect upon the central nervous system is shown in headache and delirium on the one hand, or in apathy, prostration, and ultimately coma on the other. All the excretions, except that of sweat, are diminished in amount. The skin may be dry, or sweating may be profuse, and in the latter instance, although there is great loss of heat by the skin, it is still overbalanced by the excessive heat production. The urine is scanty, high-coloured, often albuminous (*febrile albuminuria*), and toxic to animals. With a few notable exceptions (enteric, cholera) constipation is the rule. The flow of saliva is lessened, and the mouth and tongue are dry. The diminished secretion of the trachea and bronchi permits the readier passage towards the lungs of organisms from the mouth. Respiration is accelerated owing to the effect of high temperatures upon the respiratory centre. There is an increase in the rate of the heart, and the pulse may be either full or bounding, or soft and dicrotic.

Excessive heat production, along with diminished loss, is maintained as long as the causative toxin continues to circulate in the blood. It is this disproportion which accounts for the rigor so often occurring at the beginning of fevers, spasm of the cutaneous vessels producing a sense of cold, and giving rise to shivering by stimulation of the sensory nerves. The rigor ceases so soon as the muscular spasm producing it has caused sufficient heat to warm the skin. From similar causes, the apparent heat of the skin forms no true indication of the internal temperature. Thus in ague the skin is at first quite cold, while the rectal temperature is many degrees above normal.

Types of Fever.—In all but the most fleeting febrile disturbances, the fever assumes one of three types: It is continued, remittent, or intermittent. It is *continued* when the temperature

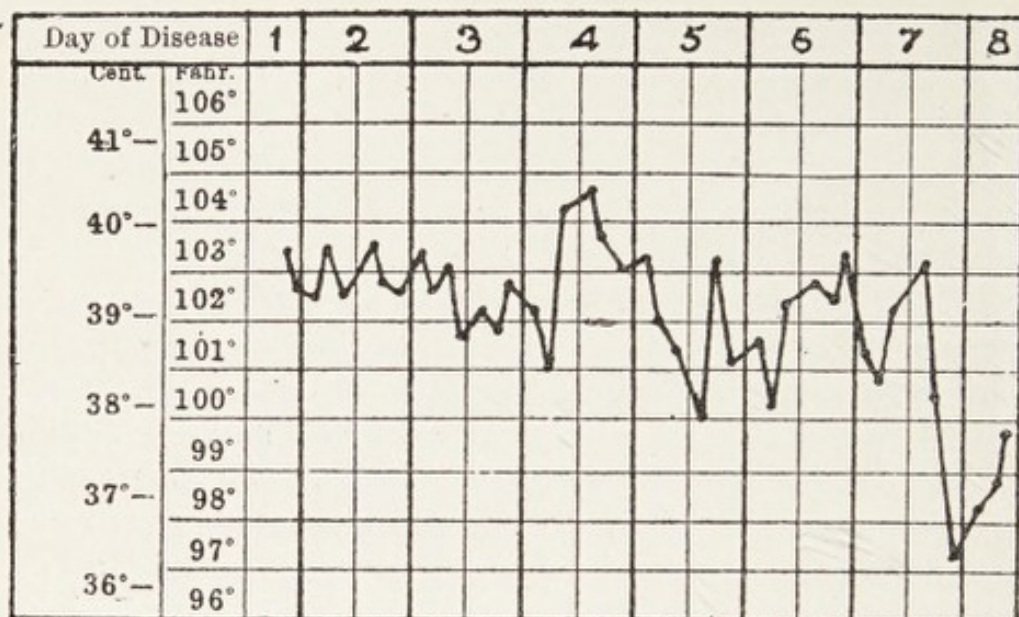


FIG. 1.

Continued fever; from a case of acute miliary tuberculosis.

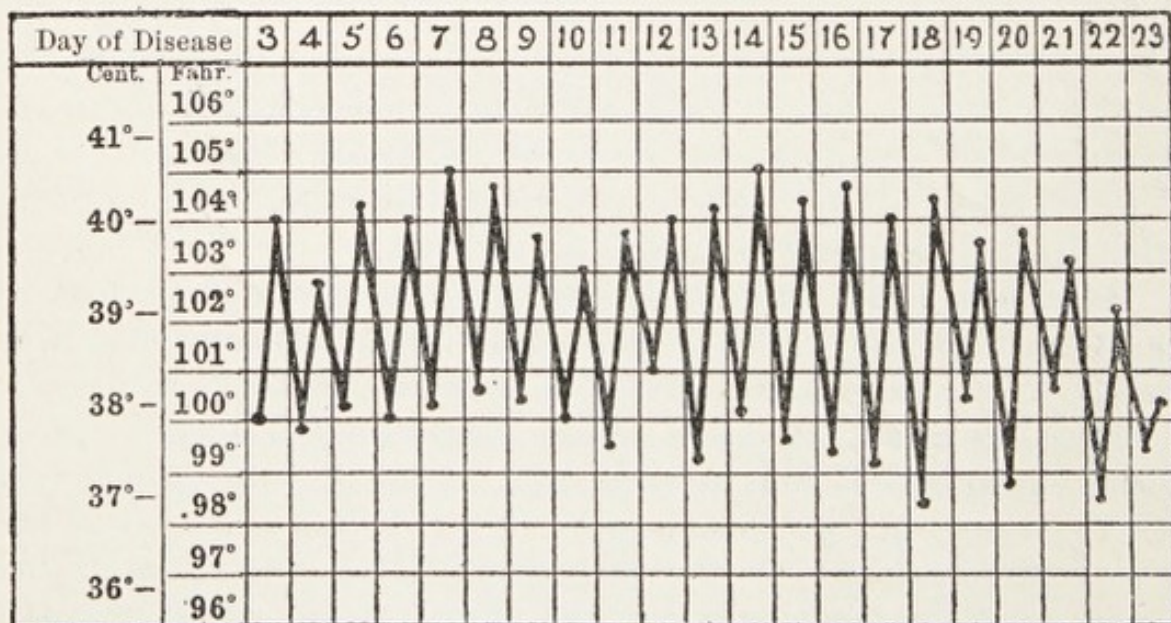


FIG. 2.

Remittent fever; from a case of phthisis pulmonalis.

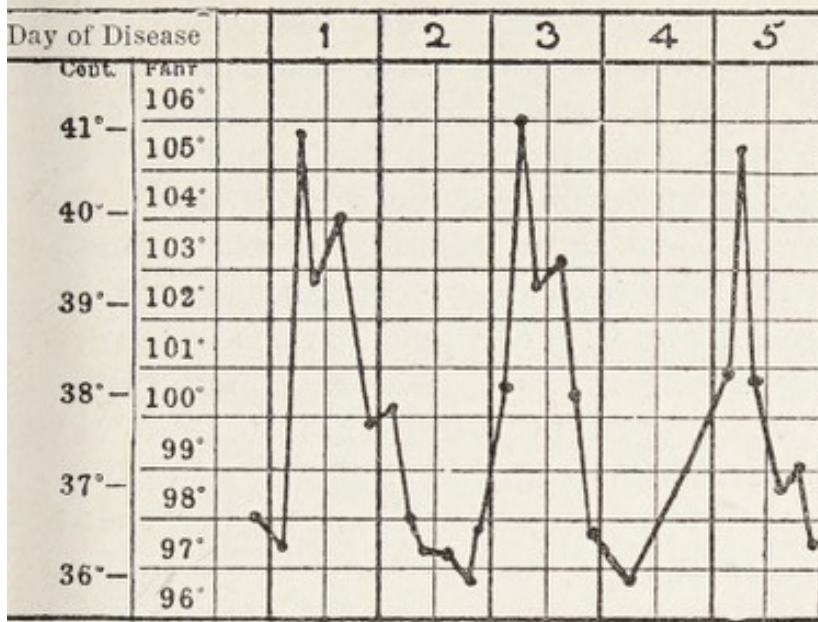


FIG. 3.

Intermittent fever; from a case of tertian ague.

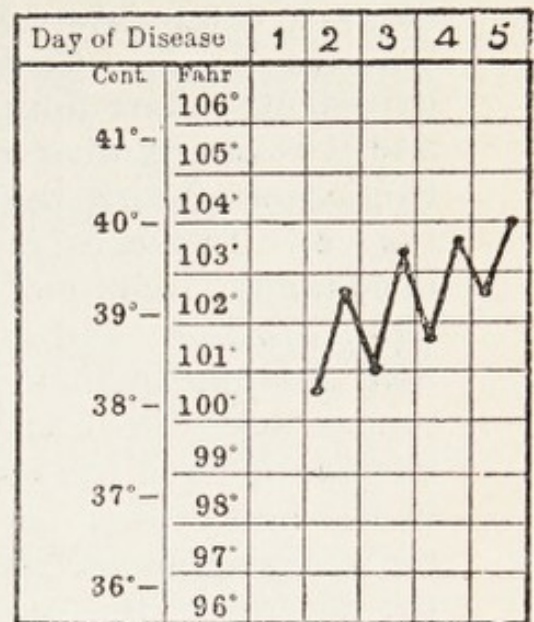


FIG. 4.

Gradual rise of temperature at onset of enteric fever.

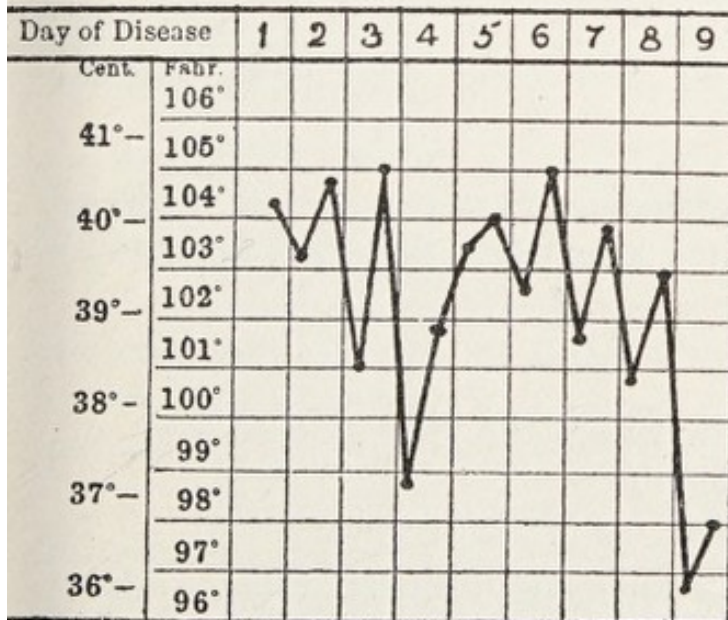


FIG. 5.

Decline of fever by crisis; from a case of lobar pneumonia.

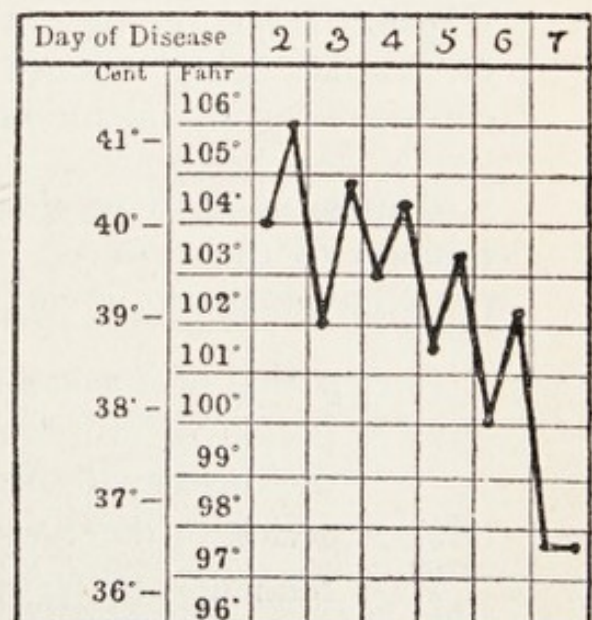


FIG. 6.

Decline of fever by lysis; from a case of broncho-pneumonia.

throughout the illness remains well above normal, and the daily *range* of temperature is not much greater than that of health (fig. 1); it is *remittent* when, although the temperature remains persistently above normal, there is a wide diurnal range (fig. 2); and it is *intermittent* when, at some period in the course of the twenty-four hours, the temperature falls to normal or below it (fig. 3). Instances of continued fever are found in typhus, pneumonia, small-pox; of remittent in tuberculosis and the septic diseases; and of intermittent typically in malaria. Fever may intermit periodically as in malaria, where a paroxysm occurs once in each twenty-four or forty-eight hours, or irregularly as in pyæmia. In most instances, and very typically in the hectic fever of tuberculosis, the evening is higher than the morning temperature, as it is in health; but occasionally the reverse is the case. The onset of fever may be sudden, the temperature rising in a few hours to many degrees above normal (pneumonia, ague), or gradual, the evening temperature rising a degree or so higher for several days in succession (fig. 4), as in enteric. Similarly the decline of fever may be by *crisis* (fig. 5), the temperature falling rapidly to the normal level or below it, and remaining subnormal for some time (pneumonia, relapsing fever), or by *lysis* (fig. 6), the fall being gradual and the normal being reached only after some days have elapsed (enteric, broncho-pneumonia).

Course.—Most of the specific fevers have certain features common to their course. Thus after the period of incubation we may distinguish in each—

1. A period of invasion.
2. A period of eruption, in which the special symptoms of the disease are prominent.
3. A period of defervescence, leading to recovery.
4. A tendency to complications and sequelæ more or less characteristic of each disease.

All of them have more than one type; always at least two—the simple and the severe,—while some, such as small-pox and scarlet fever, have many forms.

In all of them, in grave cases, the patient may in the later stages pass into what is known as the *Typhoid State*, of which, in order to avoid repetitions under the head of each disease, a

description may be given at this point. While enteric fever was more commonly known as "typhoid," the term was unfortunate; but there is now less possibility of confusion between the "state" and the "fever."

Characters of the Typhoid State.—1. The previously more acute symptoms decline in intensity.

2. The pulse becomes rapid and soft.

3. The tongue is dry and brown, tremulous, and protruded with difficulty.

4. Sordes (a mixture of dried mucus and bacteria) collect around the teeth and lips.

5. Muscular prostration increases; tremors and subsultus tendinum appear.

6. The patient becomes semi-comatose. Though the eyes are open and the pupils dilated, he does not see (*coma vigil*).

7. He picks at the bed-clothes (*carphologia*), and lies in a state of muttering delirium.

8. He tends to slip down to the foot of the bed.

This condition becomes well marked in *all* the malignant forms of fevers, and is very well seen in small-pox, typhus, typhoid, pneumonia, etc.

Delirium, being a very common accompaniment of the febrile state, may also be mentioned here. There are three types commonly met with—

1. Raving maniacal delirium, usually associated with great violence and extreme muscular activity.

2. Low muttering delirium of the later stages, in which the patient lies still and sunk in bed, and babbles incoherently.

3. Delirium tremens may be met with in any fever complicated by alcoholism, or apart altogether from the fevers. It is characterised in particular by restlessness, tremor, and hallucinations of sight and hearing.

In the first case we may employ sedatives or depressants, as bromide of potassium, either alone or with chloral hydrate, opium, or antipyretics to control the fever which causes the delirium. The effect of the last, however, is very transient, and often accompanied by cardiac depression. Ice to the shaved head and cold sponging are also useful.

The following formula may prove useful, where the heart is not already weakened :—

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| R Chloral Hydrat. | - | - | - | - | - | ℥ss (grm. 2·0) |
| Potass. Brom. | - | - | - | - | - | gr. xl (grm. 2·5) |
| Aq. ad | - | - | - | - | - | ℥ij (cc. 60·0) |

One half at once, the other half repeated in one hour if required.

The second type must be met by stimulants, as carbonate of ammonia or alcohol in full doses either by the mouth or in the form of enema. If the temperature is high, such antipyretics as quinine in full doses should be used. We may indeed sum up in similar words the *treatment of the typhoid state*.

Delirium tremens is to be treated by careful nursing, frequent giving of fluid food, and the use of diaphoretics, sedatives, or hypnotics. Bromide, or bromide and chloral, or paraldehyde in large doses may be used, and if they fail, hyoscine injections beginning with not more than $\frac{1}{200}$ gr. (grm. 0·00032).

GENERAL TREATMENT OF FEVER

I. Medicinal.—The indications for treatment are the following :—

1. Where possible, attack the exciting cause (use of quinine in malaria, etc.).
2. Diminish the heat production.
3. Increase heat loss.
4. Help the secretory organs.
5. Maintain the strength of the heart.
6. Treat complications as they arise.

Under the second heading we may employ antipyretics—

- Drugs—(1) Antipyrin group.
 (2) Salicylates.
 (3) Quinine.
 (4) Aconite.
 (5) Stimulants.

Of these, such as do not depress the heart are to be preferred, and should generally be given only when the fever is prolonged

or excessively high. Cold sponging is comforting, and useful in moderate degrees of fever. In hyperpyrexia cold packs, or better, the cold bath must be used. The patient is immersed in a bath at about blood-heat, and the temperature is gradually reduced to 60° F. by the addition of cold water. When the patient's temperature has fallen to 101° F. he is put back to bed. His pulse must be watched, and stimulants should be at hand.

Under the third heading we may choose diaphoretics, such as liq. ammon. acet. and the alkaline group generally. Though these may stimulate the action of the skin and increase the flow of urine, they have little or no effect on the course of the disease.

To help the secreting organs—

- (1) Diminish the amount of nitrogenous food, and substitute milk and farinaceous material.
- (2) Keep the bowels moderately open.

And lastly, to support the heart, we may employ digitalis, strophanthus, or strychnine. The last, although its action upon the heart is questioned, is of undoubted value in cardiac failure. Diffusible stimulants may also be used. Alcohol in divided doses is often of value in the later stages. Camphor (10 per cent. solution in olive oil: dose 20 minims or more, given intramuscularly) is also used as a cardiac stimulant.

No routine treatment can be prescribed, because of the many complications and peculiarities of each case. In most cases we may start with a purge, if there be no contra-indication. Calomel, gr. iii-iv. (grm. 0.2-0.25), followed in four hours by a saline or a dose of senna, is a useful aperient. This may be combined, in mild cases, with a mixture such as the following, taken every four hours:—

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|--------|------------|
| R Liq. Ammon. Acet. | - | - | - | - | ℥ij | (cc. 7.5) |
| Spt. Ætheris Nitrosi | - | - | - | - | ℥ss | (cc. 2.0) |
| Potass. Citratis | - | - | - | - | gr. xx | (grm. 1.3) |
| Aq. Menth. Pip. ad | - | - | - | - | ℥ss | (cc. 15.0) |

This keeps the skin and kidneys acting, while the citrate renders the urates less irritating.

Slight degrees of fever do not, however, require active treatment, as they are simply the expression of the protective reaction of the body against the cause of the disease.

II. Hygiene.—Drugs are frequently the least important factor in the successful treatment of fever, and in all cases their action is assisted by careful diet and strict attention to hygienic principles.

The essentials are—

1. A large well-ventilated room, with blinds which may be so arranged as to let in plenty of light when wanted, or to exclude light if necessary.

2. An absence of unnecessary furniture, which only serves to form a nidus for retention of the germs. Carpets and curtains are particularly objectionable, and should be removed in any serious fever.

3. A well-trained, unofficious nurse.

4. Absolute cleanliness.

5. Strict attention to physician's orders.

6. Disinfection of all excreta.

Alcohol in Disease.—The great diminution in the use of alcohol in disease, which has characterised recent practice in every country, has been attended by a diminution in mortality, and the old routine administration of alcohol in fevers cannot be too strongly condemned. Many cases recover perfectly without a drop of alcohol from onset to convalescence. But the rigorous prohibition of it in every case would seem to be almost as unreasonable. In those who have for long been accustomed to its use in health, its sudden withdrawal in illness may lead to anorexia, and hence to lowered vitality. There are, too, conditions of emergency in which the temporary use of alcohol may tide over a pressing danger. The individual symptoms must be studied in every case, and to-day, as when it was written, Brunton's summary applies :—If the alcohol tends to bring the patient nearer his normal condition, it is doing good ; if it takes him away farther from his healthy condition, it is doing harm. For instance, if alcohol renders the tongue moist, slows the *quicken*ed pulse or the hurried breathing, if it renders the skin cooler when hot and dry, and if it lessens delirium and brings on sleep, then use it. If the converse happens, then withhold it, whether in the typhoid state or in any other condition.

Alcohol is chiefly indicated during the small hours of the morning, when attendants are sleepy ; the fire perhaps gets low, and the external temperature is generally lowered.

IMMUNITY¹

The subject of immunity has such important relationships to that of the treatment, both preventive and curative, and even in some instances to that of the diagnosis of the specific infections, that a brief account of it is necessary in this place. We have seen (p. 2) that *in vitro* the multiplication of bacteria tends ultimately to spontaneous arrest, either through the toxins they produce or through exhaustion of their appropriate food; but we have also seen that these methods of arrest do not exist in the body. Yet many people recover from bacterial infections, and some, though constantly exposed to a particular disease, never take it, and are said to be *immune* to it. Such immunity to a particular organism or its toxins is spoken of as *natural immunity*. Again, in many instances, those who have recovered from one of the specific infections are protected against a second attack, and although in some of the infections no lasting protection is conferred, there must be produced at least a brief period of immunity to render recovery possible at all. In these instances we speak of *acquired immunity*. The protection thus obtained can also be brought about artificially, and of this *artificial immunity* there are two varieties, *active* and *passive*.

Active immunity may be produced (*a*) by repeated injections of attenuated living cultures of the particular organism, or of less than fatal doses of the non-attenuated organism, (*b*) by repeated injections of the dead organisms, and (*c*) by similar injections of less than fatal doses of the *toxins* of the organism, *i.e.*, the fluid portions of the culture, from which the organisms have been separated by filtration. These doses being gradually increased, or more and more virulent organisms being used, a high degree of immunity is reached, and lasts for some considerable time.

Passive immunity is obtained by injecting into another animal the serum of one which has already been actively immunised by one or other of these methods. It is comparatively transitory, and hence an *antisera* of this nature is most likely to *cure* if injected along with, or very soon after, the

¹ This résumé of the subject is largely based upon the admirable chapter on Immunity in Muir and Ritchie's "Manual of Bacteriology."

entrance of the microbe or toxin that it combats. If the serum injected is derived from an animal actively immunised by the injection of toxins, it in turn protects against these toxins, and hence is known as *antitoxic serum*, but it has little or no bactericidal effect; if, on the other hand, the active immunity has been caused by the injection of living organisms, the serum has little antitoxic effect, but protects against these organisms (*antibacterial serum*).

Each of these classes of serum obviously differs from a normal serum in containing either (a) a substance which acts as an antidote to the toxin, or (b) a substance which is antagonistic to the organism. Such substances are known as *anti-substances* or *antibodies*, and the toxins or organisms which give rise to them as *antigens*. Besides the toxins, there are many varieties of antigens, probably all, like the toxins, of a proteid nature. Inorganic or alkaloidal poisons are not antigens, *i.e.*, they do not cause the formation of antibodies; but the relation of toxin and antitoxin is like that between an ordinary poison and its antidote in so far that, when they meet, they form an innocuous *chemical* combination. Whether this combination is firm, as Ehrlich maintains, or loose and reversible, as others hold, is for us of secondary importance; the point is that it is *chemical*, not vital, and further, that it is *specific*, *i.e.*, each toxin has its corresponding antitoxin. All the evidence goes to show that the antitoxin is a *normal product of the cells of the body*. It is not newly formed in response to the stimulus of the toxin, but when the toxin enters the body, it is formed by the cells *in increased quantity*, and by them *thrown off into the blood*, where it meets with and neutralises the toxin.

But in many instances the toxin is not separable from the organism, not extra-cellular but endo-cellular, bound up with the body of the bacterium while it is alive. Hence the bacterium itself must be attacked. The case of *antibacterial serum* is more complicated than that of antitoxic serum. In such sera we have to do not only with the formation of two classes of protective substances, one having a direct bactericidal action, and the other (*opsonins*) preparing the organisms for readier absorption by the phagocytes, but also with the formation of substances (*agglutinins*) which produce clumping of the organisms, and of allied bodies (*precipitins*) which precipitate the bacterial substances from solution. Of these the bactericidal substances and the opsonins are of value in

prophylaxis and treatment, while the agglutinins, in certain instances, are utilised in diagnosis.

Bactericidal Substances.—When organisms are introduced into the body of an individual immunised against them they may rapidly swell up and dissolve (*lysogenesis*), or they may be simply killed. The same effect follows if they are introduced into a non-immunised individual along with a dose of immune serum. *In vitro* it does not occur in the presence of immune serum alone, but it does so when normal serum is added to the mixture. The immune serum remains active even after heating to 70° C., but if the normal serum added to it has been previously heated to 60° C., bacteriolysis does not occur. In each immune serum, therefore, there is developed a specific comparatively stable substance, the *immune body* or *amboceptor*, which exerts a bacteriolytic effect *only in the presence of an unstable substance existing in normal serum*, and known here and in Germany as *complement*, in France as *alexine* or *cytase*. The complement, which is a substance analogous to the ferments, is not increased during the process of immunisation, but through the immune body is probably brought in contact with, or linked up to, the organism to be attacked. From this linking action the immune body is also frequently known as *copula*.

Opsonins.—If a mixture of equal volumes of washed leucocytes and a thin emulsion of a bacterial culture in normal salt solution be incubated together at blood-heat and then examined under the microscope, it will be seen that the cells and the organisms remain separate. But if the mixture be one of equal volumes of leucocytes, bacterial emulsion, and normal serum, the polymorphonuclear leucocytes (*phagocytes*) will be seen to have englobed many of the organisms; and if an immune serum be used instead of a normal serum, the number so englobed will be largely increased. This is the process known as *phagocytosis*. Evidently it has been brought about by the addition of the serum, and it has been shown by Wright and Douglas that the substances in the serum to which it is due act, not by increasing the activity of the phagocytes, but by “sensitising” the bacteria so that the phagocytes more readily absorb them. They are, as it were, the caterers for the phagocytes, and hence have received the name of *opsonins* (ὀψωνέω, “I cater for”). Their abundance in the serum is increased by immunisation, and immune opsonin differs from normal opsonin in that it is not destroyed, as

normal opsonin is, by heating to 55° C., and in that it is specific, while normal opsonin is not. But both can act by themselves, without the presence of complement, and in this they differ from ordinary immune bodies. (*See infra*, Vaccine Treatment.)

Agglutinins.—These are bodies developed in an antiserum by virtue of which, when a small quantity of the serum is added to an emulsion of the living organism, the organisms become aggregated into clumps. The same property is possessed by the serum of individuals convalescent from a microbic infection relatively to emulsions of the organism of that infection, and the reaction is developed comparatively early in the process of immunisation. It is made use of in the diagnosis of enteric fever (*q.v.*), paratyphoid fever, and Mediterranean fever.

Theories of Immunity.—There are two which hold the field and are mutually complementary—Ehrlich's and Metchnikoff's. Ehrlich's is based upon the facts of organic chemistry, Metchnikoff's on the vital activities of the phagocytes. In *Ehrlich's side-chain theory* the protoplasmic molecules of which the cell is made up are regarded as composed of a central "executive nucleus," and a large number of "*side-chains*" (as they are called by the organic chemist) or *receptors*, which are ready to combine with or "fix" other atomic groups with which they have a chemical affinity. These receptors are the active elements in the nutrition of the cell, to which they fix the food-stuffs, and are of varying degrees of complexity. The molecules of *toxins* possess on this theory two combining groups: one, the *haptophore* group, uniting them to the cell, and the other, the *toxophore* group, producing the toxic action. The haptophore group being united with its appropriate receptor, toxic action results because the cell possesses also a *toxophile* receptor, to which the toxophore group becomes fixed. If it does not possess such receptors, no toxic action follows. In the production of immunity by sub-lethal doses of toxin, the toxin molecules become fixed to the side-chains (receptors) of the cells by their haptophore groups, and these receptors become lost for the purposes of the cell. The defect thus created excites regenerative processes, new receptors of the same nature are produced, and the cell is thus ready once more to deal with a fresh quantity of toxin. But such regeneration is always in excess of the actual requirements of the cell and the receptors are

finally produced in such numbers that they are shed off into the blood, forming free antitoxin. There they unite with the haptophore groups of the toxin molecules, which are thus prevented from becoming anchored to the cells, and hence have no opportunity for the employment of their toxophore groups.

Metchnikoff's theory assigns the protective rôle chiefly to the phagocytes, of which he distinguishes two varieties, the *microphages* or polymorphonuclear leucocytes, and the *macrophages* (large lymphocytes, endothelial cells, connective tissue corpuscles, etc.). The former are the chief protective agents in the acute infections, in most of which there is an active leucocytosis; and as Metchnikoff has shown, the process of immunisation is also attended by phagocytosis. The destruction of the bacteria which the phagocytes englobe is performed by their digestive ferments (cytases), which are normally intracellular, but are set free in the blood by injury to the cell, as when the blood is shed, and are then called *alexines* (complement). An antibacterial serum operates through its immune body, which is fixed by the bacteria, and thus acts as an auxiliary ferment to the alexines. Lysogenesis occurs only when the alexines are set free in the blood by damage to the leucocytes (phagolysis); in other cases the bacteria are disposed of by intracellular digestion.

It will be seen that on one or other of these theories the facts of *natural immunity* may be variously explained, and indeed no one explanation covers them all. Immunity to the attack of a particular organism is explained either (1) by the bactericidal power of normal serum, or (2) by Metchnikoff, as due to phagocytosis, and in immune animals the organisms are found to be thus destroyed in large numbers, while there is little phagocytosis in the susceptible. But the work of Wright and others upon opsonins has tended to lessen the importance of the cell, and to show that the activity of the phagocytosis is determined by the relative abundance of opsonins, *i.e.*, that the essential bactericidal power is to be found in the serum. Yet it is evident that the opsonins must be ultimately derived from cells, and probably from the leucocytes. The serum does not secrete its own contents. Its bactericidal power is believed to be due to substances derived from the spleen and lymphatic glands and other leucocyte-containing tissues, substances analogous to the cytases of Metchnikoff. But this property of the serum has been found not to vary in proportion to the degree of

immunity, and in some instances where the bactericidal power is great *in vitro* there is no immunity *in vivo*.

Immunity to *toxins* is explained on Ehrlich's theory either by want of chemical affinity between the receptors and the haptophore group of the toxin molecule, or by the absence of toxophile receptors in the side-chains of the cell, making it impossible for the toxin to exert its action through the toxophores.

Serum Anaphylaxis.—Under this name is known a condition of supersensitiveness, induced when a second injection of toxin or serum is given not less than twelve days or a fortnight after the first. The substances which induce it are those which cause the formation of antibodies, namely, antigens, and it is not produced by chemical poisons. The sensitising substance is not, however, the toxin, but is contained in the serum in which it is injected. The reaction is specific, and occurs only when the same serum is used for the second as for the first injection. In the guinea-pig severe symptoms, especially affecting the nervous system, may be followed by death. In man a somewhat similar condition may occur, though it does not end fatally. The theoretical explanations are as yet conflicting, but the possibility of such an occurrence is of practical importance in serum treatment (*see* Serum Disease, p. 43).

VACCINE TREATMENT

We have seen (p. 13) that one of the methods of securing active immunity is the repeated injection of dead bacterial cultures. On this procedure is based Wright's method of vaccine treatment. Upon the injection of a suitable dose of a standardised sterile bacterial emulsion (in other words, a *vaccine*), there follow (1) a brief period (*negative phase*) in which the opsonic content of the serum is lowered, the existing opsonin being partially used up in sensitising the organisms, and (2) a longer period (*positive phase*) in which opsonins are produced in increased quantity, in response to the stimulus. This increased production is maintained for from ten days to a fortnight or more (*high tide of immunity*), after which the opsonic production declines to the normal. A second injection during the declining phase produces a repetition of the process, and thus maintains the opsonic content of the serum above the normal level, there-

by rendering the organisms of the particular infection more amenable to phagocytosis. A second injection before the preliminary negative phase has passed has a cumulative effect, and may gravely lower the opsonic content, producing symptoms of malaise and pyrexia. The amount of opsonins in any individual for a particular organism is measured by (1) counting the number of bacteria ingested at 37° C. by a definite number of leucocytes mixed with the serum of that individual, and (2) comparing this with the number ingested when normal serum is used. The ratio between the patient's phagocyte count and the normal phagocyte count (taken as unity) is the *opsonic index*.

In health, for each individual, the opsonic index is very constant; but it may in different individuals remain permanently either slightly below or slightly above unity, the limits of normal variations lying between 0·8 and 1·2. Variation beyond these limits is pathological. In disease, the index is low in localised infections, and either high or fluctuating in systemic infections. The low index of localised infections precedes and favours the onset of the infection. It continues low because the organisms remain local, and as they do not enter the blood no positive phase or period of immunity is produced. It is high or fluctuating in systemic infections, because the organisms enter the blood and so produce a series of auto-inoculations with negative and positive phase. The doses, however, are sometimes excessive, or the intervals between them too brief, so that the dangerous effects of a prolonged negative phase are obtained; but in other cases the repeated auto-inoculation leads to successful immunisation, and hence to recovery.

Treatment by vaccines is based upon these considerations, the object being to raise the opsonic content of the patient's blood against the organism of the particular disease. When it is practicable, the inoculations should be controlled by estimation of the opsonic index, and they must not be repeated during a negative phase. Although principally used in local infections, there is evidence to show that the treatment may also give valuable results in some at least of the systemic infections, *e.g.*, pneumonia, enteric fever, septicæmia: but the matter is still *sub judice*. In the prophylaxis of the infectious diseases, on the other hand, the vaccine treatment occupies a prominent place. (*See articles on Enteric Fever, Plague, Cholera, etc.*)

A recent development of the vaccine treatment is the introduction of *sensitised* vaccines. These are bacterial emulsions

which are first treated with the serum of an animal immunised against the particular bacterium, and then washed free of the serum. The immunity produced by injection of such sensitised vaccines is said to be of long duration, and the local toxic effects are comparatively slight.

Detoxicated vaccines are those in which the endotoxins have been removed by special methods of preparation, while the bacterial cell substance is said to remain intact. Much larger doses than those of ordinary vaccines may thus be safely used with a greater immunising effect, but the evidence is still insufficient for a considered judgment.

SPECIFIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCUBATION AND RASHES

THE period of incubation in the specific infections is the time intervening between the reception of the specific virus and the onset of symptoms.

The *average* duration of the period is here given for the more important of the acute infections—

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------|
| Cholera | - | - | - | - | 4 to 5 days. |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - | - | 2 days. |
| Enteric fever | - | - | - | - | 10 to 14 days. |
| Influenza | - | - | - | - | 3 days. |
| Measles | - | - | - | - | 14 days. |
| Plague | - | - | - | - | 3 to 5 days. |
| Scarlatina | - | - | - | - | 2 to 4 days. |
| Typhus fever | - | - | - | - | 12 days. |
| Varicella (chicken-pox) | - | - | - | - | 14 days. |
| Variola (small-pox) | - | - | - | - | 12 days. |

(DAWSON WILLIAMS.)

The period of incubation must be distinguished from the period of onset of the characteristic rash, which may occur along with the first symptoms, or some time later.

The following table gives the usual time of appearance of the rash :—

| | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Chicken-pox | - | - | - | 1st day <i>of the disease.</i> |
| Scarlatina | - | - | - | 1st or 2nd day ,, |
| Small-pox | - | - | - | 3rd day ,, |
| Measles | - | - | - | 4th day ,, |
| Typhus | - | - | - | 5th day ,, |
| Enteric fever | - | - | - | 7th to 12th day ,, |

Most rashes disappear on pressure, *if not hæmorrhagic*. If hæmorrhagic they do not disappear on pressure *or after death*.

A. BACTERIAL DISEASES

ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER

A specific infectious fever marked clinically by diarrhœa and a rose-coloured rash (appearing in successive crops), running a prolonged course of about twenty-one days, and ending by lysis. It is accompanied by characteristic ulcerations of the small intestine, and by enlargement of the spleen and mesenteric glands.

Etiology.—The disease is most prevalent in the autumn months. It attacks both sexes, principally between fifteen and twenty-five years of age. It is rare in infancy or over the age of sixty. Second attacks are uncommon.

The poison is conveyed principally by—

1. Contaminated water (or ice).
2. Milk ; uncooked vegetables grown on infected soils ; food contaminated by flies.
3. Shell fish, especially oysters, grown on river-beds polluted by sewage.
4. Direct contact with stools of patients.
5. Soiled linen of patients in public laundries (stools or urine).
6. Contamination of the soil through defective drains or cesspools.
7. "Typhoid carriers."

The possibility of air-borne typhoid must be remembered, especially in hot countries. The organism may be drawn into the mouth in dust, and afterwards swallowed.

In certain cases, after recovery, the bacilli may persist for years in the intestine or gall bladder, and sometimes in the kidney or bladder, whence they pass out in the urine. The dejecta of such subjects, who are known as "typhoid carriers," may be constant sources of infection.

Sewer gas, filth, etc., do not of themselves cause typhoid fever, but form a suitable soil for the multiplication of the organisms.

The Specific Germ, known as the bacillus of Eberth or *Bacillus typhosus*, is a Gram-negative organism, *short, thick*, and with rounded ends. It is highly mobile, and possesses numerous flagella. It does not form spores. Cultures are easily destroyed by corrosive sublimate 1-2500. During life the bacilli may be found in the rose-spots, the stools, and the urine, and are discoverable with some difficulty in the peripheral blood, from which they can usually be isolated by culture. *Post mortem* they are found in the intestinal and mesenteric glands, the spleen, the blood, the gall bladder, and frequently in other parts of the body.

Morbid Anatomy.—Principally inflammation of the lymphoid tissue of the lower portion of the ileum, with more or less catarrh throughout the bowel.

Peyer's Patches—

1st Week.—Are swollen through infiltration of leucocytes, the surfaces raised and fawn-coloured. The infiltration involves the submucous coat, and may extend to the muscular layer. The lesions are most numerous at the lower end of the ileum.

2nd Week.—The surface becomes abraded and necrotic; sloughs form, which are often bile-stained.

3rd Week.—The sloughs come away, leaving ulcerating surfaces. Typical typhoid ulcers with undermined edges are thus formed. A few solitary glands undergo the same process. At the end of the week the ulcers begin to granulate, but healing is usually slow.

The Mesenteric Glands may undergo the same changes, but more often become swollen, red, and tender only, or break down into cheesy masses.

Other Organs.—The spleen and liver are enlarged; the heart is soft and flabby, from myocardial degeneration. Hypostatic congestion of the lungs is common. The voluntary muscles undergo granular degeneration; in fact, the changes are those found after death from high temperature, etc. (See p. 4.)

Symptoms.—*Insidious onset*—headache, possibly epistaxis, increasing weakness till the patient is compelled to take to bed.

1st Week.—The temperature usually, but not invariably, rises in the so-called "staircase" manner, *e.g.*, rising two degrees in the evening and falling *one* in the morning (see fig. 4, p. 7). The pulse-rate, though accelerated, is slow in proportion

to the degree of fever. The malaise becomes more marked, and exhaustion increases with the onset of—

- (1) Diarrhœa—the stools quickly assume their characteristic appearance. The bowels may, however, be confined throughout.
- (2) Tenderness in the right iliac fossa, tumidity of the abdomen, and enlarged spleen. This enlargement is more obvious at a later stage.

The specific rash appears on the seventh to twelfth day, and may continue throughout the disease.

The 2nd Week is marked by the symptoms becoming more aggravated; the temperature remains at a uniform level. A tendency to *typhoid state* comes on, rambling delirium may occur towards the end of the week, and death may take place.

The 3rd Week, in severe cases, is marked by even more profound symptoms. The heart is weak and rapid, there is hypostatic congestion of the lungs, the abdomen is distended, and the typhoid state may be marked. Leucopenia (diminution of leucocytes) is common. Perforation is more likely to occur at this than any other period, and intestinal hæmorrhage, epistaxis, or pneumonia may end the scene. In milder cases defervescence by lysis begins in this week.

4th Week.—The temperature gradually becomes normal, and usually convalescence may now be said to *commence*. Frequently, however, *relapses* occur, often about the tenth day after defervescence. They are usually comparatively mild and brief, but may end fatally.

Varieties of enteric fever—

1. The “ambulatory” type, in which the patient may be able to go about, sometimes even during the entire illness, or until some complication arises.
2. Cases with sudden onset, often with marked nervous symptoms (headache, vomiting, etc.).
3. Cases with termination by crisis in the second week (abortive type).
4. Cases where defervescence is postponed till the fifth or sixth week.

Complications—

1. Hæmorrhage ; from *bowel*, nose, or mucous surfaces.
2. Perforation, which may occur even in mild cases. It is commonest in the third and fourth weeks.
3. Peritonitis, with or without perforation.
4. Meteorism or tympanites (excessive distension of the abdomen).
5. Thrombosis, usually of the femoral vein, and embolism.
6. Neuritis, and later "typhoid spine." Meningitis is rare.
7. Bronchitis, and pneumonia, lobar or catarrhal.
8. Acute nephritis, cystitis, bacilluria.
9. Early "typhoid state," or early cardiac failure.
10. Bed-sores.

Special Points.—The *Rash* comes out, from the seventh to the twelfth day, in successive crops of small rose-coloured spots raised above the surface and slightly convex. These appear first on the abdomen and chest ; and they fade on pressure. They may be present on the shoulders and back, and not anteriorly. Each spot lasts about four days, and the eruption may persist till the end of the fever. Frequently no rash appears (in about 30 per cent. of the cases).

The *Ulcer* of Typhoid fever—(1) Lies in the longitudinal axis ; (2) Edges—thin, undermined ; (3) Situation—last yard of the ileum ; the ulcers are most numerous near the ileo-colic valve. The distribution may be more widespread.

Its *base* may be formed of—(1) Submucous coat ; (2) Muscular tissue ; or (3) Peritoneum only.

The ulcers show a tendency to perforate, but *do not cause constriction after they heal*.

The *Stools* are liquid, abundant, and fœtid, like pea soup in appearance, and frequently contain, besides the bacillus and fæcal matter, blood, shreds of mucous membrane, and sloughs. When hæmorrhage occurs, they become black or tarry in appearance, and sticky. In severe hæmorrhage the evacuated blood may be red, the temperature falls suddenly, and collapse symptoms appear.

Leucocytosis is not a feature of the uncomplicated fever.

When it does occur, it indicates some inflammatory complication.

Signs of perforation.—Usually there is sudden and severe pain, but sometimes pain is absent. There are rapid and extreme distension of the abdomen, absence of abdominal respiration, tympanitic percussion note, and possibly absence of hepatic and splenic dullness. There are also signs of *shock*, anxious look, very rapid pulse, rapid respiration. Later fluid is present in the abdomen; and leucocytosis may take the place of leucopenia.

Widal's reaction.—Serum from a case of enteric fever will, when mixed with an emulsion of *B. typhosus*, produce agglutination of the bacilli into clumps, even when the serum is diluted to 1 in 100 or further with sterile bouillon. To carry out the test, blood is collected from a puncture in the skin by a small pipette, in which it is allowed to coagulate, and the serum is then blown out and dilutions of 1 in 20, 1 in 50, and 1 in 100 are made. Equal parts of these and the emulsion are then mixed together, and the result watched under the microscope in a hanging-drop preparation, or in a small glass tube sealed at one end, and set vertically. If the case be enteric, agglutination should take place in half an hour to an hour. A control experiment with healthy serum must be made at the same time. The test does not give positive results, as a rule, until at earliest the seventh or eighth day. A negative result does not exclude enteric. The reaction is positive after preventive inoculation, and occasionally in other diseases.

The Diazo-reaction of Ehrlich.—To forty parts of a saturated solution of sulphanilic acid in 5 per cent. hydrochloric acid add one part of a 0.5 per cent. solution of sodium nitrite. Shake up a drachm of this with a drachm of the patient's urine in a test tube, and float upon the surface a layer of liquor ammoniæ. A ring of red coloration is formed at the point of contact. On shaking, a pinkish froth forms at the surface. The reaction appears earlier than Widal's (from the third day onwards), but is not so valuable, as it may occur in typhus, tuberculosis, malaria, and some other febrile diseases. Its persistent absence is a strong argument against the existence of enteric.

Marris's test.—This depends on the diminished power of atropine to increase the pulse-rate in typhoid and paratyphoid fevers. The patient lying quietly, and his pulse-rate having

been taken every minute until it is found to be steady, gr. $\frac{1}{33}$ of atropine is given hypodermically. Twenty-five minutes later the pulse-rate is again counted minute by minute till it returns to the patient's normal. It will be found accelerated, but in enteric and paratyphoid fevers by not more than ten to fourteen beats. If the rise is greater, the reaction is negative. It is most commonly present from the fifth to the fourteenth day.

During the first week or ten days, a positive diagnosis may be made in most cases by cultivation of the bacillus from the blood or stools.

The diagnosis from typhus fever is usually simple. In typhus the onset is sudden, the fever high and continuous, the rash conspicuous, the nervous symptoms marked, the typhoid state develops early, and defervescence is abrupt. Widal's reaction is negative. (For the diagnosis from acute miliary tuberculosis, *see* p. 77.)

Paratyphoid Fevers.—These diseases are clinically almost identical with enteric fever. Enlargement of the spleen, rose-spots, diarrhoea, and sometimes hæmorrhage are the symptoms, and the course is like that of enteric, though it may be briefer. The onset is perhaps more often acute than in enteric fever, and the fever is more irregular. The rash may be like the rose-spots of enteric, or the spots may be larger and more irregular, and may be followed by pigmentation. Ulceration may be present, but perforation is uncommon, and the mortality is small. The diseases are due to the *Bacillus paratyphosus* A or B, both microscopically resembling the bacillus of Eberth, but differing from it in cultural characters and agglutinating reactions.

Special Points of Treatment.—Although we have here to do not only with a diseased alimentary canal, but with a generalised blood infection, the chief means of treatment is dietetic. Serum therapy (Rodet's) or vaccine therapy is much less efficient in the disease than as a prophylactic measure. No solid food should be given, or at all events nothing which would not readily pass through a fine sieve. Milk, *if it agrees*, albumin-water made from white of egg, beef-tea, and chicken-broth are the principal foods. Milk must not be used to relieve thirst, but must be given as a food only, at regular intervals, and in definite doses. If it disagrees, a 5 per cent. solution of gelatin may be used instead, and has been found of considerable value. Thirst should be met by water,

mineral waters, lemonade, or Potus Imperialis (for formula *see* footnote¹). Of late some authorities have advocated a light solid diet throughout, but nothing must be given that would increase the risk of perforation. Such additions as arrowroot, cornflour, custard, mashed potato, and whipped eggs are permissible. The stools should be daily inspected. If undigested curd is found, milk is being given too often, or the gastric function is impaired. The milk may then be given with lime-water or barley-water. Beef-tea should be sparingly used, lest it excite diarrhoea.

Alcohol is required mainly in the later stages, when the typhoid state has set in, and the heart is weak. Many cases do well without it altogether. Other stimulants are strychnine, ammonia, ether, etc.

Medicinal.—General principles hold good. If the diarrhoea becomes excessive give bismuth and opium, or lead acetate and morphia, or an enema of starch and opium. When the motions are very offensive intestinal antiseptics (calomel in small doses, salol, etc.) may be given. They are also useful in meteorism.

If constipation be troublesome, give enemata. No purgatives should be given after the first week.

Hæmorrhage—opium, lead acetate, or calcium lactate gr. xv (grm. 1·0) every four hours, hypodermic injections of morphia or ergotin, ice-bag to the cæcum. Subcutaneous or intramuscular injection of normal serum (10 cc.) is valuable in severe cases.

Perforation.—The main chance of recovery lies in early laparotomy and suture of the affected bowel. Every hour lost after the diagnosis is made, and the initial shock has passed off, increases the danger to life. Cases operated on within twenty-four hours may recover; later, recovery is very rare. In anticipation of the operation, morphia may be given to relieve pain and diminish peristalsis.

Bed-sores—water-bed, cleanliness, stimulant and antiseptic lotions, dry dressings if the slough is large.

High fever—quinine and cold baths. The antipyrin group is dangerous to the heart, but aspirin in doses of five grains (grm. 0·3) every four hours is useful in some cases.

Disinfection of stools and urine: urotropin for bacilluria.

¹ Bitartrate of potassium, \mathfrak{z} i (grm. 4·0); syrup of lemon, \mathfrak{z} iss (cc. 45); water to \mathfrak{z} xx (cc. 600).

During convalescence the diet must be increased with the utmost caution, and the possibility of relapse must always be remembered.

Specific Treatment.—Chantemesse's anti-typhoid serum has been successfully used in France. Prophylactically, Wright's vaccine, in two doses (500 million and 1000 million organisms) with an interval of ten days, has proved of much service, and the results obtained from its employment in the British Expeditionary Force conclusively demonstrate its efficacy. All those in attendance upon or in contact with a case of enteric fever should be inoculated, if they have not previously had the disease. A mixed typhoid and paratyphoid vaccine is now generally used. The vaccine is also used in treatment, the dose varying in different hands from 100 million to 500 million every fourth day, but the results have not been uniformly favourable.

The treatment of paratyphoid is the same as that of enteric fever.

BACILLUS COLI INFECTIONS

Organisms of the coliform group, of which *B. coli communis* is the type, are closely related to *B. typhosus*. In health a normal inhabitant of the bowel, *B. coli* may invade the blood towards the end of chronic illnesses or in local affections of the bowel or peritoneum, causing a terminal infection accompanied by fever. More commonly it gives rise to local infections, such as the peritonitis accompanying perforation of the bowel, strangulated hernia, and intestinal obstruction. It may also be the cause of cholecystitis.

Most commonly it is responsible for local affections of the urinary or intestinal tract.

Urinary Infections.—The chief of these are pyelitis and cystitis, in which the infection may travel by the blood, or by the lymphatics from the bowel. In young female children urethritis may be set up by direct infection. The onset of pyelitis or cystitis from this cause is often sudden, with rigor and high fever, renal tenderness, or frequency and pain on micturition. Hæmaturia may occur. There is a variable amount both of pus and of organisms in the urine. If appropriately treated, most cases run a favourable course, but reinfections may occur from time to time. Women are specially

liable to be attacked during pregnancy or after delivery. Many cases are chronic from the outset, or become chronic as a sequel to an acute attack. In these the urine has a peculiar fishy odour. *Colon bacilluria* without symptoms is not uncommon, but is usually transitory. In this condition the urine is loaded with bacilli, but there is no pus.

Intestinal infections of the most varied kinds have been attributed to *B. coli*, those most surely identified being appendicitis, colitis, and pericolic suppurations. The peritonitis accompanying lesions of the bowel has already been mentioned.

Treatment consists in attention to the condition of the bowel, with avoidance of cold and fatigue. Acute cases must be confined to bed. Diet must be non-nitrogenous, buttermilk, whey, or cream taking the place of whole milk. Porridge, rice, and green vegetables, fruit, and occasionally chicken may be allowed. Aperients, such as calomel or salines, and intestinal antiseptics are useful. Hexamine, cystopurin, or helmitol are useful as urinary antiseptics. The urine should be kept acid by acid sodium phosphate. Autogenous vaccines, in small doses in acute cases, and in increasing doses in chronic cases, are often of service.

THE SEPTIC INFECTIONS

Under this heading we mean the clinical phenomena attending the introduction into the blood of living micro-organisms or their products. The organisms mainly concerned are those of suppuration (*Staphylococcus* and *Streptococcus pyogenes*), but some others are capable of giving rise to septic conditions, among them being the pneumococcus, gonococcus, *Bacillus typhosus*, and *Bacillus influenzae*. There are three types of septic disease—

1. *Toxæmia or sapræmia*—i.e., the introduction of bacterial products (toxins) from a lesion in which the bacteria themselves remain local. The toxins do not multiply in the blood; the symptoms therefore are in proportion to the size of dose introduced.

2. *Septicæmia*—the introduction into the blood of organisms which have the power of living and multiplying therein, but which do not give rise to the formation of metastatic abscesses.

The symptoms are produced by the toxins which the organisms elaborate *in the blood*, and therefore bear no relation to the amount of bacteria originally introduced.

3. *Pyæmia* is a condition in which, from a primary septic focus, septic matter is disseminated throughout the circulation, and leads to the formation of septic emboli and the consequent development of metastatic abscesses in the internal organs or skin.

No fixed line can be drawn between the three conditions. Sapræmia and septicæmia, for instance, are closely similar in their symptoms, the latter, however, being usually of greater gravity. They not infrequently coexist.

It should be remembered that the local source of infection is often obscure, and sometimes undiscoverable even after death ("cryptogenetic septicæmia").

The paths of secondary infection are as follows (Muir and Ritchie):—

1. By lymphatics, with extension to lymphatic glands and serous spaces related to the primary lesion. 2. By natural channels, such as the ureters and bile-ducts (infection of kidneys and liver). 3. By the blood-vessels: (*a*) by a few organisms entering the blood from a local lesion and settling in a favourable nidus; (*b*) by septic phlebitis with suppurative softening of the thrombus and resulting septic emboli; (*c*) by direct extension along a vein (spreading thrombosis).

Symptoms.—Toxæmia or sapræmia is generally due to absorption of products of putrefaction, such as decomposed placental remains, blood-clots, etc., to suppurating or to poisoned wounds, or to internal suppurations, such as empyema. The onset is rapid. There are local pain and swelling in the wound, chilliness or rigor, the general symptoms of fever, and marked prostration. If not relieved by treatment, diarrhœa and emaciation follow, the typhoid state appears, and the patient dies comatose or from exhaustion. If toxic absorption ceases, recovery may be rapid.

Septicæmia may originate in such conditions as pneumococcus or gonococcus infection, or in more obvious lesions such as open wounds. After wound infection the disease begins within at most three days, with one or more rigors, and with high fever, which shows daily remissions or intermissions. The

pulse is rapid, soft, and compressible, and there is a marked polynuclear leucocytosis, replaced by leucopenia in the most acute cases. Anæmia is pronounced. Prostration is very great. Jaundice and diarrhœa are common. There may or may not be delirium. Death may occur on the second or third day; if later, the typhoid state appears, and leads to death within a week or ten days. Mild cases may run a more chronic course.

Pyæmia arises in connection with infected wounds, or diseases due to the pyogenic organisms (gonorrhœa, otitis media, empyema, intestinal ulceration, puerperal conditions, etc.). It is most frequently due to the streptococcus. The situation of the abscesses depends on the course of the circulation from the seat of infection. The symptoms are repeated rigors, high fever, remittent or intermittent, profuse sweating, great exhaustion, and marked emaciation. Jaundice, vomiting, and diarrhœa are frequent. There are local signs of abscess, visceral or subcutaneous. Pleurisy, pericarditis, and broncho-pneumonia are frequent complications. In acute cases the typhoid state soon makes its appearance, and death takes place in about ten days. In more chronic cases visceral abscesses are not common, but there may be suppuration in the joints or muscles. Some of these recover, others die of exhaustion after a long and irregular fever.

Treatment.—In *toxæmia* the treatment is obviously to stop the manufacture of the poison by attacking the organisms in their local seat (evacuation of abscesses, washing out the uterus, scraping or drainage of wounds, etc.); and to maintain the general strength by tonics and hygienic surroundings.

In *septicæmia*, while attending to the local source of infection, we have also to deal with the living organisms in the circulation. The strength must be maintained by feeding, and by tonics and stimulants. Fluids should be freely given, by the mouth or subcutaneously. Drugs are of little use, with the exception of *quinine*, which in large doses of 5-10 grains (grm. 0.3-0.6) every four hours, has some bactericidal effect, and is a useful antipyretic. Depressant antipyretics should not be given.

Vaccines, prepared if possible from the patient's own organism, have in some instances given good results. Where the infection is demonstrably due to the streptococcus,

a polyvalent antistreptococcic serum should be given once daily, in doses of 20-30 cc.

The treatment of *pyæmia* is that of septicæmia, with the addition that accessible abscesses must be opened and surgically cleansed.

In all cases, any discoverable primary focus of infection must be dealt with surgically.

ERYSIPELAS

An acute infective disease, characterised by a spreading inflammation of the skin and general febrile disturbance, and due to the presence of the *Streptococcus erysipelatis*.

Etiology.—Erysipelas is widely distributed, but most common in temperate climates. It may be epidemic, but is usually endemic. It is commonest in springtime. Dirt and insanitary conditions favour its development. Important predisposing causes are chronic alcoholism, chronic Bright's disease, recent delivery, and the existence of wounds or abrasions. The virus clings to rooms and furniture, and can be conveyed by a third person, but is not active at any great distance.

The micro-organism is the streptococcus of Fehleisen, which is apparently identical with the *Streptococcus pyogenes*, although erysipelas always begets erysipelas. It is Gram-positive, and grows on ordinary media. It is found in the lymphatics at the advancing border of the rash.

The *incubation period* is from two to seven days.

Morbid Anatomy, as regards the skin, is that of simple inflammation, in which the related lymphatic glands take part. There may be visceral complications of a septic nature, as infarctions of lung, spleen, or kidney; malignant endocarditis; pericarditis or pleurisy; and rarely meningitis. There is moderate leucocytosis.

Symptoms.—In a typical case of erysipelas of the head and face the onset is abrupt, and often attended with rigor or vomiting. Headache may be very severe. The temperature rises sharply—it may be to 104° F. or even higher. Very soon a sharp red patch appears on the skin, either where there is a wound, or at the junction of skin and mucous membrane (inner canthus, angle of mouth, etc.). This rapidly spreads in all directions, the centre at the same time becoming paler. The

edges are raised and hard, the surface red, tense, and painful, pitting on pressure. Superficial blebs appear on the surface, their contents being hæmorrhagic in bad cases. The face is enormously swollen and the eyes are often closed. The cervical glands are swollen and tender. Mucous membranes may also be affected. The mouth may be attacked by extension from the face, and the larynx, pharynx, or nose may be involved. After a few days the inflammation ceases to spread, desquamation takes place, and defervescence occurs by crisis or by lysis.

Constitutional disturbance is usually slight, but there may be delirium at night even in mild cases. In chronic alcoholics and in the elderly, the prognosis is less favourable. The typhoid state is prone to develop, and death from toxæmia to result.

Occasionally the inflammation, while healing on the face, spreads to the trunk, and thence in similar fashion to the limbs (*Erysipelas migrans*).

Complications (besides those already mentioned).—1. Local suppuration, sometimes leading to—2. septicæmia; 3. œdema of the larynx, danger of death from asphyxia; 4. *albuminuria* is very common, though nephritis is rare; 5. pneumonia (rare); 6. ulcerative endocarditis.

Treatment.—In most cases little is needed beyond isolation and careful nursing. The strength should be maintained by appropriate diet, and alcohol given when indicated, but not as a routine practice. Sedatives may be given for the delirium, or if this is violent, morphia or hyoscine. Cold sponging is to be preferred to antipyretics.

Internally, the tincture of ferric chloride in large doses (ʒss-ʒi, or cc. 2·0-4·0 every four hours) is often recommended, but there is really no specific remedy. Antistreptococcic serum is not an unqualified success, but 20 cc. may be given once daily. *Streptococcus vaccines*, if possible autogenous, have been found useful by many. Locally, applications should be employed such as will protect the parts from air and relieve pain. For this purpose one may paint with flexile collodion, apply a dusting powder, and wrap in cotton wool; or hot carbolic fomentations (1 in 40) may be used. Netter recommends a 1 per cent. collargol ointment, and ichthyol ointment (20-30 per cent.) is of value in many cases. Numerous methods are advised to prevent the spread of inflammation, among the best being the injection of antiseptic solutions beyond the spreading edge.

GONOCOCCUS INFECTION

Gonorrhœa, an infective inflammation of the urethra, and in the female of the cervix also, is due to the presence of the gonococcus, a small bean-shaped diplococcus, Gram-negative in staining, and mainly intracellular in distribution. The disease is transmitted by sexual contact, and new-born children may suffer from ophthalmia neonatorum, the conjunctivæ being infected by the maternal vaginal discharge. But apart from these local consequences, in the course of a case of gonorrhœa, sometimes in the acute stage, sometimes when it has become chronic, or even after the discharge has ceased, general symptoms may develop which indicate the spreading of the infective process (*a*) by continuity of tissue; (*b*) by general systemic infection. In class (*a*) are included various forms of disease of the genito-urinary organs, such as salpingitis, endometritis, cystitis; and sometimes, by extension along the ureters, pyelitis, or pyelonephritis.

Into class (*b*) there fall forms of disease very similar to those which are found in septic conditions (*see* Septic Infections, p. 30). Occasionally there may be severe and rapidly fatal general infection, as in a case recorded by Osler, which ended fatally fourteen days after the onset of gonorrhœa (*gonococcal septicæmia or pyæmia*). Such cases are associated with foci of suppuration in the urinary tract. More frequently local lesions are to be found—

1. In the heart; ulcerative endocarditis or pericarditis : but oftenest—
2. *In the joints*; gonorrhœal arthritis.

In not a few of these cases the gonococcus has been found in the blood.

Gonorrhœal Arthritis.—This affection is much more frequent in the male than the female. The amount of effusion into the joints is not great, but there is considerable peri-articular œdema. The effusion is seldom purulent, but is more like that of synovitis. There is often much tenderness. Recovery is slow, and there is a liability to the formation of fibrous adhesions, which may lead to ankylosis. Usually several joints are attacked, but sometimes only one. Those which commonly escape in acute rheumatism (sterno-clavicular, intervertebral,

etc.) often suffer in "gonorrhœal rheumatism." The gonococcus may be present in the joints affected, most commonly in the synovial fringes. It can sometimes be cultivated from the fluid withdrawn by puncture. The following forms of gonorrhœal arthritis may be distinguished :—

1. *Polyarthritic*, resembling subacute rheumatism.
2. *Acute arthritis*; sudden involvement of one joint, with severe pain and great swelling.
3. *Chronic hydrarthrosis*; one joint only attacked, oftenest the knee; no pain or redness.
4. *Bursal and synovial form*; the bursæ and tendon sheaths are mainly affected.
5. *Septicæmic*; intense symptoms of sepsis along with the arthritis.

The heels may be painful on walking, from affection of the plantar fasciæ or periostitis of the os calcis.

Diagnosis.—The numerous other causes of synovitis must be excluded. The history of the case, the presence of a urethral discharge, and the obstinacy of the symptoms, will be of service. Successful culture of the organism is conclusive, but in many instances the synovial fluid is sterile.

Treatment.—The use of a gonococcus vaccine has given very encouraging results. If possible, it should be "auto-genous" (*i.e.*, made from cultures of the patient's own organism). The dosage should be small; from four to ten million cocci every four to eight days are usually sufficient, and higher doses are not altogether safe. With stock vaccines a larger dose is necessary. The case must be taken early; no vaccine will break down old adhesions. Of drugs there is none specific; the failure of the salicylates may even help to distinguish the case from ordinary rheumatism. Iodide of potassium is much vaunted but is often useless. General tonic treatment must be combined with local measures. The urethral discharge must be treated; the joints, if acutely affected, must be kept at rest, while in chronic cases massage is useful. In some cases the thermocautery, in others, local baths of superheated air may do good. Bier's method of producing passive hyperæmia may be useful. Later, massage and passive movements are required.

PNEUMOCOCCUS INFECTIONS

The chief diseases for which the pneumococcus is primarily responsible are lobar pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia. Although these are systemic infections, the organism being usually obtainable from blood cultures in the early stages of the disease, their symptoms and signs are mainly respiratory, and they are therefore described under Diseases of the Respiratory Organs. But there are other local and even general infections, occurring along with or apart from pneumonia, which may be caused by the pneumococcus. The heart may be affected through the blood-stream, and thus pericarditis or an ulcerative endocarditis of grave prognosis may occur. Pneumococcal meningitis, of a highly purulent type, may be a primary affection. Pleurisy and empyema are most frequent as complications or sequelæ of pneumonia. Otitis media is common, especially in children. Peritonitis may occur as a primary disease; nephritis, of a hæmorrhagic type, is more commonly a complication. Arthritis occasionally occurs, and may be either primary or secondary. Lastly, all the symptoms of acute septicæmia, of a primary type, may be due to the pneumococcus, without any evident local affection of the lungs.

DIPHTHERIA

An acute specific infectious disease attended with grave throat symptoms and general symptoms, and the formation of a false membrane or fibrinous exudation on mucous and abraded surfaces, and often followed by paralysis in various situations.

Etiology.—The disease is endemic in the larger towns, and becomes often epidemic at various seasons. It is highly contagious, and the poison is very concentrated in the *pharyngeal secretion*. The disease is often contracted by doctors and nurses. The spluttering of secretion into the face whilst examining or swabbing out the patient's throat accounts for this great tendency to attack the attendants. The bacillus may be conveyed to the healthy from the discharges of the sick, from the throats of convalescents in whom it persists, and from the throats or clothing of healthy people where it has found an accidental lodging. Schools are a fruitful source of infection. The organism is extremely tenacious of life, and infected articles

may remain dangerous for months. Epidemics are often traceable to contaminated milk supply, but there is no evidence for water-borne infection, although exposure to sewage effluvia may act as a predisposing cause.

The disease is most prevalent in the third and fourth quarters of the year. Children between the ages of two and ten are oftenest attacked, but it is quite common in adults. Individual susceptibility varies greatly, the organism being often found in the throats of healthy people, especially when they have been associated with patients. Other diseases, such as scarlet fever and measles, weakening both the fauces and the system, render the liability greater. One attack does not confer immunity. The incubation period varies from two to seven days.

The *specific organism* is known as the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus. It is non-motile, slightly bent, and knobbed; it stains irregularly with ordinary dyes, which give it a beaded appearance, and it is not decolorised by Gram's method. It grows on all ordinary media, and multiplies readily in milk. It is found in the false membrane associated with other germs, such as streptococci and staphylococci ("mixed infection"). It does not penetrate the mucosa. Diphtheria is, therefore, primarily a local disease, the constitutional symptoms being produced by the absorption of toxins.

The *Streptococcus pyogenes* is very commonly associated with the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus, and may even occur singly, when it may give rise to "diphtheroid" conditions of the throat.

Morbid Anatomy.—The false membrane first appears upon the fauces, and may spread thence to the pharynx and larynx, and sometimes to the posterior nares and middle ear. Less commonly it is limited to the larynx or posterior nares. It may also invade the trachea, bronchi, or œsophagus, rarely other mucous membranes. The conjunctiva may be attacked. The membrane consists of a network of fibrin enclosing round cells and connective tissue corpuscles, the specific organism, and masses of streptococci. In the fauces and nares it includes the superficial layers of the mucosa, and hence is adherent; in the larynx the necrosis does not extend beyond the epithelium, and the membrane can be stripped off.

Histologically, the changes are as follows:—The poison first induces a necrosis of the cells with which it comes in contact; the superficial epithelium thus first disappears. The deeper cells become similarly affected, and a zone of inflammation forms around the dead cells; the membrane thus is really a

mass of dead cells undergoing hyaline degeneration, and mingled with fibrin, and it presents the peculiar laminated appearance considered characteristic.

The neighbouring *lymphatic glands* become much enlarged.

Heart.—Fatty or hyaline degeneration of the myocardium is somewhat common.

Lungs.—Broncho-pneumonia is often found, and is generally due to streptococcal or pneumococcal infection, not to the *B. diphtheriæ*, which, however, may be found in the bronchial mucosa from downward extension of the false membrane.

Kidneys.—Either the ordinary cloudy swelling or intense and acute nephritis may be present. The latter is not common.

Nervous System.—At a later stage, the peripheral nerves supplying the parts that may be paralysed are found in a state of partial degeneration of their medullated fibres (toxic neuritis).

The other visceral changes are similar to those of any other intense or malignant fever.

Very marked leucocytosis is common. It affects chiefly the polymorphonuclear cells.

Symptoms.—After an incubation of two to seven days a general malaise sets in; there are *slight* fever, stiffness of the neck, and swelling of the glands at the angles of the jaws. The soft palate is deeply congested, and whitish patches soon appear, first on the fauces; these patches coalesce, become “wash-leather-like” in colour, and the false membrane is fully formed. It may extend *all over* the fauces, or may begin on the tonsils first, and creeping forward surround the uvula, like a finger of a glove. Patches on the soft palate may also occur early, and these are often encircled by an area of intense congestion. The membrane is at first easily stripped, but soon re-forms; then it becomes firmly adherent, and if torn away leaves a bleeding surface. If left alone it may slough off.

The glands in the neighbourhood enlarge, but do not usually suppurate.

Anæmia and weakness set in early, and are rapidly progressive. The pulse is very frequent and feeble.

The temperature varies—it may be 103° F. or higher, but is usually from 100° to 102° F., and indeed sometimes *subnormal*.

This is peculiar, as most acute throat affections have high temperatures.

The exudation may now extend in any direction, upwards or downwards, into—

1. The naso-pharynx, attended with coryza, regurgitation through the nose, epistaxis, and a nasal twang of voice.

2. The larynx; symptoms are stridor, brassy or "croupy" cough, great dyspnoea, and sucking in of the intercostal spaces. The membrane may *first appear in the larynx* ("membranous croup"), and hence the symptoms just mentioned may be present before any characteristic appearances in the fauces. It may remain limited to the larynx, or may extend upwards to the pharynx or downwards to the bronchi.

3. The bronchi, with all the symptoms of severe capillary bronchitis or broncho-pneumonia. The membrane, after extending to the first bifurcation of the bronchus, speedily becomes purulent.

4. The middle ear, along the Eustachian tube.

In many instances the false membrane remains confined to the fauces.

Albuminuria is frequently present from the earliest period. There is usually no dropsy. The diazo-reaction is seldom present. In fatal cases, *vomiting* may appear before the end.

Three forms of diphtheria may be distinguished, according to their severity—

1. *Benign* form. The general symptoms are very mild, and there are only a few scattered patches of membrane on the tonsils. Patients may be convalescent in a few days. No doctor may be consulted, and hence they are very likely to spread infection.

2. The *ordinary* form just described. If the membrane does not spread, a gradual convalescence may set in about the fourteenth day; or death may result from asthenia or cardiac failure. Laryngeal diphtheria leads to death from asphyxia.

3. The *malignant* form. Symptoms are severe from the start; there is great prostration, the typhoid state develops early, and there is a marked tendency to hæmorrhages. Death takes place in a few days.

Complications (besides those described) are.—1. Formation of membrane on external wounds; 2. severe ulceration of the

throat ; 3. cardiac failure, and rarely ulcerative endocarditis ; 4. thrombosis of veins ; 5. pulmonary affections (bronchitis, collapse, broncho-pneumonia) ; 6. nephritis ; 7. otitis media ; 8. conjunctival diphtheria (rare) ; 9. *Streptococcus septicæmia* (" mixed infection ").

The most important sequela is *post-diphtheritic paralysis*. This is a peripheral neuritis, and may vary much in its distribution and severity—usually coming on in the second or third week of convalescence. The more constant symptoms are—1. Anæsthesia and paralysis of the soft palate, with difficulty in swallowing, and sometimes return of food through the nose. 2. Loss of accommodation, with squint or diplopia. 3. Loss of the deep reflexes. 4. More or less wasting of the paralysed muscles, with reaction of degeneration.

The paralysis may be much more extensive, and if the intercostal muscles or vagi become affected, then the prognosis is very unfavourable. Usually, however, the paralysis passes off in time under suitable treatment.

Cardiac failure may also occur during convalescence, usually about the third week. Threatening symptoms are tachycardia, irregularity, dilatation, or severe cardiac pain.

Special Points.—Note : 1. The tendency to cardiac failure (myocardial affections) and to septic infection (streptococcus). 2. The marked depression. 3. The red areolæ around the exudation.

Remember the membrane may be very localised, and not visible without a post-nasal or laryngoscopic examination.

Diagnosis is easy in well-marked cases. Wherever there is doubt, a bacteriological examination of the exudate, removed on a sterilised swab, should be at once undertaken. The swab is rubbed over the surface of blood-serum in a culture-tube, and is ready for examination after incubation for twelve hours at 37° C. In doubtful cases antitoxin should be given without waiting for this confirmatory evidence. " Diphtheroid " inflammations of the throat are due to the presence of streptococci, Hofmann's bacillus, or the fusiform bacillus of Vincent's angina.

Treatment.—1. Isolation must be continued for at least three weeks after the throat is clear, or till all discharge from the throat, mouth, or ears has ceased.

2. The *antitoxic serum* has greatly reduced the mortality from diphtheria. The treatment should be begun early, and the dose must vary with the period of the disease and the gravity of the case. From 4000 to 12,000 units should be at once injected, another dose of 2000 to 6000 given in twelve hours in urgent cases, and a third twenty-four hours afterwards. Much larger doses may be given if the case is seen for the first time in a late stage. The age of the patient does not affect the dose. The membrane usually begins to separate in from twenty-four to thirty-six hours, and daily injections should be given until this effect is produced. Strict antiseptic precautions must be observed.

Some authorities prefer to give a single large dose (15,000 to 50,000 units according to the severity of the case) at the outset of the disease, injecting the antitoxin not subcutaneously, but into the gluteal muscles. "The antitoxin unit is the amount of antitoxin which, injected into a guinea-pig, of 250 grammes in weight, neutralises 100 times the minimum fatal dose of toxin of standard weight and strength."

As the serum of an immunised animal not only has an important curative influence in cases of diphtheria, but also protects "contacts" against infection, it may also be used for prophylaxis. For this purpose a dose of 300 units may be given to a child, 500 to an adult. The objections to this course are two: that the immunity is transitory, lasting only a few weeks, and that there is a risk of anaphylaxis if serum must be given in a subsequent attack of diphtheria. The recently introduced Schick test—intradermic injection of $\frac{1}{50}$ of the minimum lethal dose for a guinea-pig weighing 300 grm.—determines by redness and infiltration of the skin those who are susceptible to diphtheria. To such cases prophylactic injections may be given in institutions where diphtheria has broken out. A toxin-antitoxin mixture (0.5-1 cc., according to the age of the child) confers a much more lasting immunity than antitoxin alone.

3. Locally, frequent swabbing or irrigation of the fauces and nasal fossæ with antiseptic solutions, such as carbolic acid (3 per cent.), formalin (1 in 200), or Loeffler's solution (menthol, 10 grammes dissolved in toluol to 36 cc.; Liq. Ferri Sesquichlor., 4 cc.; absolute alcohol, 60 cc.). In the early stages of laryngeal cases, hot sponges to the larynx, and the bronchitis kettle. Intubation or tracheotomy must be resorted to when the larynx is seriously involved.

4. Avoid all lowering measures, and treat symptoms on general principles. Special attention must be paid to the condition of the heart, and the recumbent posture should be maintained for several weeks.

The "post-diphtheritic" paralysis must be treated with careful hygiene, strychnine, massage, the interrupted current if necessary, and nourishing diet.

Carriers may be treated by tonsillectomy and gargling with chloramine T.; antitoxin and ordinary local measures have not much effect.

Serum Disease.—A single dose of antitoxic serum usually has no harmful effects, but in about 20 per cent. of cases, if the dose has been large, a reaction follows. Eight to twelve days after the injection, the neighbouring lymphatic glands become swollen, there is some degree of fever and malaise, and an urticarial or erythematous rash appears. The symptoms pass off in a few days. In other cases, no symptoms follow the first injection, but if a second is given not less than twelve days and not more than six months afterwards, (1) there may appear within twenty-four hours intense local œdema, fever, and a general eruption, all these symptoms rapidly passing off (*immediate reaction*); or (2) similar symptoms may appear and pass away after an interval of five to seven days (*accelerated reaction*). The phenomena closely resemble those of anaphylaxis (*see p. 18*), and depend on the presence of an antigen, not in the antitoxin, but in the horse-serum itself. They are of greater severity in persons the subjects of asthma, in some of whom even fatal results have followed, and they form a contra-indication to the routine use of the antitoxin in prophylaxis in such instances.

"Croup."—It is now universally recognised that most of the cases which used to be known as "membranous croup" are really of diphtheritic origin, and that the "croupy" symptoms are due to the existence of a primary laryngeal diphtheria. False membrane may also be formed in the larynx in the course of other diseases of bacterial origin, such as scarlet fever, small-pox, measles, and whooping-cough; or it may arise as the result of injury from scalds, etc. In such cases the "croup" is merely a complication of the causative disease. The only independent maladies which can be called "croup" are non-contagious. Croupy symptoms may be due to an acute catarrhal

laryngitis precisely similar to that of adults, no false membrane being formed. But since it occurs in young children, in whom the larynx is very narrow, and spasmodic conditions are frequent, the spasm and swelling of the mucosa cause the special symptoms of laryngeal stenosis. Croupy symptoms may also occur in laryngismus stridulus, an affection of young children due to spasm of the adductor muscles of the larynx, without laryngeal catarrh or formation of membrane. These forms will be described under Diseases of the Larynx.

PLAGUE—PESTIS

A specific infectious disease characterised by great virulence and rapid course, accompanied by buboes or pulmonary inflammation, and due to the presence in the blood and tissues of the *Bacillus pestis*.

Etiology.—The disease is liable to become epidemic in the presence of insanitary conditions, filth, and overcrowding. It is now very rare in Europe, one of the last small epidemics occurring in Glasgow in 1900, while minor outbreaks took place in Suffolk between 1906 and 1911. It prevails in India and in Eastern China, and since 1894 it has occasionally visited parts of Africa and of North and South America. It is commonest in warm weather. The contagion attaches itself particularly to houses and to fomites, but it is by no means so virulent as that of small-pox or scarlet fever. Previous to an outbreak, the disease usually appears in rats and mice, which die of it in large numbers. It spreads among them, and from them to man, through the fleas with which they are infested. Except in connection with pneumonic plague, in which infection occurs through the respiratory passages, direct infection from man to man is uncommon.

The micro-organism is a minute bacillus, thick, and with rounded ends which stain more deeply than the central portion. It grows on ordinary media, stains with basic aniline dyes, and is Gram-negative.

The average *incubation period* is from three to five days.

Morbid Anatomy.—The most characteristic appearances are those of bubo, and of widespread hæmorrhages into all the organs and tissues. Degenerative changes are present in the

heart, liver, spleen, and kidneys. The buboes consist of swollen and congested lymphatic glands embedded in a hæmorrhagic exudation into the adjoining areolar tissue. Later, the glandular substance breaks down and becomes purulent. In the pulmonary form scattered pneumonic patches are to be found; and the spleen is enlarged, and may show infarctions.

Symptoms.—There may or may not be slight premonitory symptoms, lasting one or two days. The invasion is usually sudden, attended with high fever, vomiting, headache, suffusion of the eyes, and sometimes with rigor. There is great lassitude, the face has an anxious or a dazed expression, and the gait is staggering. Hearing is dulled, and the speech is thick and indistinct. The tongue is swollen, furred, and dry. There may be diarrhœa or constipation. Delirium ensues, the typhoid state sets in, and death may result in a few days.

In about 78 per cent. of the cases (*bubonic plague*), buboes appear between the second and fifth days. They are commonest in the groin, less common in the axilla, and least common in the angle of the jaw. They are usually single, large, and very tender. The skin over them is inflamed.

In favourable cases convalescence occurs from the sixth to the tenth day, but the bubo continues to enlarge, breaks down, and is discharged in the form of pus and sloughs, which may persist for weeks.

In another form of the disease (*pneumonic plague*) there are no buboes. High fever and severe prostration are present, along with cough, and a profuse, watery, blood-stained (but not rusty) sputum. Moist râles at the bases, and scattered pneumonic patches are to be found, but the physical signs are not proportionate to the severity of the symptoms. The sputum contains the bacillus, often almost in pure culture. The mortality is very high.

Exceptionally severe and exceptionally mild forms (*septicæmic plague* and *ambulatory plague*) are also to be met with.

The mortality varies in different epidemics from 50-95 per cent., but appears to be less among Europeans.

In the Glasgow epidemic, of 28 cases recognised during life 28·5 per cent. died. There were eight others, inferentially plague cases, making 36 in all. The total deaths were 16, or 44·5 per cent. All the cases noted as pneumonic, and all those noted as septicæmic or diarrhœal, ended in death. Only one purely

bubonic case proved fatal, and even that was noted as being "probably ultimately septicæmic." Many of the bubonic cases were, however, of a very mild type (*pestis ambulans*).

Only the pneumonic and septicæmic forms gave rise to secondary cases; the bubonic did not. In the former cases the bacilli were disseminated in the sputum or alvine discharges; in the latter locked up in the glands.

In the great Manchurian epidemic of 1910, the cases were almost entirely pneumonic, and the mortality was correspondingly high.

Special Points.—1. Rapidity of onset and course. 2. Extreme prostration. 3. Presence of characteristic bubo. 4. In the pneumonic form, diagnosis mainly depends upon bacteriological examination.

Prophylaxis.—Rigorous isolation must be carried out, and continued for a month after recovery. All excreta must be disinfected, and also clothes and utensils. Attendants and relatives, where the disease is epidemic, should be inoculated with Haffkine's prophylactic vaccine (a culture grown on broth for six weeks, and then brought for one hour to 70° C.). Of this 2.5 cc. are injected. Smart febrile reaction follows, and lasts about two days. Rats should as far as possible be exterminated, and their bodies burnt.

Treatment, apart from serum-therapy, consists mainly in nursing and in supporting the strength. Ice-bags to the head, cold sponging, avoidance of depressant antipyretics, stimulation by alcohol and ammonia, are the main indications. Locally, pain in the buboes may be relieved by ice-bags or morphia. The ordinary practice is to open them when pus has formed; but Nesfield advises immediate incision to allow of the escape of toxins, and reports striking results.

Serum-therapy.—Two sera, Yersin's and Lustig's, have been chiefly employed in the treatment of plague. Of these, the former is bactericidal, the latter antitoxic. Yersin's serum gives the better results, and is the more generally used, but neither has been more than partially successful. Much depends upon the serum being given early in the disease, and on the mode of administration. Part at least of the dose (60-150 cc.) should be given intravenously.

CHOLERA

A specific infectious disease, occurring in epidemic form, and characterised by violent purging and vomiting, pain, cramps in the legs, suppression of urine, and intense collapse.

The mouth of the Ganges is claimed as the home of cholera, and although epidemics have occurred in most parts of the world, they can always be traced back to India.

Etiology.—The disease is not directly contagious. Contagion is conveyed by stools, contaminated water, and vegetables or other food-stuffs washed in it. It breaks out principally in summer and autumn, and attacks all ages and both sexes alike. It spreads along trade routes no faster than the rate of human travel.

The *germ* is a spirillum or vibrio, known as the comma bacillus of Koch. It is about half the size of, but thicker than, the tubercle bacillus, and is curved, but may be spiral, or shaped like an S. It has a single flagellum at one or both ends. It grows on ordinary media, stains with the usual aniline dyes, and is Gram-negative. It is found in the dejecta and intestines of all patients affected. It does not occur in the internal organs or blood. The constitutional symptoms are therefore regarded as due to the absorption of toxins from the intestine. The organism survives for a considerable time outside the body, and multiplies freely on moist linen. It remains alive, but does not multiply freely in sewage water. It is quickly killed by drying. It has sometimes been found in the stools of healthy individuals, who may act as "carriers." Flies also may possibly spread the disease.

Morbid Anatomy.—The mucous membrane of the small intestine is generally congested, but may be pale. Peyer's patches and the solitary follicles are swollen and red. There is no ulceration, but the intestinal epithelium may be extensively denuded. The intestines are filled with a turbid watery fluid, in which the organisms are present in large numbers.

The blood is dark and thick, sometimes almost tarry through the drain of water from the system. The other organs show changes similar to those occurring in other virulent fevers. The spleen, however, is usually small. The tissues are dry, and the serous membranes dry and sticky. *Rigor mortis is rapid*, and may cause movements of the limbs. Sometimes there is *post mortem rise of temperature*.

Symptoms.—After a short incubation period (from two to five days) a preliminary diarrhoea sets in, with more or less

headache, vertigo, and nausea, and lasts from one to three days ; then the characteristic diarrhœa begins. Most clinicians divide the disease into three stages—

1. Evacuative.
2. Algid or collapse.
3. Reaction.

The preliminary diarrhœa is sometimes referred to as the *stage of invasion*, in which case four stages are enumerated. The stage of invasion may, however, be entirely absent, and the disease then begins abruptly with the—

Evacuative Stage.—This is characterised by violent diarrhœa, and by cramp in the legs. The stools are at first fæcal, but soon become fluid, greyish, and watery ("rice-water" stools). Their reaction is generally alkaline. The fluid is of low specific gravity (1006-1012), and contains albumin, mucin, and sodium chloride. The flocculent sediment consists of epithelial cells and leucocytes, triple phosphates, shreds of mucus, the specific organism in great abundance, and other microbes. Blood is sometimes present. The evacuations are extremely copious and frequent, and often quite painless, but there may be griping pain. Vomiting begins within a few hours, the food being first brought up, and afterwards matter similar to the stools. It may be almost incessant. There are violent cramps in the legs and feet, and later in the abdominal muscles. The external temperature is subnormal, and the pulse rapid and weak. Prostration is great, and thirst extreme. This stage passes in a few hours into the—

Collapse or Algid Stage.—The collapse becomes extreme ; the features are shrunken, livid, or ashy grey ; the eyeballs are sunk in ; the skin is shrivelled and wrinkled, and covered with a cold, clammy sweat. The surface temperature remains subnormal, but in the rectum it rises to 102° F. or more. The voice is husky ; the pulse is small and flickering, and often absent at the wrist. The purging usually ceases, but the vomiting may continue. Restlessness is conspicuous. There may be complete suppression of urine, coma, and death within a few hours ; or the patient may pass into the third, or—

Reaction Stage.—The temperature gradually rises, and a red glow replaces the ashy appearance. Erythema and urticaria

are frequent. The patient gradually recovers, the urinary secretion returning, or the improvement is checked by the onset of—1. The typhoid state; 2. inflammatory complications (pneumonia, enteritis, etc.); 3. recurrence of severe diarrhœa; 4. uræmia, coma, and death.

The stage of evacuation may last from two to sixteen hours, that of collapse not more than twenty-four. The duration of the reactive stage is less definite.

The mortality from cholera is greatest at the beginning of an epidemic. Very virulent cases may die before diarrhœa has begun (*cholera sicca*). Pregnant women almost always miscarry.

Complications.—1. Bronchitis, pneumonia, pulmonary œdema, pleurisy; 2. gangrene of the penis or nose; diphtheritic inflammation of the vulva; 3. conjunctivitis; corneal ulceration; 4. arthritis; 5. bed-sores.

Treatment.—In the stages of invasion and evacuation diarrhœa should be checked, if possible, by lead acetate and opium, mineral acids, or morphia hypodermically. For vomiting, mustard should be applied to the abdomen, and ice given to suck. Cramps are to be relieved by friction and morphia. No food or stimulant should be allowed, and the thirst must be relieved by ice alone. In the collapse stage opium and astringents are useless or harmful. Intravenous injection of warm saline solution is often at least temporarily successful (common salt, grm. 3·0; carbonate of soda, grm. 1·5; warm sterilised water, cc. 1000); but better results are now obtained by Rogers' method of intravenous injections of *hypertonic* saline solution (sodium chloride, ʒij; potassium chloride, gr. vj; calcium chloride, gr. iv; water, one pint), begun whenever the specific gravity of the blood is found to have reached 1063, without waiting for collapse to appear. The injections may be frequently repeated. By this method, combined with the internal administration of permanganate of potassium in solution or pill, a very considerable reduction in mortality has been effected. The permanganate appears to act by converting the highly toxic nitrites formed in the intestine by the organisms into nitrates. In the stage of reaction, food must be given often, and at first very sparingly. Excessive fever should be checked by sponging, and continued suppression of urine by dry cupping and fomenta-

tions over the loins. Uræmia should be treated by intravenous injection of sodium bicarbonate.

Prophylaxis.—The sick must be promptly isolated, and all excreta and fomites disinfected. When cholera is epidemic, milk and drinking-water should be boiled. Irritating foods must be avoided. All cases of diarrhœa should be checked as rapidly as possible by opium, chlorodyne, or other astringents.

Preventive inoculation has been introduced by Haffkine, who injects subcutaneously first a weak and then a strong vaccine, prepared from cultures of the cholera vibrio. The results appear to be distinctly favourable in diminishing liability to the disease.

DYSENTERY

A term employed to designate various forms of intestinal flux, all characterised by the frequent passage of mucoid or hæmorrhagic stools, tormina, and tenesmus; and pathologically by inflammation, and sometimes ulceration, of the large intestine.

There are two distinct forms, bacillary and amœbic dysentery (*amœbiasis*). Although the latter is obviously a protozoan infection, it is described here from its clinical resemblance to the bacillary type. Besides these, there are many instances in which dysenteric symptoms occur as a "terminal infection" in the course of acute or chronic disease.

I. BACILLARY DYSENTERY

Etiology.—Dysentery occurs sporadically in temperate climates, and occasionally in epidemic form in large public institutions (jails and asylums) where sanitation is defective. Severe epidemics may occur in times of famine, and in armies in the field. It was very prevalent in the recent war. In tropical climates it is endemic and epidemic. Infection is conveyed by the fæces, by soiled clothing, by flies, and by contaminated water or soil. Convalescents may act as "carriers."

The *Bacillus dysenteriae* exists in several strains, differing in their fermentative effect on different sugars, and in their agglutination reactions. The chief types are those of Shiga-Kruse and of Flexner. The former does not ferment mannite, the latter does. In form and staining reactions it is very like the typhoid bacillus, being like it Gram-negative, but it is somewhat thicker, and is non-motile.

The *incubation period* is usually two to three days, but may extend to eight.

Morbid Anatomy.—In *acute* dysentery the principal changes in the intestinal mucous membrane are—

1. Intense hyperæmia, the mucosa being swollen, corrugated, and here and there hæmorrhagic.
2. Necrosis, and fibrinous exudate, with formation of a pseudo-membrane.
3. Ulceration, at first on the summit of the folds, but extending both deeply and laterally.

In *chronic* dysentery the mucosa is thickened and granular, and the whole gut is thickened. There are chronic ulcers with thickened edges, and areas of scar tissue. Consequently there are partial strictures of the bowel, which is dilated above. A typical dysenteric ulcer therefore has the following characters—

1. Site : on the ridges of the large intestine.
2. Edges : irregular and thickened.
3. Base : may be formed of any of the coats.
4. Tendency to contraction on healing.

The so-called “diphtheritic dysentery” is a form in which necrosis is very extensive and the development of pseudo-membrane pronounced. In advanced cases the whole mucosa may form “a black, rotten, friable, charred mass” (Rokitansky). “Secondary” diphtheritic dysenteries arise as a terminal infection, most frequently in the course of *chronic renal disease*; but they occur in many other diseases, acute and chronic. They are also of the bacillary type.

Symptoms.—In *acute* dysentery the onset may be sudden or there may be previous diarrhœa. There are frequent or incessant calls to stool, with pain, griping (tormina), and constant sense of weight in the rectum (tenesmus). The stools are *very small*, and at the height of the disease contain no fæcal matter, but are composed of slimy mucus, which soon becomes blood stained. Passage of a stool gives no relief; straining continues, and in grave cases from 50 up to even 100 stools may be passed in twenty-four hours. There are slight or moderate fever, great thirst, dirty tongue, dizziness, and dry skin. The patient loses strength. In the graver forms he may die of

exhaustion, or may pass before death into the typhoid state, or death may result from pyæmia or perforation. In milder cases the disease subsides rapidly or slowly, or it may lead to chronic dysentery. Where there is ulceration, the stools contain clumps of grey or fœtid sloughs, and are very offensive; where there is gangrene, the sloughs are larger, the fluid portion is blackish, and the odour intensely disgusting. Pure blood may be passed as the result of ulceration; and in the late stages almost pure pus. There is a slight polymorphonuclear leucocytosis.

In *chronic* dysentery diarrhœa is less frequent. The stools are loose, partly fæcal, much mixed with mucus, and occasionally with blood. They sometimes appear like "frog's spawn" or "boiled sago." Appetite is absent; the tongue is glazed and red; anæmia and emaciation are progressive; and the patient has a shrunken, cachectic appearance. The spleen is not enlarged. The disease leads ultimately to death.

Complications.—1. Peritonitis, with or without perforation (rare); 2. pleurisy, pericarditis, endocarditis; 3. arthritis, rarely pyæmia; 4. anæmic dropsy; 5. peripheral neuritis.

Hepatic abscess does not occur in bacillary dysentery, but may do so when it is complicated with the amœbic form. In the tropics, dysentery and malaria are often associated.

Treatment.—In *acute* cases the patient must be confined to bed, and the food must be fluid, water or albumin water at first, barley water, milk, chicken tea, etc., later. Pain and tenesmus may be met by warmth to the abdomen, morphia in very severe cases, or small starch and laudanum enemata. Ipecacuan or emetine (*see* p. 55) may be given in cases where there is a co-existent infection with *Entamæba histolytica*, but they have no specific effect in bacillary dysentery. The most efficient medicinal treatment, apart from the use of antitoxic sera, is that by saline laxatives, and in severe cases the saline treatment should be combined with the administration of serum (*see* below). Either Magnes. Sulph. or Sodii Sulph. ʒi (gram. 4·0) may be given every two hours till a feculent motion is produced, and then so as to produce two or three motions daily. When mucus and blood have gone, bismuth salicylate may be given till the motions are solid.

Calomel, gr. $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ (grm. 0.015-0.03), every hour, or minute doses of Hydrarg. Perchlor., may also be given in the acute stage. Irrigation is contra-indicated by the pain and irritability of the bowel.

Chronic cases must be treated at first by rest in bed and careful dieting, combined with irrigation. Two or four pints of a warm (100° F.) solution of nitrate of silver (grm. 1.0-3.0 to the litre), or, better, of albargin (gr. .1 to the ounce), are allowed to flow slowly through a long tube into the bowel, the patient lying on his back with the buttocks raised on a pillow. Large doses of bismuth are also useful.

Specific Therapy.—By the use of polyvalent antidysenteric sera the mortality of bacillary dysentery has been considerably reduced, and in all severe cases the serum should be administered at the earliest possible moment. The dosage varies in different hands, from 20-80 cc. being administered intravenously once or twice daily for the first two or three days, along with salines by the mouth. Vaccines of the Shiga bacillus have also been used with good results, but they do not appear to be so successful as the serum.

II. PROTOZOAL OR AMÆBIC DYSENTERY (*Amæbiasis*).

Etiology.—Endemic dysentery, which occurs chiefly in tropical climates and in the United States, is due to the presence in the colon of *Entamæba histolytica*. The obligatory parasite *Entamæba coli* is non-pathogenic. The disease occurs sporadically in temperate climates. The organism is swallowed in contaminated water or upon uncooked vegetables. Convalescents may be carriers.

Entamæba histolytica is a rounded cell from three to five times the diameter of a red blood corpuscle, possessing a clear outer ectosarc, and a granular endosarc. It has a rounded or oval excentric nucleus, and measures from 15-50 μ in diameter. On the warm stage it shows active amœboid movement. In the resting stage it forms a cyst or cysts, 10-15 μ in diameter, and in this state resists drying for a long time.

The organisms are found chiefly in the large intestine, especially in the rectum and flexures, but they also occur in the ileum and stomach, and in the liver. They have the power of penetrating the tissues.

Morbid Anatomy.—The lesions are chiefly seated in the large intestine. They present—

1. Small gelatinous swellings of the mucosa, with partial ulceration.
2. Necrosis and sloughing of the underlying tissues.

The ulcers of amœbic dysentery thus have *undermined edges*. The amœbæ are found in the ulcerating mucosa, but more abundantly in the tissues beyond the ulcerated area (submucous or muscular coat), where they set up œdema and necrosis. Later, along with the ulcers, cicatrices, leading sometimes to partial stricture, may be found.

Hepatic abscesses, usually single, and hepato-pulmonary abscess, are common complications. Amœbæ are sometimes found in the portal capillaries.

Symptoms.—The *acute* form closely resembles acute bacillary dysentery. Death may occur in a few days, or after weeks or months, from hæmorrhage, perforation, sloughing, hepatic abscess, or exhaustion; or the disease may become chronic. The majority of cases recover.

The *chronic* form may arise out of the acute, or be chronic from the first. The symptoms have a general resemblance to those of chronic bacillary dysentery, but there is a more definite tendency to alternating periods of diarrhœa and constipation. Along with the emaciation, this may suggest cancer of the lower bowel. A digital examination will clear up the difficulty.

Both acute and chronic forms can be distinguished from bacillary dysentery by the discovery of the amœba in the stools, and by the failure of the patient's serum to agglutinate Shiga's bacillus.

The chief *complications* have been mentioned above. Peritonitis may follow perforation. Hepatitis is followed by hepatic abscess (*see* p. 52), which, if untreated, ends by rupture, usually into the lung, an event signalled by "anchovy sauce" expectoration. It may also rupture into the pleura, peritoneum, intestines, or stomach, and rarely in other situations.

Treatment.—Rest in bed and light or liquid diet are required, according to the severity of the case. Symptoms may be relieved as in bacillary dysentery. The large doses of ipecacuanha formerly used have been superseded by Rogers'

introduction of *emetine*, its alkaloid. The drug, in the form of emetine hydrochloride, should be given hypodermically, in doses of gr. i (grm. 0·065) daily for from ten days to a fortnight. A longer course may produce intestinal irritation, but after an interval in which bismuth is used a second course may be given if necessary. Active amœbæ disappear under this treatment, but cysts may still remain. If so, emetine bismuth iodide gr. i may be given thrice daily by the mouth, or a single dose of gr. iij in capsule every night for twelve nights. Carriers may be treated in the same way. In obstinate cases irrigation of the bowel may be needed, and Osler advocates warm solution of quinine in strengths increasing from 1 in 5000 to 1 in 1000. Tannic acid (0·5 per cent.) is also recommended. Hepatic abscess should be treated by aspiration and injection of emetine hydrochloride into the cavity. Drainage is unnecessary, unless there is a microbic complication.

MEDITERRANEAN (MALTA) FEVER

A specific infectious disease due to the *Micrococcus melitensis* and characterised by a prolonged course of irregularly remittent fever, and by enlargement of the spleen.

Etiology.—Endemic on the shores of the Mediterranean, the disease is also found in South Africa, India, China, and parts of America. It prevails chiefly in the summer, attacks the sexes equally, and is commonest between the ages of ten and thirty.

The organism is a small flagellated micrococcus, growing on agar and bouillon, and feebly in gelatine. It stains with basic aniline dyes, but is Gram-negative. It is found abundantly in the spleen in fatal cases, and it may often be cultivated from the blood, sometimes from the urine, and occasionally from the fæces. In Malta it is transmitted to the human being through the goat, being found in the milk of at least 10 per cent. of the goats in the island, while the serum of at least half of them agglutinates the organism. There is some evidence that it may be transmitted by mosquitoes.

Fatal cases show a marked enlargement and softening of the spleen. The intestine is not ulcerated. There is no leucocytosis, but on the contrary leucopenia.

The *incubation period* varies from a few days to three or four weeks, averaging about a fortnight.

Symptoms.—For the first week or more, headache, sleep-

lessness, anorexia and sometimes vomiting, constipation, and drenching sweats are the prominent symptoms. Crops of sudamina appear, but no specific eruption. The liver and spleen are enlarged. There is slight cough, and the breath-sounds at the bases of the lungs are harsh and creaking. After this period the acute symptoms disappear, but the sweats continue, and the patient becomes increasingly weak. Constipation continues. Fever remains high, but the curve is irregular and prolonged. It often presents waves of high temperature, lasting two to three weeks, and followed by a few days' intermission and another rise, the total duration being about ninety days or more. Convalescence is long and slow. The chief complications are *arthritis*, flitting from joint to joint, orchitis, and neuralgia.

The *undulant* type of fever just described is the commonest, but the type may be *intermittent* or *continuous*. Mild cases may recover in a fortnight, in others the illness may be prolonged for six months. In some few *malignant* cases the typhoid state leads to death in a week or ten days; but only about 2 per cent. of the cases die.

The *diagnosis* from enteric fever depends upon the agglutination test, and from malaria upon examination of the blood.

Treatment is symptomatic. The cold bath is indicated in hyperpyrexia. *Vaccines* have been used prophylactically with some degree of success, but their use in treatment has so far given dubious results. Segregation of infected animals is also necessary for prophylaxis, and those animals are considered infected whose milk responds positively to the agglutination test.

PERTUSSIS, OR WHOOPING-COUGH

A specific infectious disease, affecting the respiratory organs, and attended with a peculiar paroxysmal cough and whoop.

Etiology.—The disease is contagious from person to person, and may also be spread by fomites. The virus is chiefly disseminated in the sputum. Children between the first and second dentitions are most frequently attacked, but unprotected adults and infants are both liable, although in the adult the disease is rare.

Whooping-cough is most infectious in the first week, and

becomes gradually less so. Epidemics occur chiefly in spring and early summer, and are often closely associated with measles. One attack procures future immunity.

Specific Organism.—The *Bacillus pertussis* described by Bordet and Gengou has strong claims to be considered as the cause. It is a minute oval rod, about the same size as the influenza bacillus, Gram-negative, and growing freely on a modified form of blood-agar. The bacillus is agglutinated by the serum of convalescents. It is most abundant in the sputum in the first week of the disease.

Morbid Anatomy.—The spasmodic nature of the cough is due to implication of the nervous system, probably the result of toxic invasion. *Post mortem*, evidences of bronchial catarrh, and of pulmonary and other complications, may be found. Leucocytosis is well marked (15,000-30,000 per c.mm.), the lymphocytes being chiefly involved.

Symptoms.—The disease is usually divided into three stages—1. Stage of invasion (catarrhal stage); 2. paroxysmal or spasmodic stage; 3. period of decline.

The average incubation period is from eight to ten days.

1. *Stage of Invasion.*—The onset is either insidious or abrupt, the temperature in the latter case rising smartly to 100°-102° F. The symptoms are merely those of bronchial catarrh with coryza, and last from seven to ten days.

2. *Spasmodic or Whooping Stage.*—The paroxysm consists of a series of short coughs or expiratory puffs, with no intervening inspiration till about fifteen or more expulsive efforts have been made in a brief space of time. Then occurs a deep, prolonged inspiration, attended with the characteristic *whoop*; a second bout of short coughs succeeds with another whoop, and after three or four such sequences, a little plug of mucus is expelled; or more frequently vomiting takes place, and the child is apparently well until the next paroxysm.

During the severe cough the patient is perfectly helpless, and when the paroxysms are very violent we may get—1. Hæmorrhages from the nose, frænum of the tongue, under the conjunctivæ, or even in the brain; 2. ulceration of the frænum; 3. collapse of the lung; 4. convulsions in infants; 5. fatal asphyxia (rare).

During the paroxysm the face becomes blue and swollen, and the eyeballs protrude. If the fits are frequent, there may be cyanosis, with œdema of the face and neck. The whoop is due

to a spasmodic partial closure of the glottis. There may be as many as eighty attacks in the twenty-four hours, but they range from four upwards. The prognosis is grave in proportion to the number of attacks. The paroxysmal stage lasts three to six weeks. During the expiratory spasm, the percussion note is defective. Râles may be heard over the chest throughout the paroxysm. In the intervals there are usually no physical signs, but the rule laid down by Niemeyer is a good one:—"If a child has a violent, *prolonged cough* attended with *vomiting*, suspect and treat as if it were whooping-cough."

3. *Period of Decline*.—This stage is marked by a gradual decrease in the number of paroxysms, the disease lasting from six weeks to two months or more. Convalescence is slow, and may be protracted over several months, but patients may be considered non-infectious five weeks after the occurrence of the first whoop. During convalescence there is an increased liability to tuberculosis.

Complications.—Besides those mentioned as possibly occurring during the paroxysm there may be—

1. Bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, and rarely subcutaneous emphysema from rupture of air-cells.
2. Convulsions, and more rarely cerebral paralysis following hæmorrhage.

Diagnosis is difficult in the catarrhal stage, but the early lymphocytosis is helpful. The lymphocytes number about 60 per cent., the polymorphonuclears about 40 per cent.

Treatment.—Prompt isolation ; and to begin with, a simple saline with paregoric. When the whoop develops we may try anti-spasmodics : bromoform, belladonna, chloral, or antipyrin. Of these belladonna is the most generally useful ; others advise in addition—quinine, emetics, swabbing the throat with a 2 per cent. solution of resorcin, etc. The number of drugs recommended by various authorities shows that none of them is specific. Even the anti-spasmodics have little influence on the paroxysms unless given in such doses as to be otherwise harmful. Creosote, carbolic acid, sulphurous acid, etc., vaporised in the sick-room, have often proved useful.

Since the discovery of the bacillus, vaccines have been used with promising results.

Adequate ventilation and avoidance of cold and draughts are very important. In warm weather the child should be much in the open air, unless serious complications are present.

If recovery be tedious, *change of air*, cod-liver oil, and Easton's syrup may be recommended.

Special points to be noticed—1. In *infants*, the tendency to convulsions. 2. In *older children*, the liability to broncho-pneumonia, causing—(1) Collapse of the lung; (2) deformity of the chest (pigeon shape). 3. Children exposed to infection should be disinfected, and isolated for at least three weeks, as the disease cannot be diagnosed in the catarrhal stage.

INFLUENZA

An acute specific infectious disease occurring epidemically or pandemically, characterised by fever, by symptoms affecting mainly the respiratory, digestive, and nervous systems, and by prolonged prostration following upon defervescence.

Etiology.—Epidemics may occur at any season, but are most frequent in the winter months. Adults between the ages of twenty and forty are oftenest attacked, young children and the aged less often.

The *Bacillus influenzae*, discovered by Pfeiffer in 1892, is a very small rod-shaped organism (0.2 μ wide, 0.5 μ long), Gram-negative, and occurring singly, or in pairs or clumps. It is non-motile, and does not bear spores. It can be cultivated on blood-agar, on which it forms very minute colonies. Various filter-passing organisms have been described in connection with the pandemic of 1918, but it cannot be certainly affirmed that any of these is the true cause of influenza. The probabilities are much in favour of Pfeiffer's bacillus, which, however, in severe or fatal cases is very constantly accompanied by virulent pneumococci or streptococci.

Contagion is conveyed by the secretions from the respiratory passages.

The incubation period is from one to six days. One attack confers no immunity.

Morbid Anatomy.—The characteristic changes are—1. Inflammatory swelling of the nose and neighbouring sinuses. 2. Hyperæmia of the trachea and bronchi, the surface of which is covered with tenacious muco-pus. 3. In fatal cases hæmorrhagic œdema of the lungs or patches of broncho-pneumonia, and fatty change in the heart. 4. When the central nervous

system is involved, hyperæmia of the meninges of brain and cord.

Leucopenia is present in uncomplicated cases.

Symptoms.—The onset is sudden. There are severe frontal headache and backache, pains in the bones, and marked weakness. The temperature rises smartly to 102° F. or even 104°. Coryza and catarrh of the upper air-passages are present, and the larynx or pharynx is often involved. In mild cases convalescence sets in in a few days, but a feeling of prostration persists for a considerable time. In severer cases, after the first few days, the disease assumes one of three types :—

1. *Respiratory type*, in which bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, or croupous pneumonia develops. Expectoration of bright red blood is common. A peculiar heliotrope cyanosis is an ominous feature of grave cases.
2. *Gastro-intestinal Type*.—Epigastric pain, vomiting, diarrhœa, and anorexia, associated sometimes with jaundice and enlargement of the spleen, are the commonest symptoms.
3. *Nervous Type*.—The initial pains are more severe, and after defervescence the heart becomes slow or irregular, and there is sometimes anginoid pain. Great depression and insomnia follow. In grave cases there may be coma or delirium. Meningitis or encephalitis may be found *post mortem*.

Complications and Sequelæ—

Any form of nervous disorder may follow or complicate the nervous or the other types of influenza—hæmorrhage, embolism, epilepsy, insanity; myelitis or degeneration of the cord; neuritis, local or general, and neuralgia. Prolonged nervous depression is very frequent. Otitis media is not uncommon. Pulmonary and cardiac complications are the most frequent; besides those mentioned pleurisy or empyema, syncope, tachycardia, or dilatation of the heart may occur. Hæmorrhages are frequent; albuminuria and nephritis; arthritis; phlebitis; erythema, urticaria, or dermatitis may all complicate or follow the disease. In fatal cases the temperature may be hyperpyrexial.

Prognosis in uncomplicated cases is good, except in the elderly, to whom the disease proves very fatal, usually from the supervention of pneumonia, and in the "malignant" cases of pandemics, with heliotrope cyanosis, subcrepitant râles, and hæmorrhagic sputa. Such cases may die within forty-eight hours. Quiescent chronic diseases are apt to be kindled into activity by an intercurrent attack. Relapses are common.

Treatment.—Rest in bed should be insisted on even in the mild cases, and continued for a day or two after the temperature has become normal, in order to avoid the risk of relapses or complications. The sputum and nasal secretions must be disinfected. Great care must be taken during convalescence, especially in the elderly.

Aspirin may be given cautiously for the pains of the first stage. Mild cases require little more than simple diaphoretics such as Liq. Ammon. Acet. Sleeplessness may be relieved by bromides, particularly the bromide of ammonium. In severe cases alcoholic stimulation is necessary, and digitalis, camphor, or strychnine must be given where there is a tendency to heart failure. Large and frequent doses of salicin are recommended to abort the disease. As the infection is often a mixed one, antistreptococcal or antipneumococcal sera may be used separately or in combination, or a vaccine of streptococcus, pneumococcus, and *Bacillus influenzae*, which may also be used prophylactically in presence of an epidemic. Those exposed to infection should use a disinfectant gargle frequently.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER

(Epidemic Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis)

An acute specific fever characterised by inflammation of the cerebro-spinal meninges, and caused by the meningococcus.

Etiology.—The disease occurs both in limited epidemics and sporadically. It affects for the most part children and young adults. Infection occurs chiefly through the nasal passages, either through direct contact with the naso-pharyngeal secretions of patients, or by means of "carriers." Among those who come in contact with patients many are found to be temporary carriers of the organism without suffering from the

disease, and there is a small number of chronic carriers even among those who have never been "contacts." Extreme fatigue increases the liability, and epidemics are not uncommon in military camps.

The micro-organism is the *Diplococcus intracellularis meningitidis* of Weichselbaum, which is found mainly within the polymorphonuclear leucocytes of the exudate, but sometimes also in the lesions of complications such as arthritis, pericarditis, and pneumonia, and in the blood. It is aerobic, and can be grown on serum-agar or blood-agar. It stains easily with ordinary stains, and is decolorised by Gram's method. Four "types" of the organism exist, differing from each other in their agglutinating reactions much as do typhoid and paratyphoid bacilli.

Morbid Anatomy.—In rapidly fatal cases there may be nothing more than intense congestion of the meninges. In those of longer duration there is an abundant whitish or yellowish fibrino-purulent deposit at the base of the brain and in the lumbar portion of the cord. The membranes are much thickened; the ventricles are dilated and contain pus or turbid fluid. The veins of Galen may be thrombosed, causing hydrocephalus.

The changes in other internal organs are those of the febrile state, and of such complications as may be present.

Symptoms.—After an incubation period of from one to five days, the invasion is sudden; there are intolerable pains in the back of the head and neck, extending later down the spine, vertigo, vomiting, and noisy delirium, which is succeeded by apathy or even by coma. There is often intense hyperæsthesia. The *head is strongly retracted*, and the limbs and trunk are rigid, causing opisthotonos or orthotonos. The knee-jerks are commonly exaggerated, but may be absent; and Kernig's sign (*see* p. 63) is frequently present. In young children, convulsions may occur. The temperature is sometimes little raised, in other cases it may reach 104° or 106° F. The pulse varies similarly. The skin may therefore be either cold or warm. Cutaneous eruptions may appear from the first to the third day, about which time consciousness may return, and there may be a transient improvement in the symptoms. They are soon aggravated, coma succeeds the delirium, the fever rises, and diarrhœa may set in. Photophobia and dilatation of the pupils are frequent. There may be paralysis of one or more limbs. Exhaustion or emaciation are rapid, and the typhoid state is early established. Death may take place

in the first week, in "fulminating" cases even within a few hours (septicæmic type), or after a protracted illness. If the patient survives, the symptoms subside only slowly, and convalescence is long and perilous.

Cutaneous Eruptions.—These are usually of one of two forms:—1. *Herpes facialis et cervicalis*, and *herpes zoster*. The distribution is often wide, and the eruption need not be limited to one side. 2. *A purpuric or petechial rash* (hence the American name of "spotted fever") usually beginning on the legs. It may involve the entire surface.

Erythematous and pemphigoid rashes occasionally occur.

Leucocytosis (25,000-40,000 per c.mm.) is constantly present. The cells are polymorphonuclear.

In the *septicæmic* form of the disease meningeal symptoms are absent, though the organism can be found in the cerebro-spinal fluid.

Complications.—1. Pleurisy, pericarditis, pneumonia; 2. purulent effusions into joints; 3. optic neuritis, purulent keratitis, or panophthalmia (usually in the right eye); 4. otitis media; permanent deafness from labyrinthine disease.

Special points to note in this meningitis are—The marked rigidity, and tendency to opisthotonos or orthotonos. The varied skin affections. The sudden onset and extremely rapid course.

Diagnosis.—Apart from the symptoms, there are three important aids to diagnosis—

1. *Kernig's Sign.*—If the thigh be flexed at right angles to the abdomen, the leg cannot be fully extended upon the thigh, as it can in health, owing to strong contraction of the flexors.

2. *Brudzinski's Sign.*—The patient lying on his back, his neck is flexed by the observer's hand. Involuntary flexion at the hip and knee-joints follows. If one leg be flexed, there is involuntary flexion of the other.

3. *Lumbar Puncture.*—Under a general anæsthetic or local anæsthesia of the lumbar region, the patient is laid on his side and close to the edge of the bed, with back bent and knees drawn up. The third lumbar interspace is found at the middle point of a line joining the highest points of the iliac crests, and the third and fourth lumbar spines are identified above and

below it. The skin over this interspace being sterilised, a Barker's needle is thrust into it, in the middle line and tending slightly upwards, till the subarachnoid space is reached. The stylet is now withdrawn, and the escaping cerebro-spinal fluid, in cerebro-spinal fever, turbid or purulent, is collected in a sterile test-tube and examined for the presence of the diplococcus. With ordinary aseptic precautions this operation is perfectly safe.

Treatment.—The use of antimeningococcic serum is now the chief means of treatment, and has reduced the mortality from 70 or 80 per cent. to about 30 per cent. It is injected by means of lumbar puncture into the spinal canal in doses of 20-30 cc. for an adult. The injection is repeated daily, or every second or third day, according to the severity of the case, and is always preceded by the withdrawal, for the relief of pressure, of a somewhat larger quantity of cerebro-spinal fluid than it is intended to inject of serum. Combined intravenous and intrathecal injections may be given in severe cases. The earlier the treatment is instituted, the better the prospect of success.

In the absence of the serum repeated lumbar puncture may relieve symptoms by relieving pressure. The intense pain may call for morphia. Leeches to the nape of the neck and ice to the head are also useful, and an ice-bag may be applied along the spine. High temperature and the other symptoms of fever must be treated on the principles already indicated.

The nasal passages must be disinfected, and nasal discharges burnt. Carriers should be sterilised by remaining for ten to twenty minutes in a chamber into which a 2 per cent. solution of chloramine T. has been sprayed. Weak solutions of izal or hydrogen peroxide may be used to spray the throat and nose.

The period of quarantine for contacts is one week.

Posterior Basic Meningitis is a form of cerebro-spinal fever sporadically or epidemically attacking infants, usually under one year of age.

The *diplococcus* to which it is due is identical, morphologically and culturally, with the *Diplococcus intracellularis*. The disease is commonest in the first four months of the year.

The changes found are, in the early stages (1) an inflammatory exudate in the posterior fossa of the base, around the medulla

and cerebellum, and extending forward to the optic chiasma ; (2) distension of the ventricles with fluid. Later, the exudate may be absorbed, but much thickening of the meninges remains.

Fever, vomiting, convulsions, and retraction of the head, setting in abruptly, are the early symptoms ; emaciation follows. Blindness is frequent, but not due to optic neuritis. The deep reflexes are exaggerated. Wasting is marked, and death is generally due to exhaustion, after an illness of a few weeks or months. Hydrocephalus is the most frequent complication, and in the cases which recover (about 10 per cent.) may be permanent. Mental impairment is also a frequent result.

The repeated use of *antimeningococcic* serum, combined with lumbar puncture, is the most valuable measure of treatment. Feeding may have to be done through a nasal tube.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

(INFANTILE PARALYSIS. HEINE-MEDIN DISEASE)

An acute infection, of which the morbid changes principally affect the lower efferent neurone, occurring sporadically in children and in occasional epidemics in children and adults.

Etiology.—Sporadic cases are most common in childhood, usually before the age of four. Chills and falls have coincided with the onset, and cases are most numerous in the hot months. The epidemic form attacks adults and children, and is often fatal. The virus is found in the spinal cord and brain, the mesenteric lymph-glands, and the mucous membranes of the naso-pharynx and gastro-intestinal tract and their secretions. The disease is communicable through the nasal secretion, direct and apparently by carriers, and the nasal mucous membrane would seem to be its portal of entry. It can be produced in monkeys by injecting emulsions of the cord.

The organism was described and cultivated in 1913 by Flexner and Noguchi. It grows anaerobically in ascitic fluid, to which a fragment of sterile fresh tissue is added, and it takes the form of minute "globoid bodies" measuring from $0.15\ \mu$ to $0.3\ \mu$ in diameter, and arranged in pairs, chains, or masses. Inoculation into monkeys reproduces the features of the disease. The virus reaches the cord through the lymphatics, not the blood, and the predominance of vascular changes is explained by the fact that the vessels of the central nervous system are surrounded by lymph-sheaths.

The incubation period is probably from one to fourteen days.

Morbid Anatomy.—The first notable changes are in the *vessels* of the anterior horn (anterior spinal artery), which are congested, distended, and surrounded by small-celled infiltration. Thrombosis is common, but not necessarily present. The grey matter is chiefly affected, but the meninges and white matter are also implicated. Secondary interstitial changes take place in the grey matter, and its multipolar cells undergo cloudy swelling and ultimate destruction. Degenerative changes can be traced into the anterior roots. Later, the motor nerve trunks show marked change, the fibres being smaller and fewer in number. The neuroglia becomes increased, and the *anterior horn* as a whole is sclerosed and shrunken. The *muscles* are pale and flabby; atrophy begins early and is well marked; and microscopically, they show degenerative changes, fibrous or fatty, as the result of destruction of their trophic centre.

In the epidemic form the lesions are more extensive. The posterior horn may suffer, the white matter may be implicated, and there may be vascular irritation and cellular infiltration in the higher centres (*polioencephalitis*), but the *ganglion cells* of the medulla, pons, and optic thalamus usually escape.

Flexner describes extensive hyperplasia of lymphoid tissues, and necrosis of small groups of liver cells. In the early stages there is a marked polymorphonuclear leucocytosis.

Symptoms.—Following an incubation period of varying length, the onset is usually sudden, and after two or three days of pain in the limbs, feverishness, and sometimes vomiting or convulsions, the paralysis becomes established. In some cases general symptoms are absent, the child going to bed well and awakening paralysed. The paralysis may be unilateral or bilateral, and is at first widespread, affecting usually the *lower* limbs, but all four limbs or only one, or only *a group of muscles*, may be implicated. In a short time the paralysis passes away, except from a group or groups of muscles in which atrophy, loss of reflexes, and reaction of degeneration quickly supervene. There is no rigidity or spasm, and pain may or may not be present. Note that muscle wasting may be concealed by fat.

The bladder and rectum usually escape, and when affected their paralysis is transitory. The cerebro-spinal fluid is

opalescent, shows a distinct lymphocytosis, and reduces Fehling's solution.

In sporadic cases the spinal form is the commonest, but in epidemics there may be other types, distinguished as bulbar, cerebral, meningitic, and neuritic. In the last of these pain and tenderness may be present over nerve trunks.

Where the disease affects the intracranial structures, there may be paralysis of cranial nerves from implication of the bulbar or medullary nuclei, or hemiplegia from lesions of the cerebrum. Partial recovery with some residual paralysis is the rule in these cases, which occur chiefly in epidemics, but the severer cases may end in death.

In the epidemic form the average death-rate is about 8 per cent. The sporadic form ends in recovery, but some permanent paralysis is generally left behind. The following are among the permanent results :—

1. Defective nutrition of the bones, leading to arrest of growth.
2. Permanent deformities produced by—(1) Want of antagonism or unresisted contraction; (2) extension due to the weight of the foot, and maintained by contraction of the unopposed gastrocnemius (*talipes equinus*); (3) curvature of the spine due to shortening of one leg.

In exceptionally favourable cases there may be a complete recovery.

Treatment.—In the acute stage rest in bed, fever diet, saline laxatives, and aspirin if pain is severe. In epidemics the immune serum of convalescents has been given intrathecally, but the results are not striking. Lumbar puncture may relieve acute symptoms. Urotropin may be tried for its bactericidal effect. Later strychnine, cod-liver oil, quinine and iron are required. Electricity and massage are important remedies, but massage should not be begun till muscular tenderness has ceased. Exercises for the weakened muscles are also necessary. Mechanical appliances may be required to prevent deformities, and surgical measures to correct them. No further benefit from electricity is to be looked for after a year, though the increased movements of the patient may lead to slow growth of the muscles. During the first weeks of the disease patients should be isolated, and all secretions and excretions should be disinfected.

ANTHRAX

Anthrax—also called charbon, malignant pustule, wool-sorter's disease, splenic fever, splenic apoplexy—is an acute specific infection, due to the *Bacillus anthracis*. It especially attacks cattle, horses, sheep, swine, and deer. It occurs in man chiefly as an industrial disease.

Etiology.—Anthrax in animals is the result either of direct inoculation, as by fly-bites, or of grazing in infected pastures. In man it attacks those who have to do with the slaughtering of cattle, or the handling of carcasses or hides, as butchers, tanners, wool-sorters, and hair-combers. Shaving brushes made from infected hairs have caused it in a few instances.

The bacillus is a slender rod, varying in length from 5 to 10 or 20 μ , and having square or slightly rounded ends. The rods, which are non-motile, are often joined end to end to form long chains. The organism grows on all ordinary media, stains with the basic aniline dyes, and is Gram-positive. It has comparatively little power of resistance to heat or drying, but its spores are highly resistant. Spores require the presence of free oxygen, as in cultures, for their formation. Thus in infected animals they are found in the secretions of mouth, nose, and intestine, and in shed blood, but not in the circulation.

If a diseased carcass be not opened, spores are not formed, and the bacilli die in a short time; but if it be opened, and the blood and tissues exposed to air, spores are formed and the carcass therefore constitutes a lasting source of infection.

Symptoms.—As it occurs in cattle, anthrax is a general disease; in man it may be general or local, the latter being the commoner form.

In cattle, symptoms of collapse may rapidly be followed by death; or fever and rigors may be attended with bloody discharge from the bowels and nose, death taking place within forty-eight hours. The most conspicuous changes are found in the spleen, which becomes enormously swollen, dark red, and very soft; hence the name "splenic apoplexy." The other internal organs are congested, and there may be hæmorrhages into them. The lymphatic glands are also affected, especially the cervical, mediastinal, and mesenteric glands, which are much swollen, and surrounded by œdema. The blood is dark and fluid, and is crowded with bacilli.

In man, the organism may enter the tissues (1) through a wound or scratch; (2) by the respiratory tract; (3) by the

alimentary tract. The local form is subdivided into *malignant pustule* and *anthrax-œdema*, and the general into respiratory and intestinal forms.

I. LOCAL FORM.—(a) *Malignant Pustule* is due to inoculation; hence it occurs on exposed parts—on the face, neck, lips, hands, arms. It commences as a small papule, which becomes vesicular, and round which there is inflammatory induration. In about thirty-six hours the summit of the papule forms an eschar, round which there may be a ring of vesicles. There are great induration and œdema; the lymphatics are inflamed, and the glands swollen. The temperature is at first high, but may afterwards be subnormal. Death may occur in three to five days, or slow recovery may follow upon sloughing out of the eschar. The bacillus is found in the superficial and subcutaneous lymphatics of the affected area, and afterwards in the blood, etc.

(b) *Anthrax-œdema*.—In this form eschar and induration are absent, the constitutional symptoms are very grave, and the swelling, usually beginning in the eyelid, is of the nature of an extensive and spreading œdema, which may go on to gangrene. It is much more fatal than malignant pustule.

II. The GENERAL FORM is rare in man. It may affect—

(a) The *Respiratory Tract*.—Wool-sorter's disease. The primary lesion is usually in the lower part of the trachea and larger bronchi, where there are patches of intense swelling of the mucous membrane, with hæmorrhages and ulcerations. There may also be broncho-pneumonic patches in the lungs. There is great swelling of the mediastinal glands, which, from hæmorrhages, look like blood-clots. In these cases there are few bacilli in the blood, but they are found in great numbers in the bronchi and in lymphatic glands. The disease begins with chill or rigor, fever, headache, vomiting, or diarrhœa, and marked prostration. There are predominant pulmonary symptoms corresponding to the local lesions, hurried breathing, and cyanosis. Delirium is common, but the mind may be clear. Death occurs in three or four days. Survival for more than a week usually means recovery.

(b) The *Gastro-intestinal Tract*.—This form gives rise to hæmorrhagic lesions of the intestinal mucous membrane, tending to necrosis in their central parts, and to implication of the

mesenteric glands. The spleen is enlarged. The symptoms are those of intense poisoning—severe vomiting and diarrhœa, and possibly blood-stained stools.

Treatment.—In the local form the swelling should be excised, if not too large, or crucial incisions should be made, and the parts cauterised with pure carbolic acid. Carbolic lotion should be frequently injected into the surrounding tissues. The strength should be supported by stimulants and quinine. Sclavo's anti-anthrax serum should also be used.

Until recently no treatment had materially influenced the fatal course of the general forms of the disease. Quinine in large doses was the chief measure recommended. But with the advent of Sclavo's anti-anthrax serum the outlook has been changed. The dose (30-40 cc.) should be divided and injected into three or four different places in the flank. In grave cases it may be given intravenously. Malignant pustules often heal under this treatment without surgical interference, although it is safer to combine it with excision. Other methods of treatment recently advocated (pyocyanase, salvarsan) are of inferior value. Prophylactic treatment consists in preventing anthrax in animals, and preventing the spread of infected material. The bodies of infected animals must be burned or buried unopened, under the supervision of the sanitary authorities.

GLANDERS (FARCY)

An acute infectious disease, occurring in horses, due to the *Bacillus mallei*, and characterised by the formation of granulation-tissue nodules in the nostrils (glanders), or under the skin (farcy). It is sometimes communicated to man.

Etiology.—The disease arises in man as the result of inoculation of the discharges from infected animals upon some wound or scratch. It therefore occurs chiefly amongst grooms, stable-lads, and others who have to do with horses.

The bacillus is a straight or slightly curved rod, about as long as the tubercle bacillus, but thicker. It stains only feebly with ordinary dyes, more strongly when a mordant is added; but it is readily decolorised by alcohol. It grows on ordinary media.

The *incubation period* is from three days to a fortnight.

Morbid Anatomy.—*In the horse, glanders* is characterised by the development in the nasal mucous membrane of grey translucent nodules, surrounded by inflammatory swelling. They cause a profuse discharge from the nose, and ultimately break down and ulcerate. They extend into the trachea and bronchi; the cervical lymphatic glands are affected; and similar nodules may be found in internal organs. In *farcy*, due to inoculation through the skin, the superficial lymphatic vessels and glands are thickened, and the glands tend to suppurate. The internal organs are affected as in glanders.

In man, in whom the disease is usually due to inoculation through the skin, the type of farcy is the more common, but that of glanders may occur. The lesions are essentially similar to those in the horse.

Symptoms.—The disease may be acute or chronic. In the *acute* form (acute farcy) the site of inoculation—usually the hand or arm—becomes inflamed, swollen, and red, and the inflammation spreads along the neighbouring lymphatics. Soon there is constitutional disturbance, with rigors and sharp fever. A local or general eruption, papular, and later pustular, appears; the nose and face may be secondarily infected; abscesses develop in the subcutaneous tissues and muscles; the joints may suppurate; and the internal organs may become involved. The condition is one of grave pyæmia, and leads to death in the course of two or three weeks or less.

The *chronic* form is characterised by the development of a local granuloma, which breaks down into an irregular ulcer, with thickened edges and a foul discharge. The lymphatics also tend to ulcerate, and the nasal mucous membrane may become affected. The disease may last for years, but may at any time take on an acute form, and end in speedy death.

If the nose is primarily infected (acute glanders) there is great inflammatory œdema, with a papulo-pustular eruption and profuse mucopurulent nasal discharge. Ulceration of the mucosa extends to cartilage and bone. The glands in the neck are enlarged, and may suppurate. There is marked fever, pneumonia follows, and the case ends fatally in about ten days. *Chronic* cases are attended with profuse coryza and scattered subcutaneous nodules.

The **diagnosis** is difficult. In suspected glanders the

agglutination reaction is of service. In a case of glanders the serum agglutinates *Bacillus mallei* in a dilution of 1 in 50, while normal serum does not do so even in a dilution of 1 in 5. Or a suspension of the discharge may be injected into the peritoneal cavity of a guinea-pig; if the case be glanders, the animal's testicles become inflamed and swollen within two or three days, and the bacillus can be found in the fluid of the tunica vaginalis. Mallein (a solution of the toxins of glanders) is useful for diagnosis and treatment in animals, but not in man.

Treatment consists in cutting out or cauterising the wound, if seen early, treating the lesions by surgical methods, and keeping up the strength. Many of the chronic cases ultimately recover.

TETANUS, OR LOCK-JAW

A specific infectious disease due to the *Bacillus tetani*, and characterised clinically by severe tonic spasms of the muscles, especially those of the jaw.

Etiology.—Tetanus may occur "idiopathically" or may follow injury. It is most frequent after contused or punctured wounds of the hands or feet, but may result from the most trivial scratch. It has frequently occurred in epidemic form amongst new-born children (*tetanus* or *trismus neonatorum*), the infection entering by the umbilicus. It may follow confinement, especially in hot countries. It has often been prevalent in warfare, and has followed such small operations as tooth-extraction, hypodermic injection, and the like. The term "idiopathic" means that the seat of injury has not been discovered.

The Bacillus tetani, discovered by Nicolaier, who cultivated it from surface soil, is a slender rod which may grow into long threads. It is slightly mobile, and anaerobic in habit. It stains with ordinary dyes, and is Gram-positive. A rounded spore is often situated at one end ("Drum-stick bacillus"). It normally infests the intestinal tract of horses and cattle, and therefore abounds in manure and in garden soil.

The organism multiplies only in the wound, the blood and tissues remaining free. The process is therefore primarily local, the systemic effects being due to the absorption of the poison manufactured in the wound. This is a toxalbumin of extraordinary virulence, which travels to the central nervous system along the axons of the motor nerves.

Morbid Anatomy.—Hyperæmia of the central nervous system and small hæmorrhages into the motor centres are the only important changes.

Symptoms.—Usually within ten days of the injury the patient complains of stiffness in the neck and muscles of the jaw. The incubation period may, however, be much longer, especially in those who have received prophylactic treatment. Gradually lock-jaw (*trismus*) is produced by the tetanic spasm of the muscles; the eyebrows at the same time become elevated and the angles of the mouth drawn out, causing the so-called *risus sardonicus*. Soon all the muscles may be affected with paroxysms of tetanic spasms. The body may be arched, the patient resting on his head and heels (*opisthotonos*); *pleurothotonos* or *emprosthotonos* may sometimes occur. The pain amounts to agony during the paroxysms. Complete relaxation does not occur even in the intervals. The patient may be bathed in sweat, and the temperature reaches sometimes as high as 110° or 112° F. before death. Acute cases usually die within a few days; more chronic and milder cases may recover. In those who have received a prophylactic injection, tetanus may be *local*, and confined to the muscles of the wounded limb.

Diagnosis.—A diagnosis must be made from poisoning by strychnine. It is difficult to confound tetanus with strychnine poisoning, for the latter never causes the jaws to *remain* tetanically closed between the spasms, nor are the muscles of the jaws involved early. In hydrophobia too there is no continuous rigidity; in tetany the paroxysms attack the hands and feet.

Treatment.—The room must be darkened and all sources of irritation must be excluded. All other methods of treatment are secondary to the use of tetanus antitoxin, which should be begun immediately and in sufficient doses. It may be given intravenously, intrathecally, intramuscularly, or subcutaneously. The intravenous method involves a considerable risk of anaphylaxis, and the War Office Committee on Tetanus recommends the following scheme of treatment:—First and second days, 8000 units intramuscular, 16,000 intrathecal; third and fourth days, 4000 intramuscular, 8000 intrathecal; fifth to seventh day, 2000 subcutaneous. Leishman, however, thinks the intrathecal method dangerous, and advises intra-

muscular and subcutaneous injections. The effects of injections of magnesium sulphate and carbolic acid have proved to be transitory, though Browning considers intrathecal injection of magnesium sulphate useful in relaxing spasm in severe cases. The patient must be kept in a quiet and darkened room, and freely fed on fluid food, which may have to be given by the rectum when spasm of the jaws is marked. Bromide or chloral, or both, should be given in full doses; chloretone is also useful in doses of 10 to 15 gr. (grm. 0.6-1.0); hyoscine hydrobromide gr. $\frac{1}{100}$ is often of service, and morphia is usually required for sleep. The longer the incubation period the greater the chance of recovery.

Prophylactically four doses of 500 units should be given at weekly intervals, the first as soon as possible after infliction of the wound or injury.

TUBERCULOSIS

A specific infective disease, produced by the action of the *Bacillus tuberculosis*, and characterised by the formation of "tubercles," which tend to undergo degenerative changes in the direction of softening or of calcification. The disease may be local or generalised (acute miliary tuberculosis); in the local forms the lungs are oftenest involved, but any organ may be attacked.

Etiology.—Those predisposed to tuberculosis are frequently of feeble physical development, though even the athletic are commonly attacked. Town dwellers oftener suffer than those living in the country; and insanitary occupations, exposure to dust, and confinement to close rooms are predisposing factors. A special type of thorax—the alar chest—often accompanies the pulmonary form (*see* Phthisis). The sexes are almost equally liable. No age is exempt, but it is relatively less common in the old. Phthisis is a disease chiefly of adolescence and adult life; children oftener suffer from tuberculosis of bone, glands, peritoneum, or meninges.

Tuberculosis is not hereditary in the direct sense, although in rare instances infants have been born tuberculous, and the bacillus has been found in the placenta. But a *predisposition* to the disease is probably inherited: the tissues of the offspring

are less resistant to the attack of the bacillus. Those of tuberculous family history are less likely to respond favourably to treatment, if attacked, than those in whom the disease is sporadic. This may, however, be due rather to foetal inoculation with the toxins of tuberculosis than to inherited predisposition; and it must be remembered that tuberculosis *acquired* in infancy may long remain latent before it becomes clinically manifest.

Modes of Infection.—1. By inoculation of the tuberculous material (lupus, *post-mortem* wounds). The process usually remains local.

2. *By inhalation of the dried and powdered sputum* (dust of apartments, etc.). Crowded and ill-ventilated dwellings, and sedentary occupations thus predispose to the disease.

3. By ingestion of tuberculous material (*a*) by swallowing the sputum; or (*b*) by swallowing infected meat or *milk*. Organisms thus ingested may enter the system by the tonsils or by the intestine. In the first case they pass to the cervical or mediastinal glands, from which they may reach the lungs or the general circulation; in the second case they may cause primary intestinal tuberculosis, or may pass through the intact intestinal wall and infect the mesenteric glands or the lungs. The bovine type of bacillus has been conclusively proved to be infective for man, as is the bacillus of swine tuberculosis; but that of avian tuberculosis is not infective.

The bacillus is a small, motionless, rod-shaped organism, 3 to 4 μ in length, and often slightly curved. It is not motile, and has no flagella. It stains slowly (best by the Ziehl-Neelsen method) with the aid of heat, and is difficult to decolorise by acids (acid-fast). The appearance of beading often noticed is probably due to the presence of vacuoles, and not to spore-formation. In older cultures long and occasionally branching filaments may be found, forms which ally the bacillus with the higher bacteria. The organism grows well on sterilised blood-serum at 37° C., but more rapidly on glycerin agar or glycerin broth, and on Dorset's egg-medium. Growth is arrested at 28° C. on the one hand, and 42° C. on the other.

Morbid Anatomy (general).—The tubercle from which the disease gets its name is a small body visible to the naked eye or with a lens. At first it is semi-transparent, grey, and gelatinous in appearance; later it becomes opaque, softened, and yellowish in the centre. Tubercles may be few or very numerous in the affected organs, and may be isolated or clustered in masses.

Microscopically they show from within outwards—

1. One or more central giant cells, each produced by the enlargement of a single epithelioid cell, the nucleus of which divides, while the protoplasm remains undivided. In rare instances several epithelioid cells may fuse to form a giant cell.

2. A layer of epithelioid cells.

3. A zone chiefly of lymphocytes, often surrounded by a network of fibres.

There are no blood-vessels in the tubercle, and therefore it is open to degenerative changes. The cells become fatty and soft, the softened material being discharged in sputum, urine, or stools; or there may be a conservative reaction, leading to the encapsulation (calcification) of the *materies morbi*, and to the survival of those affected with obsolete tubercle. Too often the advantage is on the side of the attack.

The bacilli are found in varying numbers in the giant cells and the epithelioid cells.

There is nothing distinctive in the early processes of tubercle except the discovery of the bacillus. Later, secondary inflammatory processes occur around the tubercles.

There are several methods by which tubercle may spread within the body of an infected patient:—(1) Along mucous membranes (pharynx to Eustachian tube, middle ear, and meninges, etc.); (2) by swallowed sputum (intestinal ulcers); (3) by the lymphatics; and (4) by the blood. All these demand a local infection for a starting point. General tuberculosis, with which alone we deal just now, is usually started by the invasion of the wall of a blood-vessel by a local tuberculous process. The bacilli are carried in the blood-stream to all parts of the body.

ACUTE MILIARY TUBERCULOSIS

Etiology.—The disease is frequent in early childhood, and not uncommon between twenty and thirty. It is usually secondary to chronic tuberculous processes in internal lymphatic glands or bones. It may follow other infective diseases—measles, whooping-cough, enteric.

There are three main types—acute generalised miliary tuberculosis, acute pulmonary tuberculosis, acute meningeal

tuberculosis. The last will be described under Diseases of the Nervous System.

I. In acute generalised miliary tuberculosis tubercles are thickly scattered through all the organs. They are small, miliary or sub-miliary, and very numerous.

The symptoms are those of a profound general infection, and the disease is often mistaken for enteric fever (hence called the *typhoid* form). It begins with increasing weakness and anorexia, and after some time irregular fever appears. This may be continuous, remittent, or intermittent; oftenest continuous, with a difference of about 2° between morning and evening temperatures. The pulse is rapid and feeble, the tongue dry, the cheeks flushed. Delirium is marked, and usually of the typhoid type, deepening into coma. The pulmonary symptoms are those of slight bronchitis, or less commonly broncho-pneumonia. The respirations are rapid at first, and there is often cyanosis. The sputum is scanty, and may be entirely free of tubercle bacilli. Cheyne-Stokes breathing may appear later.

The diagnosis from enteric fever is often difficult. The most important points in favour of tuberculosis are—

- (1) Irregularity of the fever.
- (2) Comparative rarity of diarrhoea.
- (3) Absence of rose-spots.
- (4) Absence of the enteric bacillus in the blood.
- (5) Widal's reaction is negative.
- (6) Possible presence of tubercle in the choroid.

II. The Pulmonary Form.—The tubercles are most numerous in the lungs, occurring either in groups or universally diffused. They are thickly set beneath the pleura. The lungs are congested, and often emphysematous. Collapsed patches, and areas of consolidation of varying size are to be found.

Symptoms.—The onset is usually sudden, with perhaps a previous history of cough or chronic phthisis. In children measles or whooping cough may have gone before. Breathing is rapid, and dyspnoea marked. Cough may not be very troublesome. The sputum is mucous in character, but may be muco-purulent or rusty; tubercle bacilli are seldom found.

Cyanosis is prominent. Fever is well marked (102° - 104° F.). The physical signs are those of diffuse bronchitis and acute emphysema—hyper-resonant percussion, varying intensity of breath-sounds, presence of sibilus or rhonchus, and medium crepitations. There is sometimes diminished resonance at the bases (broncho-pneumonia). The spleen is often palpable.

The duration of the disease varies from one to several weeks. It is generally fatal.

The diagnosis is assisted by the history, suddenness of onset, and possible discovery of the bacillus in the sputum. When the bacillus is present, however, it is due to the presence of a primary focus of chronic tuberculosis in the lung. In the acute process the newly formed tubercles have rarely time to break down and discharge their organisms in the sputum before the patient's death.

Treatment in both forms is purely symptomatic. Recovery is exceptional.

Local tuberculosis will be dealt with under Lungs, Alimentary Tract, Nervous System, etc.

LEPROSY

A chronic infectious disease due to the *Bacillus lepræ*, and characterised by the appearance of granulomata in the skin and mucous membranes, or by infiltrations of nerve trunks leading to anæsthesia, paralysis, and trophic changes.

Etiology.—In Europe the disease is found chiefly in Norway, but also in Southern Russia, Turkey, and Greece. In the rest of the world it is widely spread in tropical and subtropical climates. The generally accepted view is that it is transmitted by contagion, the bacillus being found in the discharges from the skin and mucous membranes, and very abundantly in the nasal discharge; but for such transmission prolonged exposure is necessary. Children below three years of age rarely suffer, but with this exception, persons of any age and either sex are liable. Overcrowding, poverty, and poor feeding are predisposing factors.

The *Bacillus lepræ* closely resembles the tubercle bacillus in size and staining reactions, being acid-fast. It may stain uniformly, or the protoplasm may be fragmented. It is non-motile. Although various observers claim to have cultivated it, their work cannot be considered absolutely conclusive, as the organisms they describe are not uniform, and others

have failed to reproduce their results. The organism would seem to be pleomorphic and, like the *B. tuberculosis*, allied to the higher bacteria of the genus *Streptothrix*. It is found in great numbers, and mainly intracellularly, in the granulomata of the skin and mucous membranes, in the lymph-spaces and lymphatic glands, and, in the anæsthetic form, in nerve-trunks. Sands and Long have recently discovered it in bed-bugs that have bitten lepers, and this forms a possible method of transmission.

Nothing is definitely known of the incubation period but that it is long.

Morbid Anatomy.—In the *tubercular* form, nodules or diffuse infiltrations of granulation-tissue appear in the cutis and in mucous membranes, increase in size, and may lead to ulceration. The richly cellular tissue is supported by a stroma at first delicate, later very dense. The bacilli lie in masses in and between the cells. The face, cornea, interior of the nose and mouth, the backs of the hands and feet, and the extensor surfaces of the arms and legs are chiefly affected. The spleen, liver, and testicles suffer secondarily.

In the *anæsthetic* form, diffuse infiltration of the nerve trunks causes destruction of their fibres. Trophic changes follow:—atrophy or bullæ of the skin, anæsthesia, gangrene and separation of parts, muscular paralysis.

Symptoms.—I. *Tubercular or Nodular Leprosy.*—With or without prodromata a febrile attack occurs, during or just after which reddish or bronzed erythematous patches, slightly raised, at first hyperæsthetic, later defective in sensation, appear upon the face and limbs. They fade with the fever, leaving faint brownish stains or slight hardening of the skin. After weeks or months the attack is repeated, and perhaps affects other areas of skin. These “leprous storms” keep recurring, and ultimately raised nodules appear on the site of the former eruption or elsewhere, pink at first, and afterwards of a dirty brown tint. These, too, may fade, or persist till a fresh febrile attack adds to their number. Thus the skin of the face is thickened, and its folds deepened, the whole face becoming broadened, and assuming a “leonine” aspect. Nodules appear on the limbs on the sites already mentioned; the cornea is attacked, and vision may be destroyed; the interior of the nose suffers early and severely; and the fauces, vocal cords, and larynx may be involved. The nodules ultimately ulcerate, open sores and cicatrices being seen upon the skin. The constitution suffers from the febrile attacks; dyspepsia first, and

then prostration follow; and the disease frequently ends in phthisis. The total duration is from two to eight years.

II. *Anæsthetic Leprosy*.—The prodromata, which may last for many months, are neuralgic pains, and sometimes weakness or wasting of the forearm muscles. Then pale or light-yellowish itchy spots, not elevated, and often symmetrical, appear on the back and extensor aspects of the limbs, and sometimes on the face, while the corresponding nerve trunks are thickened and tender. This stage lasts for two or three years. Later, the patches become anæsthetic, and cease to secrete sweat; their surface is white, and their edges serpiginous. The anæsthesia extends beyond them, up to the elbows or knees, or higher; bullæ appear on the limbs and trunk; the fingers contract, and parts of them may drop off; perforating ulcers attack the feet, spontaneous amputation of the toes is common; and the ears may also be mutilated. The temperature is subnormal, except during the eruption of bullæ. After from six to ten years, the third stage appears, and is marked by muscular paralysis, the third and seventh nerves being often implicated, and by dry or moist gangrene of the extremities. The course of the disease is very slow, patients sometimes surviving for twenty or thirty years.

A "mixed form" is also described. The name is self-explanatory.

Treatment.—Of drugs chaulmoogra oil is most generally used, in doses of \mathfrak{m} x-xl (cc. 0.6-3.0) thrice daily, and at the same time by inunction. Gynocardate of soda, injected intramuscularly in doses up to 24 grains (1.6 gm.) in 12 cc., has been used of late with very favourable results. Fresh air, good food, and avoidance of fatigue do much to alleviate the condition, and injections of tuberculin have sometimes produced temporary quiescence. Partial segregation is advisable for the protection of others.

As regards specific remedies, serum treatment has been tried unsuccessfully, and although favourable results have been reported from the use of *nastin*, a fatty acid-fast substance extracted by means of benzoyl chloride from cultures of a streptothrix (*Streptothrix leproides*) isolated by Deycke and Reschad from cases of leprosy, such results have been by no means general. Vaccines made from the organisms isolated by various observers have proved no more successful.

B. DISEASES DUE TO NON-BACTERIAL FUNGI (MYCOSES)

ACTINOMYCOSIS

A chronic infective disease occurring in man and cattle and in the pig, and due to the presence and multiplication of the "ray fungus" (*Streptothrix actinomyces*).

Etiology.—There is no evidence of direct infection from the flesh of diseased animals. In man and animals the most frequent site of infection is the mouth. The fungus may be taken in with the food, or may find lodgment in those who are in the habit of chewing straw, or who inhale the dust of grain in thrashing or chaff-cutting. But the mode of infection is doubtful, and possibly the fungus may be present in the mouth as a saprophyte.

The organism forms in the tissues colonies, which consist of—

1. Long, thin, branching *filaments*, interwoven in the centre of the colony, radially arranged towards the periphery.
2. *Spores* or *gonidia*, spherical bodies formed within the filaments.
3. *Clubs*. These are pear-shaped enlargements of the free end of the sheath of the filament. They are found, radially arranged, at the periphery of the colony. They are homogeneous and structureless.

One variety of *Actinomyces* has been cultivated on agar and glycerin-agar, and on gelatine; another is almost strictly anaerobic. The disease has been successfully inoculated in cattle.

The filaments and spores are Gram-positive, the clubs usually Gram-negative.

Morbid Anatomy.—*In cattle* the disease usually begins in the lower jaw, and causes the development of granulation tissue, forming bulky, nodular, tumour-like masses connected with the bone. Necrotic changes lead at the same time to diffuse puriform infiltration, or irregular abscess formation. The tongue is also affected, indurated nodules being produced, which give a gritty, woody feeling; hence the name "woody tongue." The lesions may be found in (1) the jaws, tongue, or neck, and the submaxillary glands; (2) the larynx, lungs, or alimentary tract.

In man the disease also affects the jaw and neck, and sometimes the tongue. It leads to great connective tissue prolifera-

tion, with the formation of nodular masses, which may be mistaken for osteosarcoma. Ultimately suppuration takes place, and deep-seated (sometimes retro-pharyngeal) abscesses are the result.

In internal organs suppuration tends to occur early, and sponge-like abscesses are formed in the pus, the colonies of which may be seen as yellowish or semi-translucent granules, about the size of a small pin's head. The organs most liable to attack are the lungs, intestines, liver, and peritoneum, but almost any organ may exceptionally be involved. The skin is sometimes affected.

Microscopically the colonies may be seen to be surrounded by granulation tissue, recalling in its arrangement that of the miliary tubercle. Thus we find (1) the colony in the centre; (2) a layer of epithelioid cells; (3) smaller proliferating cells and leucocytes. Giant cells may or may not be present.

Mode of Inoculation.—The parasite may enter the tissues (1) by the mouth (carious teeth, tonsillar crypts); (2) by the intestine; (3) by the respiratory tract; (4) by the skin; (5) rarely by the female genital tract.

Symptoms.—These may almost be inferred from the account of the morbid anatomy. Thus we may have bossy tumours of the face or jaw, ending in suppuration; bronchitis, bronchopneumonia, or abscess of the lung, with cough, fever, and wasting; intestinal ulceration, peritonitis, or abscess of the liver; tumour-like nodules in the skin; or, rarely, disease of the uterus or ovaries.

The *diagnosis* is dependent not so much upon the varying symptoms, as upon the recognition in the purulent discharges of the pinhead-like granules, which under the microscope are found to consist of colonies of the fungus.

Treatment.—This is at present unsatisfactory, because the condition, in the first place, is not easily diagnosed; and secondly, when it is diagnosed in man, the extensive inflammatory changes, the numberless adhesions set up, etc., give little chance of the complete success of even surgical treatment. But where the disease is accessible, surgical removal is indicated. Even if only partial, this step, followed by free irrigation with antiseptics, is often of great value. Of drugs, potassium iodide ʒii-ʒiv (grm. 4·0-16·0) daily is the most serviceable, and some

cases have been cured by its use. Vaccine treatment has in some instances proved of benefit.

C. PROTOZOAN INFECTIONS

MALARIA

A specific infective disease caused by the presence in the blood of the *Hæmamaeba* or *Plasmodium malariae*, and presenting clinically the following varieties :—(1) periodically recurring paroxysms of intermittent fever ; (2) *continued* fever with well-marked *remissions* ; (3) certain pernicious, rapidly fatal forms ; and (4) a chronic cachexia with anæmia and enlarged spleen.

Etiology.—The disease has its headquarters in tropical and subtropical regions, but occurs also in less severe forms in more temperate climates, in which the period of fresh infection is the summer and autumn. Warmth, abundant vegetation, stagnant surface water, and hence low-lying and marshy districts, favour its development, while the opposite conditions retard it.

It is spread by the bites of mosquitoes of the genus *Anopheles*, in the body of which the parasite completes the sexual part of its life-history.

The malarial parasite is a protozoon of the order Sporozoa, and belongs to the group of the Hæmamaebidæ. The term *plasmodium* is applied to it only as it exists in human blood. Its life-history is as follows :—In its youngest form it is a small amœboid body (*amœbula* or *trophozoite*) occupying the interior of a red blood-corpuscle, and consisting of nucleus, nucleolus, and surrounding protoplasm. The amœbulæ rapidly grow and become pigmented by converting the corpuscular hæmoglobin into melanin. They reach maturity in 48 or 72 hours, according to the species. When mature some of them become *schizonts* (asexual forms), and others, *sporonts* or *gametocytes* (male and female sexual forms). The schizonts then undergo segmentation (*schizogony*), and form a "rosette"-shaped body, consisting of a variable number of nucleated segments (*merozoites* or *enhæmospores*), which rupture the containing corpuscle, and pass with the liberated melanin into the liquor sanguinis. The melanin is absorbed by the phagocytes, and carried to the central organs ; while the merozoites attack fresh corpuscles, and repeat the same cycle of development.

The sexual forms, or gametocytes, do not divide in the body, but circulate unchanged. The female gametocyte (*macrogametocyte*) of tertian and quartan fevers is a large, rounded cell measuring about 16 μ in diameter. The male cell (*microgametocyte*) is smaller. In the malignant fevers both male and female cells are crescentic. When the gametocytes are drawn

into the stomach of the mosquito, they burst the containing corpuscle. The male gametocyte puts forth four or more actively mobile flagella (*microgametes*), which are really spermatozoa. These detach themselves from the parent cell, and attack the female gametocytes (*macrogametes*). One of them succeeds in penetrating and fertilising a macrogamete, which now becomes elongated and of the shape of a spear-head (*zygote* or *oökinete*). The mobile zygote penetrates the stomach wall, fixes itself on the outer surface of the stomach, and develops there, by segmentation of the nucleus, into a capsule (*oöcyst*) filled with cells called *sporoblasts*, which again divide into numerous delicate thread-like *sporozoites* or *exotoxospores*. This process occupies at least a week. The capsule ruptures, and the sporozoites are carried by the circulation to the salivary gland and thence to the salivary duct. They are then injected by the mosquito into the next puncture that it makes, and set up a fresh malarial infection in a new host, in whom the sporozoites penetrate the red corpuscles and become amœbulæ.

Three forms of the parasite occur in man, all with a similar life-history, but with individual differences :—

1. The *quartan* parasite (*Plasmodium malarie*) occupies medium-sized corpuscles. Its amœboid movement is sluggish. It produces 6-12 merozoites, and its asexual life-cycle lasts 72 hours. The gametocytes resemble the schizonts before segmentation has occurred.
2. The *tertian* parasite (*Plasmodium vivax*) occupies large pale corpuscles. The movements are active. It produces 15-20 merozoites, and its life-cycle lasts 48 hours. The gametocytes resemble the schizonts before segmentation.
3. The *æstivo-autumnal* or *malignant tertian* parasite (*Plasmodium falciparum*, *Hæmomenas* or *Plasmodium præcox*) occupies medium-sized corpuscles. The movements are at first active. It produces 6-20 merozoites. It is still doubtful whether there is one or more than one species of this parasite, but the evidence is on the whole in favour of one only, with a life-cycle of 48 hours. The gametocytes are crescentic, with pigmented granules in the centre. Only gametocytes and young amœbulæ are found in the peripheral blood, segmentation occurring in the internal organs.

Cultures of the malarial parasite to the fourth generation have recently been obtained by Bass and Johns, the medium used being defibrinated blood, to 10 cc. of which 0.1 cc. of a 50 per cent. solution of dextrose is added. The organisms grow anaerobically on the surface of the layer of corpuscles, after the blood has settled. Sexual forms have not yet been obtained.

The liberation of each swarm of merozoites coincides with an attack of fever. Thus with simple tertian or simple quartan infection a paroxysm occurs every second or every third day. But in tertian ague there may be two broods of merozoites coming to maturity on alternate days, so that what appears to be a quotidian ague is really a double tertian; and in quartan ague there may be two broods, with fever on two successive

days, and a day of interval, or three, with a paroxysm every day. A similar statement applies to æstivo-autumnal fever, and thus the paroxysm may here also be quotidian.

Not only fever, but also great destruction of red blood-corpuscles follow the escape of the merozoites. Both are probably due to the liberation at that moment of a toxin possessed of heat-producing and hæmolytic properties.

The *incubation period*, as determined experimentally, varies from 6 to 20 days.

Morbid Anatomy.—During the paroxysms, the principal changes are—

1. Enlargement of the spleen, sometimes very great. In recent cases the organ is soft; in older cases firm (“ague-cake”).
2. Enlargement and congestion of the liver.
3. Congestion of the bone-marrow, the brain and meninges, and the kidneys.

In all these organs the vessels are full of plasmodia and of melanin. There is also present a yellow pigment, not confined to the vessels, which consists of altered hæmoglobin. Marked diminution of the number of red cells, and pigmentation of the leucocytes, are conspicuous features. The lymphocytes are also *relatively* increased for some time after the paroxysm, but leucopenia, not leucocytosis, is a feature of malaria.

In *malarial cachexia* the spleen is not necessarily pigmented. The enlargement is mainly due to thickening of the capsule and trabeculæ, and the organ is hard. The liver is frequently enlarged. Anæmia is a conspicuous feature.

I. Intermittent Type (Ordinary Ague).—The Paroxysm.
—After a day or two of premonitory symptoms of more or less general malaise, produced by the multiplication of the parasites before they are numerous enough to determine an attack of fever, the typical attack comes on, and usually consists of three stages—cold, hot, and sweating stages.

Cold Stage.—The patient shivers violently, the teeth chatter, the skin is pale and blue, and the papillæ are raised (goose-skin). The face is anxious, and the breathing hurried. There is often vomiting. The temperature, though much lowered externally, is raised in the rectum. As may be expected with such an

extreme contraction of the superficial capillaries, the urine is pale, copious, and of low specific gravity. This stage lasts from a few minutes to an hour or more. Towards the end of the stage the temperature may be 103° to 106° F.

The *Hot Stage* may be gradual or sudden in its onset. The skin is hot, red, and burning. Vomiting increases; the carotids throb forcibly, headache is intense, and there may be violent delirium. The temperature is often 106° F. or more, and the pulse is rapid and full. Labial herpes is common. Epistaxis or diarrhœa may occur. This stage lasts from one to many hours. Enlargement of the spleen can often be demonstrated. The urine is scanty, of high specific gravity, and contains a large quantity of urates and urea. Albuminuria is frequent. Towards the end of this stage vomiting and nausea disappear, and the temperature begins to fall.

Sweating Stage.—The sweating commences at the roots of the hair, but soon becomes general and profuse. The pulse gets softer, the temperature falls gradually to the normal, and the patient is restored to the normal condition, the enlargement of the spleen diminishing or disappearing. During the sweating stage, the urine is of high density, and scanty in quantity; *urates* are more abundant than urea. The patient remains anæmic. This stage lasts from two to four hours.

The paroxysm, as has already been noted, may recur daily, or every second or third day (quotidian, tertian, and quartan ague). The simple tertian and quartan paroxysms last in all ten to twelve hours. Paroxysms are said to “anticipate” when they come on a little earlier each succeeding day, to “postpone” when they come on a little later.

II. Remittent and Irregularly Intermittent Type (*æstivo-autumnal fever, bilious remittent fever*).—This form, associated with the presence of the malignant tertian parasite, is frequent in the tropics, and also occurs in late summer and autumn in temperate climates. The type of fever is irregular. It may either be (1) definitely intermittent, with irregular intervals between the paroxysms; or (2) more or less continuous, with well-marked remissions, but not intermissions. Of the intermittent type there are two forms, the quotidian, with a paroxysm lasting 6 to 12 hours, and the tertian, with a much longer paroxysm (24-40 hours). The special symptoms of either the remittent or intermittent type are coated tongue, epigastric

pain and tenderness, bilious vomiting, anorexia, constipation or diarrhoea, jaundice, and enlargement of the spleen. Either type tends to merge either into an ordinary intermittent attack, or into a typhoid type of grave prognosis.

First attacks of malarial fever, especially in the tropics, are usually either remittent or continued, and only gradually assume the intermittent type. In temperate climates they may be intermittent (and most frequently tertian) from the first.

Both the remittent and the irregular intermittent type tend at first, after some weeks of fever, to spontaneous improvement. The symptoms slowly disappear, and the patient may think himself well, and go about his business. But after weeks or months, a relapse occurs, to be followed by another and another, any of which may end in death, or may lead to the malarial cachexia. Spontaneous recovery is uncommon.

III. Pernicious Attacks are due to the malignant tertian parasite, and are comparatively rare. They occur mainly in tropical countries, among those exposed to hardship, or in whom resistance has been lowered by intemperance or previous attacks of malaria. They are sudden in onset, and of extreme gravity. The following are the chief forms :—

1. Hyperpyrexial, the temperature running up to 107° to 110° F., or even higher.
2. Cerebral, due to plugging of various cerebral centres by plasmodial emboli. Comatose, convulsive, and paralytic forms are described.
3. Algid. There is no febrile reaction after the cold stage, and the case ends in collapse.
4. Choleraic and dysenteric. The choleraic stools of malaria always contain some bile.

IV. Blackwater Fever or Hæmoglobinuric Fever occurs especially in tropical Africa and more rarely in certain parts of India. Recurrence may take place after recovery even when the patient has been removed to a temperate climate. It is uncommon among natives, and usually occurs after a prolonged residence in malarial regions and repeated attacks of malaria, which have led to anæmia and debility. Its etiology is obscure, malarial parasites being absent or scanty in the blood during the attack, and in internal organs after death. Manson

inclines "to regard the parasite . . . as being in some respects different from that of ordinary malarial affections." Many observers, among them Koch, consider the prolonged use of quinine as the cause of the hæmoglobinuria, but there is much evidence against this view. One attack predisposes to another. Essentially the disease is an acute hæmolysis. Red corpuscles are but sparsely found in the urine, but hæmoglobin is present in abundance. There is cloudy swelling of the hepatic and renal cells. Numerous casts are found in the renal tubules. The skin and conjunctivæ are yellow or more darkly brown from jaundice.

The attack may commence as an ordinary malarial paroxysm, but after a few days there is a severe rigor, and the urine becomes very dark or even black. It is at first copious, but later diminished or suppressed. There is yellow discoloration of the skin and sclerotics, also bilious vomiting, and sharp pains in the loins and epigastrium, usually also bilious diarrhœa. The condition may pass off in a few hours, and not recur. More often there are recurrences with each attack of fever, or there may even be no remission at all. Marked anæmia and prostration develop, and death is very frequent.

While in the malarial zone, the slightest chill or overstrain may provoke recurrence. After the attack is arrested, therefore, the first aim of treatment is to remove the patient to a temperate climate, at a season of the year which is not too cold. Even so, recurrences may take place, and prove fatal; but the tendency generally dies out in about six months.

V. Malarial Cachexia.—After repeated or prolonged attacks of malarial fever, and also in those who have been long resident in malarial countries, a peculiar cachexia is apt to develop which is characterised by—

1. Anæmia, often intense, the skin being of a sallow earthy colour.
2. Tendency to hæmorrhages—epistaxis, purpura, etc., and retinal hæmorrhages.
3. Irregular attacks of fever.
4. Great and sometimes enormous enlargement of the spleen; to a less extent enlargement of the liver.

The parasites may be altogether absent in malarial cachexia.

Diagnosis of typical forms of ague is easy ; in atypical forms the response to quinine, and above all *the results of examination of the blood*, will establish the diagnosis. Those intending to practise in malarious regions should make themselves familiar with the various appearances of malarial blood.

Treatment of Malaria in General.—The specific for malarial fevers is quinine, which, properly given, destroys the parasites in the blood. It should be given promptly, and in the early stages, in doses up to gr. xxx (grm. 2·0) in the twenty-four hours, and continued in doses sufficient to produce moderate ringing in the ears for a week after the parasites have disappeared from the blood (Ross). The dose may then be gradually reduced, but the drug must be continued for at least three months. It is best given in acid solution. In grave or pernicious cases it may have to be given intramuscularly or even intravenously. The intramuscular dose is gr. x twice daily for several days, the intravenous gr. x to xv once daily. Salvarsan, given intravenously in doses of 0·5 grm., repeated after ten days, appears to have been effective in a considerable number of cases of malignant malaria ; but quinine remains the staple drug. In chronic cases small doses of quinine, if plasmodia are present, are enough. Arsenic, alone or with iron, is of great service, but iron alone has not so good an effect. Arsenic is useless in acute cases.

In *blackwater fever* quinine may be cautiously given if the malarial parasite is found in the blood, but not otherwise. Some, who consider quinine the cause, advocate calomel in large doses ; others, salicylate of sodium. Fluids should be freely given, to flush the tubules and avert suppression. Collapse may be met by strychnine or ether. Normal saline should be injected subcutaneously, or given by the rectum. On no account must the patient sit up, owing to the risk of cardiac failure, for which cardiac stimulants (digitalis, caffeine, or camphor) are indicated.

Prophylactically, 5 or 10 grains (grm. 0·3-0·6) of quinine may be taken in the morning. Mosquito curtains, wire-gauze window screens, etc., must be employed ; in tropical towns Europeans should live in a separate quarter ; and a crusade against the larvæ of *Anopheles* should be undertaken, by drainage, covering the surface of pools with a film of kerosene, and so forth.

TRYPANOSOMIASIS (SLEEPING SICKNESS)

A chronic disease of tropical countries, due to a protozoon, and characterised by fever, wasting, lassitude, enlargement of the lymphatic glands, and a terminal stage of lethargy.

Etiology.—The trypanosomata are protozoa of the sub-class Flagellata, living in the blood and tissues of various animals. Many species exist, some of them pathogenic, others non-pathogenic, to their vertebrate hosts, to which they are usually transmitted by the bite of a blood-sucking insect, and in which they multiply by longitudinal division. The sexual cycle is completed in the invertebrate host, an insect which has bitten an infected animal not usually becoming infective for several days; but the details of the sexual development of the parasite vary in different species, and are not yet worked out for all.

Besides man, rats, dogs, cattle, horses, and camels are liable to be attacked by different species of trypanosomes, producing diseases more or less similar, and characterised by wasting, anæmia, œdema, and fever. Wild herbivora may harbour the parasite without being seriously infected themselves.

Morphologically, the various species of parasite differ chiefly in size. A trypanosome is a minute, actively mobile, spindle-shaped mass of protoplasm, with a single flagellum at the anterior end. Near the middle there is a large *macronucleus*, and towards the posterior end a small deeply staining *micronucleus*, *kinetonucleus*, or *centrosome*, in or near which originates the *undulatory membrane*, which runs forward like a crest above one surface of the protoplasmic mass, and terminates in the flagellum, by which and by the wavy motion of the membrane progression is effected. The parasites of man are the *Trypanosoma gambiense*, which measures 17 to 28 μ in length, and 1.4 to 2 μ in breadth, and the *Trypanosoma rhodesiense* (or *T. Brucei*), indistinguishable from it in the human blood, but showing certain morphological peculiarities when passed through the rat. The former is transmitted by the bite of a tsetse fly, the *Glossina palpalis*, the latter by the *Glossina morsitans*.

The organisms have recently been cultivated on a special medium (rabbit-blood agar).

The disease is prevalent on the West African coast, in the Congo basin, in Uganda, and also in the course of the Niger. It also occurs in Rhodesia and in Nyassaland. Natives are the chief sufferers, but Europeans are not exempt.

Morbid Anatomy.—Chronic inflammatory changes in the brain and cord and in their membranes, and enlargement of the lymphatic glands, are the principal features. There is also a relative lymphocytosis.

Symptoms.—The organism may be present in the blood for years before symptoms begin, and the disease may develop long after a return to Europe. The first stage may be marked merely by recurrent attacks of fever like that of malaria, and by enlargement of the glands and spleen, with intervals of apparent health. A patchy erythema is often present on the chest and back and may involve the face. In such cases the terminal stage may not appear for years. In other cases lassitude is present from the first, the gait and speech are slow, there is headache, the temperature rises at night, and the glands are usually enlarged. Irregular œdema is often present, and there may be dropsy of the cavities. Anæmia becomes prominent, and the blood shows a relative lymphocytosis, fine tremors appear in the tongue and hands, wasting sets in, and lethargy increases. In both types the terminal stage, to which the name "sleeping sickness" properly applies, is one of gradually deepening coma, which may be accompanied by convulsions, paralysis, or bed-sores. The duration may vary from months to years, and death is often due to an intercurrent disease.

For early **diagnosis** puncture of an enlarged gland is advisable. The parasite is often found in the glandular juice more readily than in the blood.

Treatment.—Cure is only possible in the early stages, and many even of the early cases end fatally. Atoxyl in varying doses may be given hypodermically in 10 per cent. solution. Manson gives gr. iii every third day for two years, interrupting the course if there are symptoms of arsenical poisoning, and obtains good results. Antimony has also proved very successful. It is given intravenously in the form of tartar emetic, the dose being gr. ss. (grm. 0·03) increased to gr. i ss. (grm. 0·1) dissolved in about \bar{z} vi of normal saline. The two treatments may be combined or alternated.

LEISHMANIASIS (KALA-AZAR)

A chronic infection of tropical countries, due to a protozoon, and characterised by fever, anæmia, hæmorrhages, wasting, and enlargement of the spleen.

Etiology.—The disease occurs chiefly in India, but also in Ceylon, China, Syria, Arabia, and Northern Africa. It rarely attacks Europeans.

The parasite, *Leishmania Donovanii*, discovered by Leishman in 1900, is possibly transmitted by the bed-bug (*Cimex macrocephalus*), and in the Mediterranean basin possibly also by the dog-flea, since the dogs of that region are frequently infected with *Leishmania*. It is found in the spleen, liver, bone-marrow, and mesenteric glands, sometimes in the cutaneous ulcers, and occasionally in the peripheral blood. As seen in smears from the spleen, it is a round or oval body 2.5 to 3.5 μ in diameter, and contains a large rounded or oval chromatin body lying towards one side, and a smaller rod-shaped chromatin body lying at a tangent to it. In smears the "Leishman-Donovan bodies" are often free, in sections they are intracellular, being taken up by the mononuclear leucocytes, and by the endothelial cells of the capillaries and splenic sinuses. In these they multiply by fission till they burst the cell, when they are again taken up by other cells. In cultures they develop a form resembling a trypanosome in possessing a flagellum at the anterior end, but without an undulatory membrane. From some of these flagellated forms there develops by longitudinal fission a hair-like mobile spirillary organism. The organism thus belongs to the sub-class Flagellata.

A form of kala-azar, confined to children of about two years of age, is found in Tunis and other parts of the Mediterranean coast. An obstinate form of chronic ulceration (*Biskra button*, *Delhi boil*, *Natal sore*), prevalent in tropical and subtropical countries, is also caused by a *Leishmania*; but whether these parasites are identical with *Leishmania Donovanii* is uncertain.

Morbid Anatomy.—Enlargement of the liver and spleen is constant, and the bone-marrow shows signs of proliferation. There are frequently intestinal ulcers, chiefly in the colon.

Symptoms are largely those of anæmia, and include pallor, hæmorrhages from mucous surfaces or into the skin (purpura), long continued irregular fever, and transitory œdema. There is marked leucopenia, with a relative lymphocytosis. Splenic enlargement is constant, hepatic common. Later, muscular atrophy and great emaciation are present. Cutaneous ulcers are frequent. The disease ends fatally after a few months or years.

For **diagnosis** hepatic puncture should be practised in preference to splenic, which involves the risk of fatal hæmorrhage.

Treatment.—Quinine, the arylarsonates, and salvarsan have been tried, sometimes successfully, but the specific drug is antimony, given by intravenous injection in the form of a two

per cent. solution of tartar emetic. The initial dose is half a grain, each dose increasing by half a grain until a maximum of two and a half grains is reached. An injection should be given twice a week, and the total quantity used may be about forty grains. Gradual improvement follows, and often permanent cure.

RELAPSING FEVER

A specific infectious disease, occurring in epidemics, and characterised by terminating suddenly on the sixth or seventh day, but *followed by a relapse after an interval of a week*. The fever is always associated with the presence of a spirochæte in the blood.

Etiology.—Epidemics have a close connection with overcrowding and destitution. The disease is epidemic in parts of India. It used to be epidemic in temperate climates, and especially in Ireland during periods of famine. Like typhus, it occurred among the poor and filthy, but was more associated with *poverty and famine* than filth. It attacks all ages, but males more than females. It is transmitted from person to person, and may be carried by *fomites* (clothing, bedding, etc., which has been in contact with the patient), the agent of transmission being the body-louse, within whose stomach the parasite multiplies.

The Organism.—The *Spirochæte* or *Spirochaeta obermeieri* is a long, slender spiral organism with pointed ends. Its length varies from 10 to 40 μ , and the spirals number about ten. It is in constant movement of a lashing character. The organisms, which tend to adhere around the red corpuscles, are absent during the non-febrile interval, but return again when the relapse occurs. When they disappear from the blood, they accumulate in the spleen, and according to Metchnikoff they are there destroyed by phagocytosis. This process is aided by the development of antibodies in the serum.

Noguchi has successfully cultivated several varieties of the spirochæte on sterile ascitic fluid to which a piece of fresh tissue has been added. They multiply both by longitudinal and transverse division.

The incubation period varies between one and sixteen days.

Morbid Anatomy.—That of intense fever. The spleen is notably enlarged.

Symptoms.—The fever is ushered in suddenly, with rigors, frontal headache, backache, and rapid elevation of tempera-

ture, which may reach, even on the first day, 104° F. The pulse is very rapid, and respirations are also quickened. The tongue has a marked white fur, and there is much thirst. The skin may be dry or sweating. The *spleen* and liver are enlarged and tender. Jaundice is common. About the fifth night the symptoms become greatly aggravated, and the temperature may reach 107° or 108° F.; the delirium is increased, and a fatal termination seems imminent, when a profuse sweating takes place, the bad symptoms rapidly abate, and the crisis is established. In a few hours the patient feels comparatively well; he is ravenously hungry, and has apparently fully recovered. Then in about a week he is seized with symptoms similar to those of the first attack. Usually the second attack, however, *runs a less severe course, and is of shorter duration than the first attack*, but sometimes the exhaustion is so profound, that the "typhoid" condition rapidly supervenes, and a fatal issue results. Two, or even more, relapses have occurred. Convalescence is usually slow. The disease is much less fatal than typhus, but immunity is short, and second attacks are common.

Complications.—1. Bronchitis, pneumonia, and pleurisy; 2. dysenteric diarrhoea; 3. severe jaundice; 4. ophthalmia; 5. hæmorrhages; 6. pregnant women usually abort.

Special Points to note—

1. The spirochæte.
2. Absence of rash. (There may be petechial spots.)
3. The speedy, *apparent* recovery after the first attack.
4. The slow, *real* convalescence after a relapse.
5. Association of the fever with famine.

Treatment.—Salvarsan used intravenously gives excellent results, causing an early crisis and preventing relapses. The dose is 0.45 grm.; in the rare cases of relapse a smaller dose will suffice. Quinine and the mineral acids may be given. Opium or morphine may be required for the severe pains. Collapse at the crisis must be met by stimulants. As many of the patients have been in a state of starvation, only fluid and easily digested foods are at first allowable, and the supply must be very carefully increased. In a disease conveyed by parasites, disinfection of the patient's clothing is an obvious measure.

YELLOW FEVER

An acute specific fever of limited geographical distribution, characterised by jaundice, albuminuria, and tendency to hæmorrhages, particularly from the stomach; and pathologically, by fatty degeneration of the liver and acute nephritis.

Etiology.—The disease is endemic in the West Indies, on the coasts of Central and South America, and on the West African coast. From these centres it spreads in epidemic form, usually by means of shipping, to other and sometimes remote regions, where, however, it has never taken a firm hold. It is most severe at low levels, and in crowded towns upon the coast-line, and is especially favoured by warmth and moisture. There is no racial immunity, although negroes in the endemic areas suffer less severely and less frequently than whites. One attack confers almost complete immunity, *so long as the subject remains in the infected area* (repeated inoculation?).

After introduction of a case to a new area, others do not appear for from two to three weeks. The *individual* incubation period, after inoculation, is from three to six days.

Yellow fever is not transmitted by direct contagion or by fomites. It may be communicated by inoculation with the blood or serum of a patient in the first three days of the disease, but not later. Heating the blood to 55° C. for ten minutes destroys its infectivity. It is now proved to be spread by the bite of mosquitoes (*Stegomyia fasciata*), which have previously bitten patients at the early stage of the malady. From ten to twelve days are required for incubation in the mosquito before its bite transmits infection, and from four to five or more after the bite before symptoms develop in man.

The specific organism, recently discovered by Noguchi, is a spirochæte (*Leptospira icteroides*), 4 to 9 μ long and 0.2 μ broad. It shows active movement, and closely resembles the organism of *Spirochætosus ictero-hæmorrhagica* (q.v.).

Morbid Anatomy.—The skin is jaundiced. The most important changes are in—

1. *Liver.*—Size about the normal, colour pale yellow with hæmorrhagic patches; cells atrophied, necrotic, and showing *marked fatty degeneration*.

2. *Kidneys*.—In a state of acute glomerulo-nephritis, and much engorged ; cells full of fat globules.
3. *Stomach*.—Injected and ecchymosed, coated internally with altered blood ; contains “ black vomit.”

Symptoms.—About five days after the bite of an infected mosquito, there follows a sudden chilliness or rigor, with severe headache, and pains in the back or limbs. The temperature runs up to 101°-104° F. and sometimes higher. The face is bloated and flushed, the conjunctivæ injected and bright red ; there may be a slightly jaundiced tint. The tongue is pointed, red at the tip and edges, and furred in the middle. There may be simple vomiting. Albuminuria may be present from the first day. The pulse is full and strong, but *slow relatively to the temperature, and tends day by day to become slower while the temperature keeps high*. It may fall even below the normal. In mild cases convalescence may begin about the third or fourth day ; more commonly there is a remission, lasting from a few hours to a couple of days. The disease then goes on to—

The *second stage*, which commences about the fourth or fifth day. Its prominent features are—

1. “ Black vomit.” The vomit is at first watery, but becomes more and more mixed with altered blood, and like coffee-grounds in appearance.
2. Other hæmorrhages, as epistaxis, hæmorrhage from the bowel, etc. Metrorrhagia is common, and pregnant women always abort.
3. Highly albuminous and scanty urine. Complete suppression is not uncommon, and if it persists for twenty-four hours, the case almost always ends fatally.
4. Jaundice, beginning in the conjunctivæ. The tint is oftenest a faint lemon yellow, but it may be deeper, or may even be a dark orange-brown.

There are also asthenic symptoms—intense collapse, shrunken features, etc. ; or the typhoid state may occur. *The spleen is not enlarged*.

The mortality is very variable in different epidemics and races. “ It ranges anywhere from 5 to 75 per cent. of those attacked ” (Manson).

Treatment.—It is well to begin with a smart purge (calomel

or castor oil); afterwards laxatives must be used cautiously. Nothing but small quantities of water or iced water need be given in the first stage; large quantities will be vomited. Stimulants are seldom required so early. They may be used later in the presence of collapse or asthenia, and food may then be given by the rectum. The headache may be relieved by an ice-cap, and sponging may relieve the fever. Drugs are of little use, though astringents may be tried for hæmorrhage. Suppression of urine may be treated by cups to the loins, and hot packs or the hot bath.

Prophylactic.—In general, the breeding-places of mosquitoes should be destroyed as in malarial regions, and cisterns protected by wire-gauze. Infected houses should be screened by wire-gauze, and the adult mosquitoes in them destroyed by fumigation. During the fever season the nights should be spent away from the town in a healthy suburb, preferably at some height above the coast-line. These measures have been successful in stamping out the disease in Cuba and Panama.

SPIROCHÆTOSIS ICTERO-HÆMORRHAGICA

(INFECTIVE JAUNDICE)

An acute specific infection characterised by sudden onset, jaundice, enlargement of the liver, and hæmorrhages.

Etiology.—The disease is due to a spirochæte, discovered by Japanese workers in 1915, and known as *Spirochæte* or *Leptospira ictero-hæmorrhagiæ*. The organism is from 6 μ to 9 μ in length, and 0.25 μ in thickness, the spirals being irregular and poorly formed. It is found in the blood and tissues, particularly the liver and kidneys, and is excreted in the urine from the tenth day onwards. It is commonly present in the kidneys of both house and field rats, the urine of which produces contamination of the soil, infection being probably conveyed to the human being through the nasopharynx. Organisms are found in the peripheral blood only during the first few days.

It is doubtful whether the affection is identical with Weil's disease, a rare form of infective jaundice first described in 1886. During the war spirochætosis was common among troops in France, Italy, and Germany.

Morbid Anatomy.—In fatal cases the duodenum is con-

gested and œdematous, and the orifice of the bile-duct swollen ; the stomach and first three feet of the jejunum are less noticeably inflamed. The condition of the liver varies, but sometimes there are changes resembling those of acute yellow atrophy. The kidneys are enlarged, and may show either cloudy swelling or conditions approaching necrosis ; hæmorrhages into the cortical tubules are common. Subpleural hæmorrhage and pneumonic patches may be seen in the lungs ; subpericardial and peritoneal hæmorrhages are also present ; and the heart may be soft and flabby.

Symptoms.—The onset is usually abrupt, the temperature rising to 103° or 105° F., with headache, general pains, weakness, anorexia, and often vomiting. The temperature may remain high for from seven to ten days, falling by lysis ; or after a brief initial fever there may be a remission of several days and a secondary rise. Jaundice appears from the second to the seventh day, and may be slight or intense ; the pulse-rate falls with its onset. The stools in some cases are normal in colour, in others pale, but never completely white. The urine is deeply bile-stained, and sometimes contains casts and albumin. The liver is usually enlarged and tender, the spleen less often. The conjunctivæ are injected. The jaundice lasts about a week or ten days, declines with the fall of temperature, and does not usually return with the secondary rise.

Hæmorrhages from the nose, bowels, kidneys, lungs, or into the skin are the most important complications ; erythema, urticaria, or a hæmorrhagic herpes labialis may occur. The blood shows a moderate polymorphonuclear leucocytosis, and marked anæmia (the red cells may fall to 2,000,000). The mortality is low.

Treatment.—Salvarsan has been tried, occasionally with good results, and injection of the serum of convalescents has also been successful. Other measures are purely symptomatic. Disinfection of the urine is obviously called for.

SYPHILIS

A specific infective disease of slow evolution and long duration, due to the *Spirochæte pallida*, and transmitted by (1) inoculation, whether in sexual intercourse or otherwise (acquired syphilis) ; or (2) inheritance (congenital syphilis).

Etiology.—

The Spirochæte pallida, discovered by Schaudinn and Hofmann in 1905, and now also known as the *Spiroplasma* or *Treponema pallidum*, is a delicate, mobile, spirally-shaped organism, measuring from 4-14 μ in length, and in thickness only 0.25 μ . The number of turns in the spiral varies from six to twenty-four. The organism is only slightly refractile, and stains with some difficulty. It possesses a delicate flagellum at each end, but is devoid of undulating membrane. In these respects, in its smaller size, and in the greater regularity of its spiral curves, it differs from other spirochætes, notably *Spirochæte refringens*, which is found on the surface of lesions of the genital organs. *Spirochæte pallida* is found in all the primary and secondary lesions, and sometimes in the blood during life in secondary syphilis. In tertiary syphilis it is sometimes discoverable in the peripheral parts of gummata, but with greater difficulty. It has also been found in the brain in many cases of general paralysis of the insane, and in the lesions of locomotor ataxia in a few instances. In congenital syphilis it is very abundant both in the superficial lesions and in the viscera, and also in the blood. Noguchi has of late succeeded in cultivating the parasite on a medium consisting of agar and ascitic fluid to which a piece of sterile rabbit's kidney is added. It is a strict anaerobe, and multiplies by longitudinal fission. Inoculation of his cultures produces the disease in monkeys. He has also shown that the organism exists in different strains. The spirochæte is not a filter-passer, and is readily destroyed by a temperature of 51° C.

Modes of Infection.—Infection may be direct (sexual congress, finger of the accoucheur, tattooing, etc.) or mediate, through contaminated instruments or drinking-vessels. The secretions of the chancre and of secondary lesions, and the blood in the secondary stage, all contain the virus. The statement that tertiary lesions are not infective must be modified in view of the discovery of the parasite in them.

The disease may also be transmitted hereditarily, either through the father (sperm inheritance) or the mother (germ inheritance), or both. If the mother is infected after conception, the child may or may not suffer (placental transmission), usually escaping when the infection occurs late in the pregnancy. Though the mother of a syphilitic child may show no signs of the disease, she has acquired immunity from it and cannot be infected (Colles' law). The lesions of congenital syphilis are infective.

Morbid Anatomy.—The primary chancre is largely an accumulation of round cells in the corium, with infiltration of the connective tissue. The endothelium of the blood-vessels is swollen, and proliferates, their walls are infiltrated with round cells, and their lumen is narrowed. The adjacent lymphatic glands are also infiltrated with round cells.

In the secondary stage there are cutaneous lesions with changes of a similar type. The vessels are also implicated. There may be macules, papules, pustules, etc. "Mucous patches" are papules modified by their situation on moist skin or mucous membrane. Where growth is exuberant, especially around the anus, and on the scrotum or vulva, they are called condylomata.

The tertiary stage is characterised by the presence of *gum-mata*—hard, nodular, localised masses *adherent to the surrounding tissues*. They may be quite small, or even larger than a hen's egg. They consist of round cells with epithelioid cells and occasional giant cells, and are surrounded by firm connective tissue. They tend to necrosis in the centre, and may discharge through the skin or mucous membrane. When they affect the viscera they may cause much cicatricial deformity.

Profound arterial changes may occur in the later stages of syphilis, favouring the development of aneurysm, atheroma, cerebral thrombosis, etc.

Acquired Syphilis : Symptoms.—There are four stages in acquired syphilis—(1) Incubation ; (2) Primary Sore ; (3) Secondary Stage ; and (4) Tertiary Stage. Of these the following is a very brief summary :—

1. The *Incubation Period* varies from two to six weeks, but is usually between three and five.

2. The *Primary Sore*, or chancre, is a papule with an *indurated* base. The surface may or may not ulcerate, but is usually depressed in the centre. The hardness or induration extends to the nearest lymphatic glands, and ultimately all the lymphatic glands may become involved. The glands are freely movable under the skin ("rolling glands"), discrete, and not painful. They rarely suppurate. The chancre or "*hard sore*" finally disappears, leaving an indurated cicatrix behind.

3. *Secondary Symptoms.*—After the appearance of the primary sore, there is an interval ("second incubation") varying from one to three months, but usually lasting about six weeks, before secondary symptoms appear. There is a transient *first stage*, characterised by—

- (1) Fever, usually slight, sometimes sharp and remittent ;
malaise.

- (2) A transitory macular or roseolar rash, chiefly on the abdomen.
- (3) Sore throat (congestion of the fauces).

Later, other forms of cutaneous eruption (syphilides) may succeed the roseola, and are distinguished by—

- (1) Their *symmetrical distribution* on opposite sides of the body.
- (2) Their *colour*; coppery, or like that of raw ham; darker on the legs than elsewhere.
- (3) Their *outline*; circular, or where the patches have coalesced, in segments of circles.
- (4) Their *polymorphism*; *i.e.*, macules, papules, and pustules or scales may be present at the same time in different parts.

The pustular syphilide has been mistaken for small-pox; the squamous resembles psoriasis, but the scales are light and small, and there is no preference for extensor surfaces. Syphilitic eruptions are not itchy, with very few exceptions.

In the late secondary stage, and in the tertiary, ulceration of the skin is common. The ulcers have a sharply-cut circular edge and an ash-grey base. In neglected cases their discharges may dry into thick greenish crusts, firmly adherent, and often limpet-shaped (*rupia*).

The other changes are—

“ Mucous patches ” in the mouth, and condylomata—soft, flat, warty growths with a greyish secretion—around the anus, vulva, scrotum, or in the groins.

Ulceration of the throat.

Syphilitic iritis.

Syphilitic periostitis.

Anæmia.

Loss of hair (alopecia) *not* followed usually by permanent baldness. Nocturnal headache and bone pains.

4. *Third or Tertiary Stage*.—The anæmia has become more marked, and the manifestations of the disease are those of serious malnutrition. Cutaneous syphilides are not symmetrical as in the secondary stage, but scattered, and they tend to form deep ulcers, which leave well-marked scars. The bones are often

affected, and periosteal "nodes" are common on the long bones and the calvarium. Syphilitic endarteritis may be the cause of aneurysm or of cerebral thrombosis. Deep-seated organic changes, due to the formation of gummata, are also very common. These growths may be found subcutaneously, in the muscles, or in any of the internal organs. They are met with in the brain (Jacksonian epilepsy), bones, testicle, liver (syphilitic cirrhosis), heart, nose, and larynx, and elsewhere. Ultimately they may be gradually absorbed, thus causing cicatricial deformity of internal organs; or if they are superficial, they may ulcerate and discharge upon the surface.

Syphilis is of great importance as a factor in the production of other diseases, mainly chronic. While its range may perhaps be overestimated, it is well to remember that Ricord's chief regret, at the end of his career, was that he had not diagnosed it often enough. There is one group of chronic diseases with which it has a very definite connection. They are known as *parasyphilitic* or *metasyphilitic*, i.e., the lesions are non-specific, but are due to degenerative changes set up by the syphilitic toxin. Chief among them are amyloid disease, epilepsy, and in hereditary syphilis, infantilism. Locomotor ataxia and general paralysis were until quite recently included in this class, but the spironema has lately been demonstrated in the affected nervous tissues. These diseases must therefore now be regarded not as parasyphilitic, but as manifestations of a *quaternary* stage of syphilis.

In women, miscarriages or still-births are frequent. Should the child survive, it may be the subject of congenital syphilis.

The secondary stage lasts from six months to a year; the tertiary follows it from a year to three or four years after infection. Tertiary lesions are obstinate, and tend to relapse after treatment.

Congenital Syphilis, as we have seen, may be transmitted from the father or mother, or both. If the infection is through the father alone, the mother is immunised, and cannot be subsequently infected. In the tertiary stage the disease is rarely transmitted.

The child is seldom born obviously syphilised, for infants in whom syphilis becomes manifest *in utero* usually die *in utero*; but syphilitic pemphigus is an exception to this rule. It may be present at birth or appear within a week. Such infants

usually show other signs (atrophy, snuffles, etc.), and do not long survive.

Symptoms.—

1. Born apparently healthy, within three months the child develops rhinitis, impeded breathing, and “snuffles.” Necrosis of the nasal bones may cause *depressions at the root of the nose*.
2. General atrophy, slight or marked, with a peculiar “old man” appearance.
3. Fissures (*rhagades*) at the angles of the mouth.
4. Mucous patches in the mouth, condylomata at the anus.
5. Coppery erythema on the buttocks and inner sides of the thighs, or the palms and soles; onychia.
6. *Enlargement of the spleen*; epiphysitis; thickening of bone, or craniotabes.

Passing off in about a year, when the case is not fatal, symptoms tend to return at the second dentition and at puberty. The child is ill-nourished, the brow prominent, the bridge of the nose depressed; the upper central incisors of the permanent set are notched and peg-shaped (“Hutchinson” teeth); interstitial keratitis and iritis are frequent; “nodes” on the long bones are often present; occasionally synovitis of both knees is seen; and gummata of the internal organs may be a late occurrence. General paralysis and locomotor ataxia occasionally occur in juveniles as late manifestations of congenital syphilis.

Diagnosis.—Often impossible to mistake, syphilis is at times only to be recognised by a careful search for obscure evidences of its presence, or by minute inquiry into the history of the case. In cases which still remain doubtful we may employ—

The Wassermann Reaction.—If the blood-corpuscles of one animal (ox) be injected into an animal of another species (rabbit) the serum of the latter becomes able to dissolve the corpuscles of animals of the former species (*hæmolysis*). If this hæmolytic or immune serum is heated to 55° C., it loses its hæmolytic property, which is restored to it on the addition of a little normal rabbit's or guinea-pig's serum. This process is exactly similar to that occurring in bacteriolytic sera (*see Immunity*, p. 15).

In the immune serum a *thermo-stable* immune body has developed, which acts only along with the *thermo-labile* complement; and the latter when destroyed can be replaced from normal serum. If such an immune serum, after heating to 55° C., is added to ox corpuscles, the immune body present becomes linked to the corpuscles, which are said to be "sensitised," *i.e.*, they are in a state of readiness for lysis on the addition of a normal serum containing complement. Any serum, therefore, which, on being added to the sensitised corpuscles, produces hæmolysis, may be inferred to contain free complement; of any serum which does not do so, it may be inferred that the complement is already fixed or *deviated* by an antigen-immune body combination. When syphilitic serum, containing immune body, is mixed with watery extract of syphilitic liver, containing antigen (spirochætes), a large amount of complement is fixed. Hæmolysis therefore does *not* occur when the mixture is added to the sensitised corpuscles. If normal serum is used instead, the complement is not fixed, and hæmolysis takes place. On this principle of the "deviation of complement" the Wassermann test was based. The test remains valid, giving a positive result in about 90 per cent. of cases of active syphilis; but the principle has been invalidated, for it is found that alcoholic extracts of many other substances of a lipoidal nature fix complement along with syphilitic serum. No true explanation of the reaction is yet available. Positive results have occasionally been recorded in yaws, sleeping-sickness, leprosy, scarlet fever, and some cases of diabetic acidosis, and cancer of the stomach. While the reaction is thus not absolutely diagnostic, it may for all practical purposes be taken as specific. It must not, however, be forgotten that non-syphilitic diseases may occur in syphilised individuals. A negative reaction does not exclude syphilis.

Luetin Reaction.—Luetin is a substance extracted by Noguchi from pure cultures of the *Treponema pallidum*. When injected into the skin it produces, in syphilitic cases, a reaction which may assume one of three types: (1) A *papular* form, in which a large indurated reddish papule, 5-10 mm. in diameter, appears within forty-eight hours, increases in size for three or four days, and then recedes. (2) A *pustular* form, in which the papule becomes first vesicular and after the fourth day pustular. (3) A *torpid* or latent form, in which there is no reaction for

about ten days, after which small pustules form at the sites of the injection punctures. In the normal individual there may be a slight erythema at the point of injection, but this disappears within forty-eight hours. The reaction is due to anaphylaxis, and is specific for syphilis. It is less constant than the Wassermann reaction in primary and secondary syphilis, but much more often positive in tertiary, latent, and congenital syphilis and in parasyphilis.

Sigma Reaction.—A syphilitic serum possesses the power of producing flocculation in a saline suspension of a mixture of cholesterol and alcoholic heart or liver extract (*Sachs-Georgi reaction*). More recently Dreyer and Ward have evolved a standardised preparation of these substances which will keep indefinitely, and which gives more constant results than the Sachs-Georgi method. The test is known as the Sigma reaction. It appears to be as delicate and reliable as the Wassermann reaction, is more accurately quantitative, and is simpler to carry out.

Treatment.—Three drugs have a specific effect upon syphilis—salvarsan and its derivatives, and the older mercury and iodide of potassium. The combined method of treatment by mercury and salvarsan is now most in vogue, iodide of potassium being used chiefly as an auxiliary and in the later stages. But there are certain contra-indications (*see below*) to the use of salvarsan, in the presence of which the older methods of treatment can alone be used. These will accordingly be first described.

1. *Ordinary Treatment.*—The management of the primary sore consists mainly in local cleanliness. If the sore is certainly proved to be syphilitic by the discovery of the spirochæte, the use of mercury should be commenced at once, and may avert even secondary symptoms. The Wassermann test is usually negative in the early primary stage. Treatment consists in the early stages in the administration of one or other of the preparations of mercury. The preparations administered, and the methods of administration, are too numerous to describe in full. In the general run of cases Hutchinson's pill (Hydrarg. c. Cretâ gr. i (grm. 0·07), Pulv. Ipecac. Co. gr. i, one or two thrice daily) is effective, if given for long periods. It does not produce salivation or diarrhœa.

Treatment must not be stopped when symptoms have disappeared, but *must be continued for two or three years*. Where symptoms are more urgent and a rapid effect is desired, inunction of blue ointment, $\mathfrak{z}\text{i}$ (grm. 4.0) daily, or hypodermic injection of corrosive sublimate gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ (grm. 0.008) every second day, may be practised, or calomel gr. i-ii (grm. 0.07-0.14), suspended in sterile oil, may be injected into the gluteal muscles once a week. The condition of the mouth must be looked to, and smoking should be forbidden if there are lesions in the mouth. In the tertiary stages, iodide of potassium to a great extent takes the place of mercury, but the two are often advantageously combined. Doses of 5-20 grains (grm. 0.3-1.3) thrice daily usually suffice, but in cerebral syphilis the drug must be rapidly pushed to even larger doses.

In cases of pregnancy the mother must be actively treated if the father be syphilitic, even though she herself is apparently healthy. Infants suffering from congenital syphilis are best treated with grey powder gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{3}$ (grm. 0.008-0.02) thrice daily, or in severer cases by inunction.

In every case, besides treating the specific disease, the general health must be sedulously cared for. Anæmia may be treated by iron or arsenic, the general strength built up by hypophosphites, cod-liver oil, etc., and well-to-do patients are often rapidly improved by a course at such a spa as Aix-les-Bains.

2. *Treatment by the Combined Method.*—The complex arsenical compounds known as arylarsonates have for some time been used with good results, but with all of them there has been a risk of optic atrophy and blindness. Salvarsan, or dioxydiamido-arsenobenzol, is free from this objection, and was at first looked upon as likely to replace mercury. It is now recognised that the best results are obtained by using the two in combination. Salvarsan, or any of its substitutes or derivatives—neosalvarsan, kharsivan, novarsenobillon, galyl, among others—may be given intramuscularly or intravenously, the intravenous route being that generally chosen. It is the safest, and intravenous injections are not followed by pain. Great care must, however, be taken in the preparation of the solution, and precautions must be employed to prevent the escape of the fluid into the subcutaneous tissues. The dose of salvarsan for an adult varies from 0.3-0.6 gramme, that of neosalvarsan

is 0·8-1·5 gramme, that of galyl (tetraoxy-diphospho-amino-diarsenobenzene) 0·2-0·3 gramme. A single injection often suffices to heal the manifest lesions, and to cause temporary disappearance of the Wassermann reaction. "Recurrences" observed in nerve-trunks, etc., are attributed to the escape of isolated foci of spirochætes in poorly vascularised areas, and to their subsequent activity. For these, and other cases not yielding to a first injection, further injections should be given at intervals of a week or ten days. The treatment has yielded specially brilliant results in cases refractory to mercury and iodide. But one injection does not cure, and even after several, although the Wassermann reaction may temporarily disappear, it may return at a later stage. A course of six to eight injections of salvarsan must therefore be combined with mercury, given either by injection or by inunction, and it may be necessary to repeat the course after an interval of six weeks. In cases of syphilis of the central nervous system it is advisable to give a preparatory mercurial course before salvarsan is used, with the object of lessening the risk of a marked reaction. No case of syphilis should be considered cured until it has been free of symptoms, and has given a negative Wassermann reaction, for at least a year. Active disease may persist with a negative reaction, and if this is suspected a small "provocative" injection is given. In the presence of active syphilis the reaction becomes once more positive.

Ehrlich regards cancer, the status lymphaticus, and Addison's disease as absolute contra-indications to the use of salvarsan; Neisser adds to these, severe alcoholism, cachexia, hepatic affections, and degenerative lesions of the cardiovascular or nervous system; and the presence of nephritis also increases its danger. In such cases a single large dose may produce a violent reaction (*Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction*) with increase of damage to the affected organ. If salvarsan is given at all, it should be begun in very small doses.

YAWS (FRAMBÆSIA)

A chronic infectious disease occurring in tropical countries, and characterised by a peculiar eruption.

Etiology.—Yaws is due to the *Treponema* or *Spirochaeta pertenuis*, an organism which morphologically closely resembles the *Treponema pallidum*, and is found in the lesions of the skin.

The disease can be inoculated into apes, and in them the spirochæte is found in the skin lesions, and also in the lymphatic glands and spleen. Yaws has a close relationship to syphilis. It is highly contagious, but not through unbroken skin. A scratch or sore may be infected direct, through infected clothing, or by insects.

The cutaneous lesions are composed of granulation tissue, and involve the deep layers of the epidermis and the papillary layer of the cutis vera.

Symptoms.—After an *incubation period*, varying from a fortnight to two months, there follows a week or so of malaise, and sometimes fever. An eruption then appears. It consists at first of minute itchy subcuticular papules, which rapidly increase in size, protrude through the epidermis, and become purulent at the top. The drying in of the pus produces a crust by which the “yaw” is covered. Some of the lesions remain small, others may grow to a considerable size, and form rounded projections on the surface of the skin. Some may ulcerate, but usually after a few weeks the crust falls off, and healing takes place. The lesions, which are painless throughout, occur in successive crops, and the disease may thus last for several months or even years. The Wassermann reaction may be positive. The name *frambœsia* refers to the raspberry appearance of the granulomata (Fr. *framboise*), but the resemblance is somewhat slight.

The **Treatment** is on the same lines as that of syphilis. Until recent years, mercury and iodide of potassium were the chief remedies used, though arsenic has also proved serviceable. Salvarsan has recently been employed with excellent results, and is now the recognised specific treatment. Local applications, isolation, and disinfection of the clothing are the other necessary measures.

D. INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF DOUBTFUL OR UNKNOWN ETIOLOGY

VARIOLA, OR SMALL-POX

An acute, infectious disease, characterised by a rash, which usually appears on the third day, and runs through four stages,

viz. :—(1) Papular ; (2) Vesicular ; (3) Pustular ; (4) Drying up, or Scabbing.

Etiology.—The disease is common to all ages and both sexes, and may attack the fœtus of an infected mother. Planted in a virgin soil it is very virulent. Complete or partial immunity is conferred by successful vaccination.

The contagion spreads by contact with fomites, patients or those who have been in touch with them, and also by contact with the contents of the pustule, with scabs, and especially with the scales of desquamating skin. As the primary fever declines on the third day, when the rash appears, the patients in the early stages frequently walk about and apply at hospital for advice respecting a "rash," and they may thus infect all in the waiting-room. A mild case of "varioid" may cause a virulent infection. The virus lingers long in infected places, and it is given off from the dead. The disease is infectious from the outset, even before the eruption appears.

Specific Organism.—No specific organism has as yet been unquestionably demonstrated, although Guarnieri describes a small protozoon-like organism from $1.8\ \mu$ in diameter, occurring in the deeper epithelial cells of the skin-lesions, and also in the corneal ulcerations, which he names the *Cytoryctes variolæ*. The appearances are probably due to nuclear changes in the cells, but similar changes have been seen in no other skin-lesions.

Morbid Anatomy.—The general changes in the tissues are those of fever. The spleen is much enlarged. In hæmorrhagic small-pox there are hæmorrhages into internal organs, and on serous and mucous surfaces.

The rash affects the mucous surfaces as well as the skin. (1) The *papular stage* is marked by proliferation of the cells of the rete mucosum, with an exudate, partly serous, partly cellular, which compresses the peripheral cells into trabeculæ, and so forms (2) a loculated *vesicle*. At the same time coagulation-necrosis occurs in the centre of the papule, which, when it becomes a vesicle, is thus *umbilicated* or depressed in the centre. The cutis vera becomes hyperæmic, and this leads to infiltration of leucocytes, forming (3) the *pustular stage*. Pyogenic organisms are found in the pustules. Fresh epidermis is formed under the pustule, which dries in, and becomes a scab or crust, on the separation of which scars or pits are left behind, if the cutis has been involved in the pustulation.

The *blood* shows a marked leucocytosis, the lymphocytes being chiefly increased, the polymorphonuclear leucocytes diminished.

Symptoms.—The incubation period may vary from ten to fourteen days, the average being twelve. Then follows a sudden onset, with *shivering, frontal headache, pains in the back, and vomiting*. In children there may be *convulsions*. The temperature runs up rapidly, with all the phenomena of “fever.” On the third day the fever usually declines, and the rash appears as a papule. Soon, however, the symptoms become worse and more pronounced than before, the fever increases, and on the eighth or ninth day, when the rash becomes pustular, the so-called secondary or suppurative fever is fully developed, and assumes a septic type with oscillatory temperatures. There may be severe rigors and a rapid assumption of the typhoid state. There is great swelling of the face—the eyes may even be closed up—and too frequently the patient dies. When recovery takes place, the temperature falls gradually, by lysis, and the pocks, after remaining pustular for two or three days, begin to dry, forming scabs which fall off finally on the eighteenth to twentieth day, and leave a more or less pitted appearance.

The *specific rash* first appears on the third day of fever, on the face, forehead, and scalp, as slightly raised red papules, which give a *shotty* feeling to the skin even before they are visible. It afterwards appears on the back of the wrists, then on the trunk and arms, and lastly on the legs. The mucous membranes are also affected.

Three days later (sixth day of fever) the “papules” become vesicular. The vesicles are at first clear and transparent, then turbid, depressed in the middle or *umbilicated*. Each vesicle is also *loculated*, that is, divided into compartments by delicate connective-tissue partitions derived from proliferation of the cells of the rete Malpighii.

Usually about five days after the appearance of the eruption (eighth day of fever), the vesicles become *purulent*. Round each pustule there is an inflammatory ring, which causes great swelling and disfigurement of the parts affected. This is attended with exacerbation of symptoms due to toxic absorption, *i.e.*, secondary fever. The pustule then begins to desiccate, and ultimately a black-brown scab forms, which drops off about the middle of the third week, leaving a depressed scar as before

mentioned. A characteristic greasy *odour* is present in small-pox from an early stage.

Varieties.—

1. *Varioloid*, or modified small-pox, is the form most frequently seen after vaccination. The initial fever is usually slight, and the rash scanty. The papules vesicate on the fifth day, and dry up in a day or two. There is no secondary fever.
2. *Simple* or *discrete*—the pocks being few.
3. *Confluent*—where the pocks run into one another on the face, feet, and hands. The initial fever is severe, the eruption appears early, and the temperature subsides only partially on the third day. The face and hands are much swollen. Noisy delirium is frequent. Death takes place about the ninth day in unvaccinated subjects, and about the eleventh in the vaccinated, as a rule.
4. *Hæmorrhagic*, assuming one of two forms. (1) *Purpura variolosa*, or malignant small-pox. The specific eruption is preceded by an erythematous rash which becomes hæmorrhagic or petechial. Hæmorrhages from mucous membranes (hæmaturia, hæmatemesis, etc.) are frequent. Death sometimes occurs before the specific eruption appears. (2) Hæmorrhages take place *into the pocks*, or from mucous membranes. Both forms are very fatal.

Of the above forms the hæmorrhagic is the most fatal, and after it the confluent, in which the danger is in proportion to the number of pustules *upon the face*. The typhoid state is apt to appear early in the latter form.

Initial Rashes.—The specific rash may be preceded by other *prodromal* rashes (which may appear on the second day)—

1. *Hæmorrhagic* or *petechial*, occupying the lower half of the abdomen, and extending downwards in a triangular form to an apex in Scarpa's triangle.
2. *Petechio-erythematous*, of wider distribution, extending up the sides of the chest.

3. *Erythematous*, similar to scarlet fever or to measles. In this case, the true eruption when it occurs seems to spare the site of the initial rash.

The erythematous form, which vanishes in a day or two, indicates a slight attack, and the prognosis is gravest in the petechio-erythematous.

Complications.—

1. Conjunctivitis, keratitis, corneal ulceration.
2. Laryngitis and laryngeal ulceration.
3. Bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, pleurisy.
4. Hæmorrhage of *all* kinds.
5. Gangrene, usually of the penis ; erysipelas.
6. Orchitis.
7. Purulent arthritis and pyæmia.
8. Albuminuria ; rarely nephritis.

Sequelæ.—

Otitis media.
Boils and abscesses.
Deep pitting.
Blindness.
Permanent baldness.

Treatment.—Vaccination or re-vaccination carried out within three days of exposure to infection will either prevent or modify the ensuing attack. Later it is useless. All those in contact with the patient must be vaccinated, and rigid isolation must be insisted upon. There is no specific drug, and treatment must be carried out on general principles.

As small-pox is infective even in the prodromal stage, patients with suspicious symptoms should be at once isolated.

Special Points are—1. Cut the hair and beard close.

2. Sponge daily with tepid water, or, in confluent cases, use the warm bath.

3. Ointments for the prevention of itching or pitting are useless, but benefit has followed the use of a 10 per cent. solution of iodine in glycerine, painted thrice daily over the pustules. Cold moist applications are grateful to the patient. The window may be covered with red curtains to exclude the ultra-violet rays.

4. The eyelids may be covered with cold compresses, to reduce œdema. The conjunctivæ should be frequently irrigated with sterile water, or a weak antiseptic lotion. Where the cornea is ulcerated, a single application of the yellow oxide of mercury to the ulcer should be followed by the frequent use of a lotion of Ext. Belladonnæ gr. x- $\bar{3}$ j (2 per cent.), applied warm.

5. Treat throat complications by glycerine of borax ; œdema of the larynx may require tracheotomy.

6. In hæmorrhagic cases stimulate freely, and administer quinine and perchloride of iron.

7. Later keep the crusts soft by bathing and daily oiling. Tonics containing quinine and iron are useful in convalescence.

VACCINATION IN MAN

Vaccinia or cow-pox is a pustular affection of the udder of the cow. When its virus is introduced into man by lymph taken from the pustules, a local vesicle is formed. Mild constitutional symptoms appear, and the result is immunity against small-pox. It is now generally regarded as practically settled that vaccinia is variola modified by its passage through the cow.

Vaccination in man may be performed either with lymph obtained from a vaccinated person (humanised lymph), or with lymph obtained direct from the calf. The latter is now the usual method, owing to the possibility of transmitting other diseases by humanised lymph. Glycerinated calf lymph is the preparation habitually used. The inoculation is generally performed upon the arm. After inoculation—

A papule forms on the second or third day.

It becomes an umbilicated vesicle on the fifth or sixth day.

It enlarges up to the eighth day, and by the ninth it becomes purulent and an areola forms round it.

It dries up towards the end of the second week, and the scab falls at the end of the third week, leaving a permanent pitted scar.

The neighbouring lymphatic glands become enlarged. After inoculation the arm usually swells locally, and more or less fever is occasioned.

British law requires all healthy children, except those of "conscientious objectors," to be vaccinated before the age of six months.

In ordinary circumstances, vaccination should be postponed if the child is feverish, if it has any specific infectious disease, any cutaneous disease, especially eczema, or if it has diarrhoea. Where there has been exposure to small-pox it must be done at all risks, except in the presence of serious acute disease.

The protection afforded diminishes in completeness with the lapse of years. It is therefore desirable that children should be re-vaccinated at the age of seven or eight, and adults in the presence of a small-pox epidemic.

VARICELLA, OR CHICKEN-POX

An eruptive fever, occurring principally amongst children, and characterised by a rash, at first papular, but rapidly becoming vesicular, which appears on the first day, and is repeated in successive crops during the next two or three days.

Etiology.—Epidemics are very common, and the disease once it starts usually spreads with great rapidity. Sporadic cases, however, are not uncommon. No specific organism has been isolated. The disease is contagious, but not inoculable. One attack confers immunity. The usual incubation period is fourteen days.

The rash consists of small papular rose-spots, of very varying number, which within twenty-four hours become raised vesicles, containing either transparent or turbid fluid. It usually appears first on the neck and chest, but quickly spreads over the entire body. Each crop requires from five to six days to complete itself, and thus the illness lasts rather over a week. Modified spots may appear on the palate, buccal mucous membrane, and tongue.

There may be a prodromal erythema of the scarlatiniform type. The rash differs from that of small-pox in—

1. Not being umbilicated or loculated.
2. Having no inflammatory areola around the vesicles.
3. Appearing on the first instead of the third day.
4. Being vesicular almost from the beginning.
5. The vesicles usually beginning to dry up as brownish scabs on the fourth day, leaving no scarring or pitting, unless they have been ruptured by scratching.
6. In small-pox the fever declines when the eruption appears ; not so in chicken-pox.

Symptoms are not severe. There is usually slight fever and fretfulness, with a very furred tongue and rarely vomiting. The disease is usually more severe in adults.

Complications.—

1. *Severe itching*, causing the child to scratch, producing deep scars, or even ulceration.
2. Gangrene around the vesicles in debilitated children (*varicella gangrænosa*). This is not uncommon in the tuberculous, and in congenital syphilitics.

Treatment.—A gentle saline purge, careful dieting, and where there is much itching, soothing lotions on lint-warm boracic lotion; or mild dusting powders.

SCARLATINA, OR SCARLET FEVER

An acute infectious disease, characterised by fever, sore throat, and an erythematous rash, followed during convalescence by free desquamation, and often complicated by otitis, nephritis, or arthritis.

Etiology.—Epidemics prevail at all seasons, but are most prominent during the latter half of the year. The disease is commonest in children between two and ten years old, though adults are often attacked. It is usually spread by direct communication, chiefly through the secretions of throat, nose, and ear, but partly also through the cutaneous rash, and possibly through the scales in the early stages of desquamation. It may be carried by infected clothing or by a third person, the virus remaining active for a long time. It may also be spread by milk, which has been contaminated either by man or by the cow. Cows and swine are said to suffer from a disease which may produce scarlet fever in man, but Savage regards the condition in cows as “a local infection with organisms of human origin,” superadded to a bovine disease which is not dangerous to man.

None of the organisms described by Klein, Class, or Mallory has maintained its claim to be specific. The “inclusion bodies” found in the polymorphonuclear leucocytes are round, oval, or curved, and of a size varying between that of a coccus and that of a large bacillus, but they are not protozoal, and are not peculiar to scarlet fever. Their absence, however, is practically exclusive of the disease. Streptococci are very constantly present in the

throat, and sometimes in the blood. They are generally regarded as due to a secondary infection.

The usual *incubation period* is from two to three days.

One attack generally confers immunity, but second and even third attacks may occur.

Morbid Anatomy.—Besides the usual indications of fever, there are inflammatory changes in the throat, varying in degree, and accompanied by lymphadenitis, which may go on to supuration or gangrene. Endocarditis and pericarditis are not uncommon. Nephritis is frequent.

The rash disappears at death except in hæmorrhagic cases.

Symptoms.—The principal features of the onset are—vomiting, pains in the back and limbs, soreness of throat, high fever, and headache. In infants, convulsions are not uncommon. Soon the throat becomes very sore, the neck feels stiff, and the glands at the angle of the jaw are swollen.

On the first or second day the rash comes out, first on the chest, then rapidly spreads over the face, body, and extremities. Even when the rash is abundant on the face, the skin round the mouth escapes, and this “circum-oral pallor” is very characteristic. The appearance of the rash may be delayed for a day or two.

As the fever progresses, the throat symptoms become more severe; the tonsils approach the middle line, and yellowish points appear. These may coalesce and form a “patch” resembling that of diphtheria. Other severe complications (*see* tabulated list) often arise and bring about a fatal issue; or the temperature may fall gradually with the fading of the rash, and a slow convalescence is established.

The tongue is at first covered with thick white fur, with papillæ projecting—*i.e.*, the white “strawberry” tongue; later, the fur peels off, leaving the typical red “strawberry” or “raspberry” appearance.

The Urine.—There may be ordinary febrile albuminuria, even when there is no nephritis. The diazo-reaction may be present.

The Blood.—There is generally a marked leucocytosis, the polynuclear cells being chiefly affected.

The rash appears on the second day, first as a scarlet blush, but if looked into carefully it is seen to consist of small red spots, surrounded by a diffuse erythema.

The severity of the rash varies; it may be absent or only present in the flexures of limbs as bright red lines. Diagnosis is then often difficult, but later on desquamation settles the question.

Desquamation begins as early as the sixth day; it may be in the shape of fine and branny scales, or the epidermis may peel off in large flakes, according to the intensity of the eruption. It continues longest on the palms and soles. The process lasts from four to eight weeks, and sometimes longer.

Varieties.—

1. Latent or abortive forms, in which the throat symptoms, fever, etc., are so slight as to escape notice. After they have infected others, the cases may be recognised by desquamation, or by the occurrence of nephritis.

2. Scarlatina Benigna, or Simple Scarlet Fever. The rash fades in a few days, and the temperature is normal within a week.

3. Scarlatina Anginosa, or Septic Scarlet Fever. The throat symptoms are severe, and a membranous exudation forms upon the tonsils and palate, leading to necrosis of the tissues of the throat, with intense fœtor. There is extensive sloughing, which may cause perforation of the ascending pharyngeal artery or even the common carotid. The rash lasts a week or more, and the temperature may not be quite normal for several weeks.

4. Scarlatina Maligna, or Toxic Scarlet Fever. The symptoms are grave from the beginning, and the rash abundant, but sore throat is not marked. Delirium passes into coma, and death takes place within a week.

5. *The hæmorrhagic form*, in which extensive hæmorrhages occur (epistaxis, hæmaturia, etc.), is now very rare.

Complications.—

1. Scarlatinal arthritis, in the forms of—(a) scarlatinal rheumatism, occurring about the end of the first week, and

sometimes causing cardiac mischief; (*b*) suppuration of one or two large joints; (*c*) general pyæmic infection.

2. Endocarditis and pericarditis.

3. Broncho-pneumonia.

4. Ear troubles are exceedingly common. The suppurative process going on in the middle ear may cause—

(1) Perforation of the drum.

(2) Permanent deafness, through suppuration extending to the internal ear (not common).

(3) Mastoiditis.

These conditions may be followed by—

(4) Facial paralysis.

(5) Meningitis or abscess of the brain.

5. Extensive suppuration of glands, particularly the cervical glands.

6. *Scarlatinal nephritis* is rather a sequela than a complication. It most often begins about the second or third week of illness, when the skin is freely desquamating. The symptoms are—(1) High-coloured or smoky albuminous urine. (2) Presence of epithelial casts, blood casts, and blood corpuscles. (3) Dropsy of eyelids and ankles, or general dropsy (*anasarca*). (4) In grave cases uræmia may occur, and lead to convulsions, coma, and death.

Special Points in Scarlet Fever.—The skin is peculiarly hot and pungent to the touch. The frequency of nephritis (10 to 20 per cent. of the cases) is probably due partly to the cessation of elimination by the skin, owing to the extensive eruption, and partly to a specially irritating effect of the scarlatinal toxins upon the kidneys. It may follow either mild or severe cases, and there is no reason to suppose that it is due to “catching cold.” It may lead to chronic affection of the kidney, but recovery is often complete. It tends to affect the glomeruli more than ordinary nephritis, and hence is often called glomerulonephritis.

Treatment.—The same general principles as those detailed in the opening chapter apply here.

Special Points are—1. *Serum Treatment.*—Serum from con-

valescents, injected in doses up to 20 cc., has sometimes proved successful. Good results have also been obtained, particularly in toxic cases, with polyvalent antistreptococcic sera (*i.e.*, sera prepared from several different strains of cocci).

2. The danger of spreading the disease is greatest during the early stages of desquamation, and while discharges persist. Isolation must therefore be kept up for at least six weeks from the onset, or till all desquamation and discharges (nasal, aural, etc.) have ceased. Such discharges may be cut short, in many instances, by the use of *Staphylococcus aureus* vaccines, preferably autogenous.

Milne has recently claimed that inunction with eucalyptus oil, twice daily for the first ten days, and afterwards once daily, along with frequent swabbing of the throat with carbolic oil, reduces the period of infectivity, and permits of patients being discharged within three or four weeks, although desquamation has not ceased. But there is reason to believe that the number of "return" cases is increased under this system, and it is safer to follow the older rule.

3. A minimum amount of *nitrogenous* food, to avoid irritation of the kidneys. This caution does not affect milk, which may be freely used.

4. Daily toilet, tepid sponging, or tepid baths.

5. Examine the urine daily for signs of nephritis.

6. The condition of the ears must be carefully watched.

Complications.—*Arthritis* demands warm and sedative applications. Wrap the joints in cotton wool; alkalies are better than salicylates, as the latter tend to irritate the kidneys.

Throat.—Pure ice to suck; antiseptic sprays; douching or syringing with permanganate or boric lotions; cold applications for adenitis.

For the severe types.—Avoid caustic applications; relieve pain by cocaine solutions; internally, tincture of ferric chloride, with free administration of ammonia; quinine, either alone or with ferric chloride. Stimulants may also be required. Nasal feeding often gives much relief.

Nephritis.—Milk diet, hydragogue purgatives (avoid mercurials), hot-air baths, hot packs, etc., according to the severity of the dropsy.

MORBILLI, OR MEASLES

An acute infectious disease attended by an eruption and by catarrh of the upper air passages.

Etiology.—Contagion is communicated by the nasal secretions and breath; also by fomites, or by a third person. Epidemics occur oftenest in spring and autumn. The disease is extremely infectious, both during incubation, and still more so when the rash is out. It is communicable to monkeys by means of injection of the infected blood, and sometimes also through the nasal and buccal secretions in the eruptive period. No specific organism is known, and the virus is probably ultra-microscopic, as it passes through a Berkefeld filter. One attack does not confer complete immunity, but second attacks are very rare before adult life.

The incubation period varies from nine to eighteen days, and is oftenest fourteen.

Morbid Anatomy.—The first of the pathological changes is a specific catarrhal inflammation of the mucous membranes of the respiratory and intestinal tracts. The papule, according to Unna, is due to œdema of the cutis and hypoderm, not, as in small-pox, to epithelial changes. Cellular exudation is almost completely absent.

The blood shows a leukopenia during the eruptive stage. Death is due to respiratory complications; bronchitis, bronchopneumonia, or collapse of the lung are therefore found.

Symptoms.—The onset is usually abrupt, with smart fever, sneezing, running at the nose, watering and redness of the eyes, photophobia, and cough. There is often catarrhal diarrhœa, with green offensive stools. The fever falls on the second or third day, but as a rule not completely. It rises sharply with the appearance of the rash on the fourth day, increases as the rash develops, and disappears as it fades at the end of the week. A fine branny desquamation follows, and lasts about a fortnight.

Koplik's spots very often appear on the buccal mucous membrane, within the lips, and even on the gums. They are small rounded red spots with a bluish central area. They precede the true rash by one to three days, and as they are very constant, they are of importance to an early diagnosis.

The rash first appears on the *fourth* day at the roots of the

hair, and on the forehead and face. It consists of faintly raised, dark-red papules, coalescing into crescentic patches, and giving a velvety feeling to the touch. There is usually slight subcutaneous œdema, and the child presents a peculiar blotchy, swollen appearance. After extending to the neck, trunk, and limbs, the rash fades in about three days, leaving yellowish stains which soon pass away. The branny desquamation which follows is generally slight, and is best seen on the face. The rash differs from that of scarlet fever by—1. Appearing on the fourth instead of the second day; 2. being darker in colour; 3. the velvety feeling; 4. the crescentic arrangement; 5. the manner of spreading (but diagnosis from this point is sometimes difficult); 6. the subcutaneous œdema.

The rash may be slightly hæmorrhagic even in cases which are not severe.

In simple cases convalescence is usually complete in eighteen days.

Varieties.—

1. Simple.

2. Malignant, comprising—

(a) Hæmorrhagic measles, characterised like all other hæmorrhagic forms of fever by bleeding from mucous surfaces, hæmaturia, and an early assumption of the typhoid state. This is a rare form.

(b) Toxic (adynamic) measles, in which the symptoms are grave from the outset, but without hæmorrhages, and the typhoid state is early present.

Complications.—

1. The extension of bronchial catarrh, leading to broncho-pneumonia and collapse of the lung. Lobar pneumonia is much less frequent. In children, laryngitis is often formidable. The initial coryza may become chronic, and lead to adenoids.
2. Ophthalmia and keratitis.
3. Otitis media.
4. Hemiplegia is rare, but important.
5. Enlargement of cervical or thoracic glands.
6. Gangrene of skin or vulva; cancrum oris.
7. Coexistent diphtheria or scarlet fever.
8. Intestinal catarrh.

The sequelæ are very numerous, and whooping-cough is frequent among them. Tuberculosis is also liable to follow, and occasionally chronic endocarditis.

Treatment.—General treatment consists in confinement to bed during the febrile period, with light diet, attention to the bowels, and sponging if necessary. Owing to the condition of the respiratory organs, the greatest care must be taken to avoid chill until all catarrhal symptoms have passed away. Expectorants may be given for the catarrh. Simple cases need little more than careful nursing. In convalescence cod-liver oil, Syr. Ferri Iodid., Syr. Hypophosph., and similar drugs are indicated. Cases should be at once isolated, and may be released at the end of three weeks after thorough disinfection, if all catarrhal symptoms have gone.

Milne advises a similar treatment to that which he advocates for scarlet fever (*see* p. 119).

RÖTHELN—GERMAN MEASLES—RUBELLA

An infectious eruptive fever, not attended by catarrh, but accompanied by swelling of the cervical glands.

Etiology.—Rubella was formerly thought to be a mixture of scarlet fever and measles, but is now held to be a separate disease. It spreads by contagion, and epidemics are most common in the spring. The average incubation period varies from ten to twenty-two days, but is most often seventeen to eighteen. One attack does not confer immunity.

Symptoms.—Those of slight fever and headache, sore throat, and swollen and tender cervical and occipital glands; *rarely are there severe complications.* Many patients do not feel ill at all, but Cheadle reported some severe cases attended with albuminuria.

The rash consists of round or oval, slightly raised, pinkish-red spots, discrete at first, but afterwards coalescing. It appears on the first or second day, begins on the face, and extends to the body and limbs while fading on the face. Fever and rash subside together on the third day.

Diagnosis.—From Measles by—

1. Short prodromal stage.
2. Absence of the dark colour and crescentic form of the measles rash.
3. Absence of Koplik's spots.

From Scarlet Fever by—

1. Large size of the spots ; no circumoral pallor.
2. Absence of severe symptoms and desquamation.

Treatment.—General principles. A child exposed to infection should not be allowed to mix with others for twenty days. A convalescent is free from infection in not less than ten days from the appearance of the rash.

TYPHUS FEVER

An acute specific contagious fever, characterised by sudden onset, marked nervous symptoms, and a maculated rash, and ending by crisis.

Etiology.—The virus is filterable, and is transmissible from man to apes and to the guinea-pig by inoculation of typhus blood. It is conveyed from man to man by the body-louse. Organisms described in the recent war are not yet proven specific. The older names—jail-fever, ship-fever, etc.—suggest contributory causes. The disease occurs amongst the poor, in overcrowded and dirty districts, and affects principally those between ten and thirty years of age. It is infectious by contact or through bedding and clothing. Patients remain infective throughout the illness and during convalescence. Comparatively rare under modern sanitary conditions in time of peace, it may become epidemic in such circumstances as those of Serbia in the recent war. “Brill's disease,” which occurs in New York, and the *tabardillo* of Mexico, have now been shown to be typhus in an attenuated form.

The specific organism is not definitely known. Plotz has described a bacillus (*B. typhi exanthematici*), and a proteus-like bacillus (*B. proteus* X 19) has been isolated from the urine. Both are probably secondary infections. Minute rod-shaped bodies (*Rickettsia prowazeki*), with polar staining, have been found in the blood of typhus patients, and in the stomach and salivary glands of infected lice. These are probably protozoa, and may be the real cause of the disease.

Morbid Changes.—Those of intense fever, plus the petechial rash. (See p. 4.) Leucocytosis is not constant and indicates complications ; there may be leucopenia in the early days.

Symptoms.—After the incubation period (usually about twelve days) the fever rapidly develops. The early symptoms are intense headache, nausea, and vomiting, with rapid elevation of temperature. There may be rigors, pains all over the body, constipation, contracted pupils, thick-furred tongue, and rapid exhaustion. The skin gives off a mousy odour. Delirium is at first noisy. The face is flushed, the eyes suffused, the appearance heavy and apathetic. The rash appears on about the fifth day—first on the abdomen, the upper part of the chest, and the extensor aspects of the hands and wrists. Later, it spreads over the trunk and extends to the extremities and face. As the fever progresses, the typhoid state comes on rapidly: the delirium becomes of the low muttering type; the pupils, before contracted, may now be dilated; coma vigil, retention of urine and paralysis of the sphincters, or the grave complications tabulated below, may appear and help to terminate the disease. If the patient does not succumb, the temperature falls, usually about the thirteenth or fourteenth day; profuse sweating, a critical diarrhoea, and an abundance of urates usually usher in a crisis; after which the patient gains strength rapidly, and may be, in a short time, in better health than before the attack. Second attacks are very rare.

The Rash—comes out rapidly about the fifth day. It shows—

1. A sub-cuticular mottling, *dusky-red* in colour (*measly eruption*).
2. Distinct papular rose-spots, which tend to *become petechial*, and, therefore, disappear neither on pressure nor after death.

Complications.—

1. Retention of urine.
2. Hyperpyrexia.
3. Gangrene of extremities, or bed-sores.
4. Hypostatic congestion of the lungs, bronchitis, and broncho-pneumonia are the most common complications. They are often latent.
5. Parotid bubo, and pyæmic abscesses.
6. Thrombosis of the femoral vein, less common than in enteric fever.

It should be noted that, notwithstanding the severity of the cerebral symptoms, meningitis is rare. So is nephritis, but albuminuria may be present.

Diagnosis.—*Weil-Felix reaction.* Although the *B. proteus* X 19 is regarded as a secondary infection, the serum of a typhus patient will agglutinate it in dilutions up to 1 in 30,000. Control sera do not agglutinate beyond 1 in 50. The reaction occurs from the fifth day onwards, and may persist for weeks or months.

Treatment.—*Special points to bear in mind.*—As in other febrile diseases, free ventilation is indicated both in prophylaxis and treatment; in epidemics, protection against lice is the most essential prophylactic. The position of the patient should be changed at times, to avoid hypostatic congestion. Experienced nurses should be constantly present.

This fever seldom calls for lowering treatment, and frequently stimulants are required from the beginning. They should not be given as a matter of routine, but to meet special indications. Employ the general principles detailed in the opening chapter.

The contracted pupils and delirium suggest absence of excessive light, at least in the earlier stages. All noise must be avoided in the sickroom. Ice or cold affusion to the head is often useful, and chloral, alone or with bromide of potassium, may be given in maniacal delirium. Both for enteric and for typhus, Osler strongly advocates hydrotherapy, *i.e.*, the systematic use of baths cooled down to 60° F. (*See Treatment of Fever*, p. 10.) The food must be liquid, and as plentiful as the assimilative powers will admit. Milk, or milk and soda-water, and broths may be freely given, and, when necessary, white of egg.

A vaccine prepared from one of the incriminated organisms was used prophylactically with some success in the Serbian and Bulgarian epidemics of the war; and an antitoxic serum has also been used in treatment.

MUMPS, OR EPIDEMIC PAROTITIS

An acute infectious disease, characterised by inflammation of the salivary glands, especially the parotid gland, with a tendency to metastatic inflammation of the testes in males, or the breasts in females.

Etiology.—The specific organism has not yet been discovered, but the virus is filterable, and a filtrate of the saliva reproduces the symptoms in monkeys and cats. Mumps generally attacks children from four to twelve years of age, and young male adults, but no age is exempt. The disease is infectious even before the glands are affected, and for two or three weeks afterwards. The incubation period lasts from two to three weeks. Second attacks are rare.

Morbid Anatomy.—The inflammation is interstitial rather than parenchymatous, the connective tissue in and around the glands being attacked, while the acini escape. It rarely goes on to suppuration.

Symptoms.—After about three weeks' incubation, pain is felt under one ear, with stiffness or soreness of neck and jaw. This is usually accompanied by smart fever (101° F. to 103° or 104°) which subsides on the third or fourth day. The swelling first appears in the hollow between the angle of the jaw and the mastoid process, gradually extends, and may involve the submaxillary and sublingual glands. It is elastic and tender on pressure, but not fluctuant. In about two days the other side may undergo the same changes, and the swellings combine to form a "collar," giving the child a ludicrous appearance. Oftener the swelling is confined to one side, or appears on the other when the first is going down. Deglutition and mastication are often very painful, the breath is foul, and the tongue is very furred. In about nine days the swelling resolves, and rapid improvement takes place. The glands seldom suppurate.

Complications.—1. Unilateral orchitis occurs as the glandular affection subsides, or later, in nearly one-third of the cases seen in adult males. It subsides quickly, but may lead to atrophy of the testicle. Epididymitis is uncommon; 2. in the female, mastitis and œdema of the vulva may occur; 3. pancreatitis may occur about the end of the first week; 4. meningitis is a rare complication; 5. endocarditis has also been recorded.

Sequelæ.—After severe cases the following have happened :—1. Permanent deafness, following otitis media or interna; 2. arthritis, rarely purulent.

Treatment.—A simple saline purge, hot fomentations, and

an antiseptic wash for the mouth are all that is usually required. Treat complications as they arise.

Patients should be kept in bed until the liability to orchitis is passed (about ten days), and isolated for three weeks from the onset.

GLANDULAR FEVER

An acute infectious disease characterised by fever and by swelling of the cervical and other groups of glands.

Etiology.—The disease occurs in children mainly under fourteen, and sometimes in epidemic form. No specific organism is known, and it is still maintained by some authorities that the affection is a non-specific adenitis, due to infection from the buccal mucosa.

Symptoms.—The incubation period is said to be from five to seven days. The onset is sudden, stiffness of the neck, dysphagia, and fever being the first symptoms. Within three days the cervical glands of the anterior triangle enlarge, and become tender, at first unilaterally, and with but little inflammation of the fauces; those of the other side are next affected, and then the posterior cervical, axillary, and inguinal glands. The liver and spleen are enlarged; the mesenteric glands may be implicated; and there are marked debility and constipation. A moderate lymphocytosis is present. The glands do not suppurate, and the swelling subsides in about five days, the fever disappearing along with it. Convalescence is often slow.

Treatment.—Rest in bed and fever diet, with saline or mercurial laxatives. Iron may be needed to meet the anæmia of convalescence.

DENGUE

An acute infectious disease of warm climates, characterised by severe and shifting pain in the muscles and joints, an early erythematous and a late rubeolar eruption, and catarrhal symptoms.

Etiology.—The disease occurs in all the warmer countries of the East, in the West Indies, North and South America, and Australia. It attacks persons of all ages. Sporadic cases are

frequent, and epidemics occur at intervals, and spread with great rapidity and suddenness. It is not transmitted by direct infection, but can be communicated by inoculation of infected blood, and by the bites of mosquitoes which have fed upon the sick. Two species—*Culex fatigans* and *Stegomyia fasciata*—have been shown to transmit it. The organism has not been discovered, and is probably ultramicroscopic.

The disease is rarely fatal, and no characteristic morbid appearances are recorded.

Symptoms.—After an *incubation period* of from three to five days, the symptoms set in abruptly with severe pain in some joint, often a finger, extending rapidly to all the joints and bones (hence the name “break-bone fever”), and shifting from one to the other. Smart fever, redness and swelling of the face, injection of the conjunctivæ, sore throat, and a general erythematous rash, are the other initial symptoms. After twenty-four to forty-eight hours the rash and fever subside, and the remission lasts from two to four days. There is then a mild return of fever, and a macular or rubeolar rash appears, first on the palms, and spreads over the arms, face, trunk, and lower limbs. It slowly fades, and is followed by a slight or profuse branny desquamation. The other symptoms also disappear within eight days of the onset, but the patient is left weak and exhausted. The pains, especially in the smaller joints, may persist for a long time, so that the gait of convalescents is stiff and affected (“dandy fever”).

Relapses may occur, and one attack does not confer immunity. Hæmorrhages from mucous surfaces are the chief complication.

Leucopenia is present after the second day, with a relative increase of the lymphocytes at the expense of the polymorphonuclears. Harnett also describes a considerable eosinophilia, which begins about the fourth day, is well marked by the tenth, and persists for some time longer.

Treatment is that of the febrile condition. Purgatives should be avoided, as the muscular movements they entail aggravate the already intense pain, for which phenacetin or antipyrin may be given. In convalescence, tonics are indicated.

RHEUMATIC FEVER (ACUTE RHEUMATISM)

An acute febrile disease characterised by polyarthritis, a tendency to hyperpyrexia, a special tendency to involve the pericardium and endocardium, and marked anæmia.

Etiology.—Rheumatic fever is now regarded as an acute specific infection. It shows a distinct tendency to epidemic prevalence at irregular intervals. Its clinical course is strikingly similar to that of pyæmia, and hence some writers look upon it as a mild pyogenic infection. But rheumatic joints do not suppurate, and the specific effects of the salicylates in rheumatism are absent in pyæmia.

The organism which has most claim to specificity, although many refuse to accept it, is the *Micrococcus rheumaticus* of Poynton and Paine. It is a small streptococcus, growing in short chains, and in the tissues often in pairs. It grows on ordinary media, and is Gram-positive, but more easily decolorised than *Streptococcus pyogenes*. It is most easily found in the substance of inflamed synovial membrane, and may be cultivated from the blood or from cardiac vegetations. It has not, however, been isolated from the blood or joints during life. It often sets up arthritic and cardiac lesions in experimental animals, but other streptococci may do the same.

Other theories of rheumatism, that it is due to an excess of lactic acid in the blood, or to nervous influences, are now discredited.

The disease is most common during the spring and in humid climates, and most frequently affects *young* adults. Males are more often attacked than females, although before the age of twenty it is more common in women. The influence of heredity is often definitely noticeable. Exposure to cold, inclement weather, etc., are frequent determining causes. No immunity, but rather an increased liability, is conferred by previous attacks.

The mode of entrance of the organism is probably by the tonsils.

Morbid Anatomy.—The synovial membrane undergoes the changes common to inflammation of serous membranes, viz., hyperæmia, swelling, and effusion of fluid. The fluid, which contains albumin, is usually turbid, but seldom or never becomes purulent. The ligamentous structures are swollen, and often the cartilages are slightly eroded. In secondary affections, such as pericarditis or pleurisy, and in the endocarditic vegetations, the diplococcus and sometimes also pus organisms

are to be found. There is nothing to differentiate these from other inflammations. The myocardium is very commonly affected. The blood, though it contains an excess of fibrin, clots more slowly than normal; this, however, occurs in many other conditions. The poison causes a rapid destruction of the red corpuscles, resulting in anæmia. There is a moderate leucocytosis.

Symptoms.—After a feeling of malaise, more or less soreness, and general stiffness, and very often after an attack of tonsillitis, the rheumatic pain begins in one of the larger joints: usually the knees, wrists, or ankles.

The arthritis extends very rapidly to any of the medium-sized joints. At first the affected joints are red, hot, swollen, and intensely painful; later, the redness becomes less marked, and the joint may assume a dead-white appearance. Frequently the inflammation rapidly subsides in one joint, only to appear in another.

The pulse is rapid, full, and soft.

The temperature is moderately elevated, ranging between 101° and 103° F. It usually reaches its height in twenty-four hours, is very irregular, and falls with the subsidence of the arthritis. In some cases, however, and at any stage of the disease, it may rise rapidly to a great height (107° F. or more). Such hyperpyrexia, though not very common, forms an important complication of acute rheumatism.

Marked sweating of a peculiar sourish smell is a constant feature, and the various hair follicles and other cutaneous glands may become inflamed and painful in consequence.

As the disease advances *anæmia becomes very pronounced*. This anæmia may be increased by the salicylates, but is mainly due to the rheumatic poison. There is well-marked leucocytosis. *The tongue* is usually very large, flat, and covered with such an extremely thick fur that it has been named the "blanket" tongue. *The urine* is scanty, highly coloured, and often loaded with urates. The chlorides are diminished or absent.

Murmurs, either hæmic or organic, may often be heard over the heart, which should be examined every day.

In children the joint affection is often trivial, and endocarditis or pericarditis may be the first sign of rheumatism, or may be preceded only by vague "growing pains."

The more common complications are—

1. Endocarditis, most frequent in youth, and affecting oftenest the mitral valve. It occurs in about half the cases.
2. Pericarditis, less frequent.
3. Myocarditis, which may be slight or profound.
4. Pleurisy, sometimes with effusion.
5. Hyperpyrexia, often attended with delirium or coma.
6. Certain skin eruptions, such as sudamina, miliaria, erythema multiforme, "pelioses" or small petechial spots around the ankles, and purpura.
7. Pharyngitis and tonsillitis.
8. Meningitis (very rare).

Frequently subcutaneous fibrous *nodules* develop over bony ridges.

Though rarely fatal, and though the severe symptoms usually subside in about fourteen days, no disease is more often attended with relapses and grave results. The valvular and other diseases of the heart, which so constantly follow in its wake, may be regarded rather as symptoms than as complications. It should be remembered that in children rheumatic affections of the heart may occur in the absence of arthritis. Pericarditis is especially insidious. Chorea is also a frequent sequela of rheumatism in children.

Diagnosis.—The distinction between acute rheumatism and septic polyarthritis is sometimes difficult. In the latter there is evidence of a primary septic disease (gonorrhœa, puerperal conditions, etc.), and a much greater tendency to pus formation, and to marked oscillations of temperature.

Treatment.—The patient must be kept absolutely at rest in bed. He should lie between blankets, not sheets, and should wear a flannel night-gown. The affected joints should be wrapped in cotton-wool. The diet should consist of milk, diluted with mineral water; if it does not agree, chicken-broth may be given. In convalescence it may be more ample, but red meat should be sparingly used.

Salicylate of soda, or salicin, is the principal remedy, the latter being the less depressant form. In severe cases, the salicylate should be given in doses of gr. xx (grm. 1·3) every two hours until the pain is relieved, thereafter every four hours till the temperature falls, and then less frequently and in smaller doses,

its withdrawal being gradually accomplished. In less severe attacks gr. xx (grm. 1·3) every four hours may suffice. Lees recommends its being vigorously pushed, and combines it with sodium bicarbonate to lessen the risk of poisoning. He gives adults gr. xv (grm. 1·0), with gr. xxx (grm. 2·0) of the bicarbonate, every two hours from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and once during the night, to a child between seven and twelve years old gr. x (grm. 0·6) at the same intervals, and to a younger child gr. v (grm. 0·3). The symptoms of salicylate poisoning are tinnitus aurium, deepened breathing ("air-hunger"), delirium, vomiting, and acetonuria. Should the salicylate disagree, other salicyl compounds (oil of wintergreen, aspirin) may be used.

The salicylates have now almost completely replaced the older treatment by large doses of alkali (sodium bicarbonate). They shorten the course of the disease, and in the view of the majority lessen the liability to relapse and protect the heart. But cardiac valvular disease is not appreciably less frequent than before their introduction.

If the pain in the joints is severe, they should be fomented, and the limb should be put upon a splint, in the position of maximum ease. A lotion of carbonate of soda and laudanum, or a liniment of methyl salicylate, may give relief; and morphia is sometimes required at first. Pulv. Ipecac. Co., gr. x, however, often suffices.

Hyperpyrexia should be treated by the cold bath.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (APHTHA EPIZOOTICA)

An acute specific disease occurring in cattle and sheep, and occasionally transmitted to man.

Etiology.—The virus is not yet known, but is a filter-passer and probably belongs to the *chlamydozoa*. The disease occurs in man either through direct contact with the lesions of animals or through the consumption of infected milk.

Symptoms.—In animals vesicles and bullæ form on the buccal mucosa and on the tongue, on the borders of the hoofs, and in cows on the udder. There is free salivation. The vesicles break, leaving in the mouth shallow erosions covered by aphthous patches, and causing on the hoofs a purulent discharge, which

dries into crusts. The duration is about a fortnight, and recovery is the rule, except in calves.

In man, after an incubation period varying from three to ten days or more, the illness sets in with slight fever, the development of aphthæ (vesicles breaking down and leaving shallow oval ulcers with a greyish base, and surrounded by a red areola) on the tongue and inside the mouth, salivation, and sometimes a rash upon the fingers and toes. These parts become swollen, and covered with a dull red elevated eruption, upon which vesicles develop, become pustular, and may be confluent. In slight cases the illness may appear as a mild feverish attack, with no complaint of stomatitis, which must be looked for. The duration is about a week or ten days.

Treatment is simple ; astringent lotions to the hands and feet, and a mouth-wash of borax or chlorate of potassium. The buccal ulcers may be touched with silver nitrate.

HYDROPHOBIA—RABIES

An acute specific infection usually transmitted by the bite of a rabid animal.

Etiology.—The rabid dog is the chief transmitter of the disease, by its bite or by licking an abrasion ; but the cat, wolf, and fox may also transmit it. The virus is in the saliva, and spreads up the peripheral nerves to the central nervous system. By no means all who are bitten are affected, wounds on uncovered parts being the most dangerous. Bites on the face lead to specially acute symptoms.

Specific Organism.—Negri has described certain rounded eosinophil bodies, varying in diameter from 0.5 to 25 μ and occupying the interior of the nerve cells of the central nervous system. They are found in 98 per cent. of cases of street rabies, and are apparently peculiar to the disease. By many, Negri's bodies are looked upon as protozoal, by others, as a cellular reaction against the virus. They are not present in the infected saliva.

The average incubation period is from six weeks to two months. It may be as short as a fortnight, or as long as three months.

Morbid Anatomy.—The main feature of rabies is hyperæmia and perivascular round-celled infiltration of the central nervous

system. There is also congestion of the pharynx, œsophagus, and stomach.

Symptoms.—The wound by which the poison was introduced, as a rule, rapidly heals, and for a time nothing happens to attract the patient's attention to the scar. In about six to eight weeks or so, the scar may become painful and nervous disturbances manifest themselves. The patient becomes sleepless, peevish, irritable, and experiences a choking sensation about the throat. When the disease is fully developed there are intense muscular spasms, the respiratory muscles and those of deglutition being specially involved; but a more or less tetanoid condition may be observed in nearly all the muscles. There may be opisthotonos. The features may be horribly contorted or wear an aspect of extreme terror; the saliva is not swallowed, and as it collects in the mouth along with thick mucus from the congested fauces, it causes noisy attempts at ejection, attended with great difficulty.

The face is usually flushed or livid during the attacks, and there may be raving delirium, delusions, and hallucinations. It should be noted that, though the patient is very thirsty, he is afraid to drink, as any attempt at swallowing brings on the spasms at once; even the sound of running water will excite the attacks. There is generally fever, the temperature ranging from 100° to 103° F. After from two to three days the patient may pass into the "paralytic stage," which, however, is more common in animals. He generally dies of exhaustion in from two to ten days after the development of the characteristic symptoms.

Diagnosis.—Until recently, when there was doubt whether a dog was rabid, it was advisable not to kill it, but to keep it isolated and under observation. This has been altered by the discovery of the Negri bodies. The animal should be killed, and its brain should be examined for their presence, which is diagnostic. At the same time, a rabbit should be inoculated intracerebrally from the dog's medulla.

Treatment.—The bitten person or a bystander should at once suck the wound (danger to the person doing so, if any, is very slight), and if practicable ligature the part above the injury. The wound should be cleansed and cauterised as soon as possible. The Pasteur treatment should be commenced

whenever it is ascertained that the dog was rabid. It is practically certain to prevent the disease if begun within a week of the bite.

When the disease is developed, treatment is merely palliative. Morphia and chloroform for the spasm, and cocaine to diminish the sensitiveness of the throat, are the best remedies.

Pasteur's Method.—The virus is intensified by passage through a series of rabbits until a maximum degree of virulence is reached (*virus fixe*). The spinal cords of such rabbits gradually lose their toxic property by drying, and after fourteen days are no longer toxic. The virulence is in inverse proportion to the length of exposure. Pasteur's treatment consists in the injection of an emulsion of spinal cord thus prepared, beginning with a cord which has been exposed for fourteen days, next day using one which has been less attenuated, and so on until a cord dried for only three days is used. In ordinary cases it takes nine days to reach this strength, and the treatment continues till the fifteenth day. Where the incubation is likely to be short, as in bites about the head and face, an "intensive" treatment is employed. The details vary somewhat in different institutions, but the result is the same; the patient is rendered immune during the incubation period, and rabies does not develop. Högyes has recently modified this method by using increasing concentrations of a fresh virulent rabbit's cord, and with very good results.

An antirabic serum has also been used prophylactically, but does not replace the Pasteur method.

TRENCH FEVER

A specific infectious disease characterised by headache, pains in the shins, and fever of abrupt onset and usually relapsing type.

Etiology.—The organism is not certainly known, but is apparently filterable. The disease can be reproduced experimentally by intravenous injection of the whole blood, the incubation period in such experiments varying from five to twenty days. The virus is transmitted by lice (either *P. corporis* or *P. capitis*) which have fed upon sufferers from the disease, and usually by their excreta being rubbed into broken skin as in scratching. The incubation period in this method of

transmission is very constant, and averages eight days. It is doubtful whether it is ever transmitted by the bites of infective lice. The excreta are not infective until seven days after the lice have been fed on trench fever blood, indicating a developmental cycle or multiplication of the organism within the parasite. Lice remain infective for at least twenty-three days. The virus resists a temperature of 56°C . for twenty minutes, but is destroyed at a temperature between 70° and 80°C . There is little or no natural immunity, and acquired immunity is very brief. A patient's blood may remain infective as late as the eightieth day of disease.

Rickettsia bodies are very constantly present in the gut of infected lice. They are of very small size— 0.3 by $1.5\ \mu$ —non-motile, and resemble minute diplococci or bipolar bacilli. They have not been cultivated.

Symptoms.—Occasionally there are slight prodromata such as malaise; usually the onset is marked by sudden severe headache; pain in the shins, loins, or thighs; shivering or sweating; dizziness; and sometimes nausea or vomiting. The temperature rises to 102° or 104°F ., the pulse is rapid, and the spleen may be slightly enlarged. Within the next two days the headache increases, and is often post-orbital; prostration is marked; the spleen is enlarged and tender; *pain in the shins* becomes prominent and is accompanied by tenderness. Rose spots on the chest and abdomen, disappearing on pressure, may be present in the first few days of fever. There is a moderate leucocytosis. The respiratory tract is rarely affected.

The course is variable: in the short form of the disease there is irregular remittent or intermittent fever rarely lasting more than four weeks. There may be pyrexia for about three days only; or such a first febrile period may be followed by a five days' interval, three days' further fever, and then a succession of relapses; or the original pyrexia may continue into the relapse ("saddle-back" type of fever), and be followed by prolonged irregular fever. In the long cases there may be relapses at irregular intervals, or these may have a regular periodicity (about four days). Sometimes the relapse is marked only by a recurrence of symptoms without fever. Such cases last six weeks or longer.

The disease is never fatal, but may be followed by chronic

ill-health with anæmia, loss of weight, and often disordered action of the heart, neurasthenic symptoms, or "rheumatic" pains. Such a condition may continue for a year or more.

Treatment.—There is no specific remedy. Aspirin, quinine, and salicylate of soda are the most effective drugs for the pain. Calamine lotion and later A.B.C. liniment may be applied to the legs, and light massage is helpful when the tenderness begins to decline. Rest in bed is essential in the first weeks on account of the liability to tachycardia, and exercise should afterwards be carefully graduated.

DISEASES OF METABOLISM AND DEFICIENCY DISEASES

GOUT (PODAGRA)

A DISORDER of metabolism, associated with an excessive amount of uric acid in the blood, and deposits of biurate of sodium in the joints, and manifested clinically by periodical attacks of acute arthritis, certain visceral disturbances, and later, deformity of the joints attacked.

Etiology.—1. Heredity is a most important factor, the disease having been present in parents or grandparents in 50 to 60 per cent. of all cases. It is more frequent in the male, and it occurs chiefly in middle or later life, although it is not unknown about the age of puberty.

2. Habitual indulgence in heavy or sweet wines, and heavy malt liquors. The consumption of light wine or of spirits does not predispose to the same extent. The disease is more common in England and Germany than in Scotland and Italy.

3. Excessive eating, particularly of nitrogenous food, is as important a factor as excessive drinking, especially when combined with a sedentary life.

4. When associated with defective hygiene, and with excessive consumption of malt liquors, poor or insufficient food may cause the disease (*poor man's gout*).

5. Chronic lead-poisoning is often accompanied by gout.

6. In those predisposed to gout, worry, emotion, or a trivial injury may determine an attack.

Pathology.—In no disease can we point to a more constant feature than excess of uric acid in cases of gout. This substance is found in excess in the gouty blood, in the gouty joints, and in the exuded serum of the gouty arthritis. It would therefore seem that the disease is due either to the accumulation of uric acid in excess, or to those conditions which give rise to the excessive formation of uric acid. But the injection of uric acid

into the blood of a healthy individual does not produce gout. Further, excess of uric acid may be always produced by deficient oxidation, and is common in many diseases, such as leukæmia and pernicious anæmia, in which arthritis is by no means a common complication. There must, therefore, be a "something more" than mere excess of uric acid to cause such a condition as gout.

Uric acid is the chief member of the group of "purin bodies," of which the others are xanthin, hypoxanthin, guanin, and adenin. All these bodies are derived from nucleins, *i.e.*, from the breaking down of tissues rich in cells, and uric acid represents a further stage in the oxidation of the rest. Obviously, there are two possible sources from which the purin bodies, and therefore uric acid, may be derived, (1) the breaking down of the cellular tissues of the organism itself, and (2) the nucleins ingested in the food (*endogenous* and *exogenous* purin bodies). Endogenous uric acid, then, is the result of tissue waste; the quantity of exogenous uric acid, stated by Osler as from 40 to 60 per cent. of the total purin content, can evidently be modified by modification of the diet.

The excess of uric acid in gout may be accounted for in one of three ways, by increased formation, deficient oxidation, or deficient elimination. Increased formation is a possible factor where the diet is habitually rich in purin bodies (nitrogenous food), although, given normal eliminative capacity, even an excess of exogenous purin bodies will be got rid of in the urine. It also exists where richly cellular tissues are broken down with abnormal rapidity, as in leukæmia; but this condition is not present in gout. There is more evidence for deficient elimination. Sir William Roberts held that, owing to defective alkalinity of the blood, the uric acid, circulating as a soluble sodium quadriurate, became less easily eliminable, being converted into an insoluble biurate, which was deposited in the joints and tissues. It is not now held that the blood is deficient in alkalinity, but a retention of nitrogen has been demonstrated in gout, and it is believed by many that the uric acid circulates in a different organic combination from that of healthy persons, and thus cannot be eliminated by the kidneys. Garrod, on the other hand, attributes its retention to defective action of the kidneys, which in gout are at least very frequently diseased.

There are yet other theories, in which the excess of uric acid does not hold such an important place. Ebstein considers a

change in the nutrition of the tissues, leading to necrosis, to be the primary factor; urates are then secondarily deposited in the necrosed areas. This view has not found general acceptance. A nervous origin of gout, supported *inter alia* by the influence of emotion and worry, is maintained by Sir Dyce Duckworth and others. A bacterial toxin has been supposed to account for the symptoms (pyorrhœa, diseased tonsils, etc.). Such conditions may act as determining factors of an attack, but the view most generally held is that the defective elimination of uric acid by the kidney is caused by its circulation in the blood in an abnormal form. Uric acid salts, therefore, accumulate in the blood, which becomes supersaturated, and frees itself of them by sudden deposition of urates in the joints and elsewhere, thus causing the inflammatory symptoms of the acute attack.

Morbid Anatomy.—The metatarso-phalangeal joint of the great toe is most often affected. If we examine the joint at various stages, we find the following conditions:—

A deposit of fine crystalline needles apparently in the *superficial* parts of the cartilages, but really interstitial; next, the synovial membranes, cartilages, and ligaments become covered with a chalk-like deposit of biurate of soda. Underneath the deposit, the tissues are in a more or less necrosed condition. The synovial fluid may contain crystals of the biurate. Later, the cartilages may be eroded, and the synovial membranes thickened. The ends of the bones are enlarged and the joints deformed.

Nodular masses around the joints, consisting of collections of biurate of soda *plus* calcium phosphate, form the so-called chalk stones or *tophi* of chronic gout, which may ulcerate through the skin. These deposits may occur elsewhere than in the joints, as in the lobes of the ear, tendinous aponeurosis of muscles, sclerotic of the eye, etc. Some or all of the other joints of the feet and hands may become involved, and even the larger joints of the limbs, but rarely the shoulder or hip. Interstitial nephritis (cirrhosis of the kidney) is common in gout, and is associated with deposits of biurate in the intertubular tissue. Arterio-sclerosis, leading to hypertrophy of the left ventricle, is also common.

Symptoms of Acute Gout.—Usually there are some premonitory symptoms, such as giddiness, mental depression,

flatulence, irritability of temper, scanty and high-coloured urine, etc. The attack most commonly commences in the early hours of the morning, with severe pain in the big toe. The pain increases to acute agony in some cases, rendering sleep or rest out of the question. The patient becomes very feverish, or he may feel chilly and shiver violently without any rise of temperature. The joint at first is bright red and exquisitely tender; later it is more swollen, and of a livid or dull dusky red, with distended venules standing out. The swelling extends some distance from the joints. The skin desquamates in thick flakes when the attack is over. An attack lasts from five to twelve days, but the severe pain is not constant, or rather there are lulls, with exacerbations of severe pain at intervals of the day, especially at night-time. The urine at first is scanty and high-coloured, *but the uric acid is diminished in amount*; later, the excretion of *uric acid is very much increased*. During the attack the patient usually is most irritable, the tongue is furred, the breath may be offensive, he has no appetite, and the bowels are constipated. Subsequent attacks may affect the joint first implicated, or a number of joints may become involved. If the attacks are fairly frequent, they cause the so-called chronic gout; that is, a condition recognised by a characteristic deformity of the joints, and important changes in various organs, especially the red granular, cirrhotic, or "gouty kidney."

Chronic Gout must not be confounded with rheumatoid arthritis, though the sufferer may be crippled in much the same manner.

The small joints of the toes and fingers are most often affected. The fingers are stiff, swollen, flexed or extended, and sometimes deflected to the ulnar side. Their joints are often irregularly distended by periarticular "tophi," which at first lie under the skin, but may ulcerate through, allowing the "chalk-stones" to escape. Tophi may also form in the bursæ and in the ears. At a later stage the wrists, ankles, and even the elbows and knees may be affected, and fixation of the joints may follow.

The kidneys undergo a marked cirrhotic change (*see Chronic Bright's Disease*), and the urine becomes correspondingly altered. In such cases the pyramidal area of the kidney often shows yellowish-white streaks of urate crystals.

Suppressed Gout is a condition in which the development of internal symptoms coincides with, and may be attributed to, inhibition of the joint affection. The symptoms may be gastrointestinal, cardiac, or cerebral.

Irregular Gout is the term applied to various manifestations of the "gouty diathesis" in persons who do not suffer from articular gout. It occurs most frequently in those hereditarily predisposed, but it must be remembered that many of the conditions to be enumerated may occur in those predisposed to gout, without being themselves of gouty origin. The symptoms may be acute or chronic. Acute attacks usually affect the digestive, circulatory, respiratory, or nervous system.

1. Digestive system. Œsophageal spasm, gastralgia or gastritis, colic or enteritis, or hepatic diseases may be found.

2. Circulatory phenomena are palpitation or irregularity, cardialgia or angina pectoris, dyspnœa, syncope, and phlebitis.

3. In connection with the respiratory tract, bronchitis is frequent.

4. Neuralgia, neuritis, or migraine may affect the nervous system.

Certain skin diseases, especially eczema, have been thought to be gouty. More chronic conditions, such as asthma, chronic bronchitis; renal calculus, gravel, or gouty urethritis; and an insidious iritis, when occurring in the gouty, have also been attributed to gout.

The chief *complications* are those already mentioned, namely chronic renal disease, arteriosclerosis, which may lead to apoplexy, and cardiac hypertrophy, often ending in dilatation.

Garrod's thread test is designed to detect excess of uric acid in the blood. Take 3ij of blood-serum or of the fluid raised by a blister, and mix in a watch glass with five or six drops of acetic acid. Immerse in the fluid one or two ultimate strands from a piece of linen, and leave in a warm place until evaporated to a jelly-like consistency. Transfer to the stage of a microscope, and examine the strands with a low power for uric acid crystals. The test is not very reliable.

Quantitative estimation shows the average uric acid content in normal blood to be 0.5 to 2 mgm. per cent. Before an attack of gout the figure may rise to 4 or 6 mgm.

Treatment.—During the acute stage—

1. The limb must be kept at rest and elevated, and hot fomentations should be applied to the joints; or they may be wrapped in cotton-wool, after the application of an anodyne liniment sprinkled on lint.

2. The diet should consist of milk and barley-water, and farinaceous foods. Plain water may be freely taken, and the mineral waters have no advantage over it.

3. Medicinal treatment should begin with a mercurial purge, and the bowels should be daily opened by a saline laxative. Colchicum wine ℥ xv-xxx (cc. 1·0-2·0) should be given every four hours, along with citrate of potassium and hyoscyamus. It should be stopped when the pain is relieved, as it is a powerful intestinal irritant. If it fails, morphia may be required. Laudanum or lead and opium lotion may be added to the fomentations.

Atophan (phenyl-chinolin-carboxylic acid), a recently introduced remedy, though useless in relieving the inflamed joint, is of much benefit in preventing acute attacks. It decreases the amount of uric acid in the blood, and increases its elimination by the kidney. It is given in tablets containing gr. 15 (grm. 1·0), an average dose being one tablet thrice daily after meals for three days of each week.

When the acute attack subsides, gentle friction or shampooing and passive movements are beneficial.

Treatment of Chronic Gout.—Careful regulation of diet, avoidance of food rich in nucleins (sweetbreads, liver, kidneys), moderation in the use of alcohol, or, still better, total abstinence and proper exercise, are the principal points to remember. Arsenic, strychnine, quinine, guaiacum, and iodide of potassium may all be useful in different cases. A course of waters at a spa is valuable from the regular life that it ensures.

DIABETES MELLITUS

A nutritional disorder characterised by an excess of sugar in the blood and its excretion in the urine, and usually attended by polyuria and progressive emaciation. To constitute diabetes the sugar must be *permanently* present. A temporary glycosuria is not diabetes.

Etiology.—The disease most frequently begins between the ages of forty and sixty, but is not uncommon throughout adult life, and may affect the aged. It is least common but most fatal in childhood. It attacks men oftener than women, the rich oftener than the poor, and of the various races the Jews are specially liable. Heredity is sometimes a factor. Those of a nervous temperament are prone to it, and worry, nervous shock, and injury or disease of the cord or brain sometimes precede the onset. Obesity is often associated with it, and it occasionally follows the infectious fevers. Gout may also predispose to it.

Morbid Anatomy.—1. *The nervous system* shows no constant changes. In some cases, tumours or degenerative changes in the floor of the fourth ventricle, in the medulla, or at the base of the brain, and sclerosis of sympathetic ganglia have been found. A secondary peripheral neuritis may occur.

2. *The pancreas* is sometimes atrophied and fibrosed, and on section may show extensive areas of fatty degeneration and fat necrosis. The islands of Langerhans, which furnish the internal secretion of the pancreas, have been found in a state of hyaline degeneration. If the pancreas is fresh, the cells of the islands appear dropsical, and show loss of the specific granules (Bensley's granules) which they normally contain.

3. *The liver* is sometimes enlarged, sclerosed, and peculiarly pigmented (*diabetic cirrhosis*); and it may be fatty. These changes are not frequent, occurring principally in bronzed diabetes.

4. In *the kidneys* there are often hyaline degeneration of the tubular epithelium, and some degree of interstitial nephritis.

5. *The blood* shows—

(1) The presence of an excess of sugar (from two to four times the normal amount) in the plasma and corpuscles.

(2) In severe cases a diminution of the alkali reserve, with the appearance of β -oxybutyric and acetoacetic acids. The term *acidosis*, still often applied to this condition, is also used to signify increased hydrogen ion concentration (*acidæmia*). It has thus caused confusion, and many recent writers suggest that it should be abandoned.

- (3) In many cases the appearance of the blood is normal, and the blood-count shows no anæmia. In some instances the blood is pink in colour, and on standing a creamy layer forms on the surface (*lipæmia*). This layer may be composed of fat globules, or of granules of lecithin and globulin. Lipæmia is most common where there is lowered alkali reserve.

The urine is pale in colour, clear, and acid in reaction. Both quantity and specific gravity are increased, the former to the extent of ten or even twenty pints per diem, the latter to between 1025 and 1045 or more. The quantity of sugar ranges from *two to forty grains per oz.* ($\frac{1}{2}$ -10 per cent.), or as much as 20 oz. (gram. 580) and upwards daily. Occasionally, when the amount of sugar is small, the specific gravity may be low. Uric acid is not increased, but both urea and phosphates are. Albuminuria is often present in the late stages. Acetone, diacetic acid, and β -oxybutyric acid are to be found in most of the severe cases. These acetone bodies are produced by the defective oxidation of the fats which follows upon imperfect carbohydrate metabolism. Aceto-acetic or diacetic acid may be a normal product of fat metabolism, but it is almost completely oxidised in the normal body. When carbohydrate metabolism is impaired, its oxidation is imperfect, and it appears in the blood and tissues. By a process of reduction, much of it is converted in the liver into β -oxybutyric acid, and a smaller quantity into acetone. The condition in which these bodies are present in the blood and urine is now known as *ketosis*, the term *acidosis* having been abandoned for the reasons given above. Diabetic coma is ultimately due to the high concentration of aceto-acetic acid in the blood.

Pathology.—In the normal process of carbohydrate metabolism, the carbohydrates, and to a certain extent the proteins, absorbed from the intestine as dextrins and amino-acids, pass by the portal vein to the liver, where the carbohydrates, and that portion of the amino-acids which is not used for the synthesis of proteins, are stored in the form of glycogen, this substance being almost equally divided between the muscles and the liver, and being retransformed by the liver into dextrose in accordance with the needs of the organism. A limited amount of dextrose escapes transformation in the liver, and passes direct

to the systemic circulation, the amount of dextrose in the blood increasing immediately after a meal. Normally the blood contains from 0.08 to 0.12 gm. per cent. of sugar, of which there are two sources of supply—the food, and the glycogen of the liver. The former is variable, the second fairly constant, for the percentage of blood-sugar varies very little so long as no food is taken. After a dose of 100 gm. of dextrose the blood-sugar rises to 0.15 or 0.18 gm. per cent., returning to the normal level within two hours, without the production of glycosuria. Even when much larger doses are taken, and while absorption of sugar still continues, the blood-sugar does not rise higher than 0.18 to 0.2 per cent., the sugar storage mechanism of the liver coming into play as soon as these figures are reached, and producing a fall to the normal level within the normal time. Higher percentages than 0.2, such as are found in disease (*hyperglycæmia*), are attended with glycosuria, and if the hyperglycæmia be permanent, with the symptoms of diabetes. In other words, the *renal threshold*, or “leak-point” of the kidney for sugar is 0.18 or 0.2 per cent., with individual variations. In health the blood-sugar passes to the tissues, where it is partly oxidised into water and CO_2 , and partly retransformed in the muscles into glycogen.

In cases of intermittent glycosuria, or in mild forms of diabetes, the blood-sugar should always be estimated. The glycosuria may be present only after meals, and there may be no hyperglycæmia in the fasting state; but if such a case is one of early diabetes a dose of 50 gm. dextrose will raise the percentage beyond normal limits, and the return to a normal level will be very much slower than in health, glycosuria being present so long as the hyperglycæmia persists. In severe cases the percentage may rise to 0.4 or 0.6, hyperglycæmia is constant, and so also is glycosuria.

The regulation of carbohydrate metabolism is controlled by two groups of endocrine glands, acting in opposite directions. The first group consists of the suprarenals, the thyroid, and the posterior lobe of the pituitary body. Stimulation of the secretion of any of these produces glycosuria, while defective action leads to an increase in sugar tolerance. The second group consists of the pancreas alone, but this body is composed of two separate glandular structures—the acini which secrete the pancreatic juice, and the islands of Langerhans. The latter are the important structures in carbohydrate metabolism, as

they supply (1) a ferment which prevents excessive action of the amylolytic ferment of the liver upon glycogen, and (2) a thermo-stabile substance acting as an amboceptor, and thus preparing the blood-sugar for cleavage in the tissues. Absence or great defect of this latter substance renders the sugar unavailable for combustion in the muscles, and the excess accumulating in the blood therefore appears in the urine. The results of animal experiment show that the greater part of the gland may be removed without the production of glycosuria. If $\frac{1}{8}$ th of its substance remains, mild glycosuria occurs; if only $\frac{1}{9}$ th, severe diabetes.

It will be evident from the above that glycosuria may follow central or other stimulation of the adrenals (puncture of floor of fourth ventricle, stimulation of splanchnic nerves), pressure of a pituitary tumour on the floor of the fourth ventricle (acromegaly), or excessive thyroid activity (exophthalmic goitre); but by far the most frequent, if not the sole cause of true diabetes, is pancreatic deficiency. The arguments against its pancreatic origin have hitherto been the absence of definite pancreatic change in not a few cases, and the failure in treatment of the various forms of pancreatic extract. But it is now stated that the changes in the islands above referred to can always be found in sufficiently fresh material; and the results of the new treatment by insulin would seem to confirm the pancreatic theory.

In mild cases of diabetes, a diet free from carbohydrates stops the glycosuria and hyperglycæmia, the excess of sugar being thus derived from the carbohydrates of the food; but in severer cases, glycosuria persists though carbohydrates are withheld, and sometimes even though no food is taken. In these instances, sugar is formed by disintegration of the proteids of the food, and in the gravest cases by disintegration of the body proteids. It is in these cases that the phenomena of ketosis occur, the urine containing acetone, aceto-acetic acid, and β -oxybutyric acid.

Where there is, as in severe cases of diabetes, a marked lowering of the alkali reserve, and even in some instances an increased hydrogen ion concentration (acidæmia), there follows also a lowering of the percentage of CO_2 in the air of the pulmonary alveoli from the normal 5 per cent. or over to 3.0 per cent. or less. This indicates a condition of grave danger, and if the percentage falls below 2 per cent. the patient is either

already comatose or will shortly become so. The estimation may be simply made by Fridericia's CO_2 tensimeter.

The amount of fixed acid in the blood may also be determined by (1) estimation of the ratio of ammonia nitrogen to the total urinary nitrogen. Normally 3 to 5 per cent., this may rise in severe acidæmia to 20 or even 40 per cent.; (2) the amount of sodium bicarbonate required to make the urine alkaline. Normally grm. 5, given by mouth, is sufficient. In acidæmia much larger doses are required (Sellard's test).

Symptoms.—Two forms of diabetes exist—viz., the acute and the chronic forms. Those attacked by the acute form are usually comparatively young, the symptoms assume a grave type very rapidly, and *post mortem* the pancreas is frequently found to be extensively diseased. In the chronic form, on the other hand, the symptoms are often obscure, a sense of lassitude, vague nervous disturbances, or pruritus being oftenest complained of. The disease may not be suspected till the urine is examined, and the patient may for a long time maintain a fair standard of health.

Taking a fully-developed case of diabetes, the characteristic symptoms are: the passage of large quantities of pale urine, which presents the characters already described, great thirst, voracious appetite, progressive muscular weakness, a dry, parchment-like sallow skin, emaciation, constipation, and the development of some of the complications tabulated below. Caries of the teeth is common, and males often become impotent. In the later stages the pulse becomes very feeble, severe attacks of diabetic dyspnœa, or "air-hunger," add to the general misery, the breath gives out a peculiar, sweetish, apple-like odour, due to acetone, and the sudden onset of coma frequently ends the scene. Often, however, the patient is carried off by pneumonia, pulmonary tuberculosis, or other complication.

Complications.—

1. *Cutaneous Lesions.*—Boils, carbuncle, and in women eczema or pruritus of the vulva, accompanied by intolerable itching. 2. *Visual Changes.*—Retinitis, soft cataract, and optic atrophy. Retinitis and atrophy are occasional complications; cataract is common. 3. *Nervous Changes.*—The knee-jerk is often absent, especially in severe cases. This is due to peripheral neuritis, which is further manifested by cramps in the legs, tingling, numbness, or neuralgic pains. There is loss of sexual

desire. The nervous changes may lead to trophic alterations such as—4. Gangrene, perforating ulcer of the foot, brittleness of the nails, etc. 5. *Renal Changes*.—Albuminuria, at first without Bright's disease, later with more or less cirrhosis of the kidney and symptoms arising from such a condition. 6. Tubercular affections of the lungs are very common.

Diabetic coma may arise suddenly, or may be preceded by headache, restlessness, and a feeble, rapid pulse. The amount of urine and the percentage of sugar often fall before its onset, which is sometimes preceded by severe abdominal pain. It is favoured by excitement or fatigue, and is readily induced by general anæsthesia. The temperature is subnormal, there is drowsiness, and the respirations are prolonged and sighing ("air-hunger"). There is an odour like that of apples in the breath and urine. The urine may contain acetone, aceto-acetic acid, and β -oxybutyric acid. The drowsiness deepens into complete coma, and ends in death, usually without convulsions.

Carbohydrate deprivation, whether as a consequence of failure of the tissues to use the excess of sugar in the blood, or of a diet severely restricted in carbohydrates but too rich in protein and fat, leads to an incomplete catabolism of the higher fatty acids and of the amino-acids. These bodies break down in such circumstances into aceto-acetic acid and β -oxybutyric acid, the transformation of the former into acetone taking place after the aceto-acetic acid has left the blood. In severe diabetes they accumulate in the blood to an enormous extent, causing the acidæmia to which the coma is due. Of these bodies aceto-acetic acid is the most toxic, and exerts its action on both the circulatory and the nervous systems.

In addition to the above common complications, there are often grave mental changes. *Diabetic tabes*, a peculiar form of high-stepping ataxia, is due to a neuritis of the lower limbs. It should not be forgotten that in diabetes diarrhœa may be easily provoked, and death from this cause may follow the administration of a simple purge.

Renal Glycosuria (diabetes innocens).—In a considerable number of persons, otherwise healthy, the renal threshold for sugar is much lower than the average 0.18 per cent. Such persons will pass sugar in the urine, either only after meals or continuously, although the blood-sugar concentration is constantly within normal limits, and returns to the fasting level,

after a dose of glucose, within normal time. However long the condition lasts, they show no symptoms of diabetes. A similar state of matters may occur in the first few months of pregnancy, or temporarily after a dose of phloridzin. The cause is unknown, although the fault is evidently in the kidneys. The condition does not interfere with health, but unless blood-sugar estimations are made, such cases may be diagnosed as diabetes, and subjected to severe and even harmful restrictions of diet.

The diagnosis of diabetes depends upon careful and repeated testing of the urine (for tests, *see Examination of Urine*), and in early or doubtful cases upon estimation of the blood-sugar. Other causes of temporary or permanent glycosuria must be remembered and excluded. They are:—Renal glycosuria (*see above*); disease of other endocrine glands or overstimulation of their secretion (adrenals, thyroid, pituitary body); certain tumours of the brain; excessive dosage of thyroid extract; abuse of alcohol; excessive emotion or excitement.

Prognosis.—In confirmed cases the outlook is bad. In the more chronic varieties the disease may be arrested for a considerable time. Some patients have had diabetes for twenty years, and cases occurring in later life are apt to run a chronic course. The younger the patient the more likely and the more rapid is a fatal issue.

Treatment.—Dogs from whom the pancreas has been largely removed remain in health when fed on a low diet, but on a high diet, whether of carbohydrate, protein, or fat, develop diabetes and die in coma. In man, however, the pancreatic lesion is progressive, and although dietetic treatment alone may suffice in mild and chronic cases, the aid of *insulin* is necessary in those that are severe and acute. A suitable diet remains of cardinal importance even since the discovery of insulin. In mild cases moderate restriction of carbohydrates may suffice, but in all severe cases the principle of modern dietetic treatment, whether on the lines of Allen or of Graham, is to provide complete alimentary rest (and therefore also rest to the islands of Langerhans) by a period of starvation in which only tea, coffee, and meat extracts are allowed, and thereafter to build up the diet gradually, by the addition first of carbohydrates and afterwards of proteins and fats, until a total caloric value of from 1700 to 2000 calories

is reached. In Allen's method the patient is starved till the urine is sugar-free, after which 10 gm. of carbohydrate is given in the form of green vegetables, and the dose is increased by 10 gm. daily till sugar reappears in the urine (limit of sugar tolerance). A day of starvation follows, to clear up the glycosuria, after which protein is then gradually added to the extent of 1 gm. per kilo, or $\frac{1}{2}$ gm. per pound of body weight, and finally fat sufficient to make a total caloric value of 1800 calories. Any reappearance of sugar is followed by a starvation day. In Graham's method (the "ladder diet" of St Bartholomew's) two days' starvation is followed, whether the urine is sugar-free or not, by two days on each of which the patient receives 5 eggs, 2 oz. butter, and $10\frac{1}{2}$ oz. green vegetables. If sugar is still passed the two days' starvation is repeated, and so on "till the urine is sugar-free or the attempt to make it so is abandoned." If it is sugar-free on the fifth day, 2 oz. meat are added to the dietary, and on the seventh day 2 oz. ham, with the withdrawal of 1 egg. Thus by gradual accretions, among which milk, 4 oz., and bread, 1 oz., are permitted, a diet is reached which consists of carbohydrates, gm. 37, protein, gm. 53, and fats, gm. 180, in all 1800 calories for a man of 60 kilos. Any return of sugar is followed by a day's starvation and by reduction of the carbohydrate. Severe cases should be kept in bed for at least three weeks, and those of recent origin for some four weeks longer. If the sugar tolerance is low, the ascent of the ladder must be very gradual.

Maclean gives the following tables, by the aid of which a suitable diet may be made out for almost any patient :—

TABLE I.—*Showing Carbohydrate Content of Various Vegetables and Fruits.*

| Group. | ONE OUNCE CONTAINS— | |
|--------|---------------------|---|
| A | 1 g. ch. | Cabbage, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, lettuce, spinach, cucumbers, asparagus, marrow, rhubarb, celery, mushrooms, tomatoes, water-cress, seakale, leeks, radishes, grape fruit, endive. |
| B | 2 „ | Carrots, onions, turnips, beets, French beans. |
| C | 3 „ | Oranges, strawberries, gooseberries, cranberries, peaches, pineapple, water melon. |
| D | 4 „ | Green peas, artichokes, parsnips, pears, apples, currants, cherries, raspberries, apricots. |
| E | 6 „ | Potatoes, plums, prunes, bananas. |

g. ch. = grammes carbohydrate.

TABLE II.—*Showing Approximate Content in Grammes of Protein, Fat, and Carbohydrate in ONE OUNCE of Foods.*

| | Carbo- hydrate. | Protein. | Fat. | Calories. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------|------|-----------|
| Bread (brown) | 13 | 1.2 | 0 | 65 |
| Bread (white) | 15 | 2 | 0 | 75 |
| Butter | 0 | 0 | 23 | 212 |
| Broth | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Bacon | 0 | 3 | 18 | 180 |
| Cream (thin) | 1 | 1 | 6 | 65 |
| Cream (thick) | 1 | 1 | 20 | 190 |
| Chicken | 0 | 6 | 1 | 34 |
| Cheese | 0 | 8 | 10 | 130 |
| One egg | 0 | 6 | 6 | 80 |
| Fish (cod, whiting, haddock) ... | 0 | 5 | 0 | 20 |
| Meat (lean) | 0 | 6 | 3 | 51 |
| Milk | 1.5 | 1 | 1 | 19 |
| Margarine | 0 | 0 | 23 | 212 |
| Oatmeal (dry weight) | 18 | 4 | 2 | 112 |
| Potato | 6 | 0.5 | 0 | 30 |
| Shredded wheat | 21 | 3 | 0 | 103 |

Treatment by these means is much more successful than by the older method of severe carbohydrate limitation without restriction of protein and fat, and even in severe cases is often at least temporarily successful. But it may ultimately fail, as the malady is progressive in character, or it may from the first fail to make the urine sugar-free, or the patient when first seen may be in a state of threatened coma as evidenced by the lowered alveolar CO_2 , or coma may be actually present. In all such cases, in addition to dietetic treatment, insulin is now employed. This remedy, as yet of unknown nature, is obtained from the islands of Langerhans in the pancreas by a process of fractional precipitation with alcohol, and is carefully purified and sterilised. It must be given hypodermically, as it is useless given by the mouth. It acts by supplying the missing or defective pancreatic substance which is required for carbohydrate metabolism, and it consequently reduces the excessive blood-sugar to normal (or below it, if too large a dose is given), and abolishes or reduces glycosuria and ketosis. The unit dose was originally taken as that amount of insulin required to bring the blood-sugar of a large starved rabbit to 0.04 per cent. within two hours. At

this point the animal usually becomes convulsed. This dose is now considered equal to about three units, and the minimum human dose is from three to four times as much—about ten units. If an overdose be given, *i.e.*, if a hyperglycæmia is converted into a severe hypoglycæmia, the patient may complain within a few hours of flushing, giddiness, constriction about the chest and abdomen, and collapse; and these symptoms may be followed by convulsions. They are promptly relieved by giving sugar by the mouth, or if the patient is already unconscious, by intravenous injection. So long as glycosuria persists, insulin may be safely given, as evidently some degree of hyperglycæmia is still present; but once glycosuria disappears, the further dosage of insulin must be regulated by blood-sugar estimations, in view of the danger of hypoglycæmia. Ten units twice daily is an average dose to begin with, and after each such dose the patient should have within an hour a meal containing carbohydrate. If glycosuria persists the dose may be raised to fifteen and later to twenty units twice daily, gradually reducing the amount after glycosuria has disappeared, and always using the remedy in conjunction with a carefully regulated diet. Patients on this treatment should carry sugar about with them, say in the form of barley-sugar, and be instructed to take about half an ounce of it if symptoms of hypoglycæmia appear.

This new remedy, though it does not cure, holds the symptoms of diabetes in abeyance, and restores the patient to health and strength. The injections must, however, be persisted in, probably during the life of the patient, as there is not much evidence of increase of sugar tolerance after the use of insulin.

Medicinal treatment of diabetes, apart from insulin, is useless, except for the relief of symptoms and the treatment of complications. Constipation must be carefully guarded against. Surgical operations should be done, if possible, under a local anæsthetic, and if this is not possible a course of dietetic and insulin treatment should precede the general anæsthesia. Chloroform is not permissible; gas and oxygen may be used instead. In the earlier stages of diabetic coma, twenty units of insulin may be given at once, and the dose may be repeated in a short time if there is no improvement. Fluids should be given abundantly, by the mouth, subcutaneously or intravenously, and the bowels should be freely opened. Such treatment has already led to recovery in many instances. Before the use of insulin, recovery from diabetic coma was practically unknown.

VITAMINS

The affections to be described below depend in whole or in part on the absence from the dietary of one or other, possibly of more than one, of the accessory food factors known as vitamins. These substances are present in minute amount in all natural diets, but without them nutrition is inadequate, and the absence of one or other may be followed by definite disease. A diet of purified proteins, fats, and carbohydrates, with inorganic salts, but without vitamins, will not support life. The three principal vitamins at present known are: (1) *Fat-soluble A*, found in butter, cream, fish-oils, the yolk of egg, the green leaves of plants, the embryos of many seeds, and the fat of bacon, mutton, and beef. It is not present in vegetable oils, lard, or extracts of beef or malt, and is deficient in most proprietary foods. It is necessary for the health of growing animals, and its absence or defect is by many regarded as the cause of rickets. (2) *Water-soluble B*, found in the germ of rice and wheat, and also in the bran and the underlying aleurone layer, in yeast, in yolk of egg, in vegetables, and in liver and kidney substance. Its absence causes cessation of growth, and in animals of any age leads to a polyneuritis identical with beri-beri. (3) *Antiscorbutic vitamin*, found in fresh vegetables, especially cabbages, raw swede juice, fresh lemon, and orange juice, and to a small extent in raw meat juice and milk. The absence of this vitamin produces the symptoms of scurvy.

There is probably at least a fourth vitamin, to the absence of which pellagra is attributed.

RICKETS (RHACHITIS)

A nutritional disorder, occurring in infants and young children, attended by changes in the development of the bones, and clinically characterised by wasting, stunted growth, characteristic physiognomy and deformities.

Etiology.—The disease occurs chiefly among the poor of overcrowded cities, as a result of improper feeding, want of sunlight, and other bad hygienic conditions, among which is want of exercise. The factor most frequently associated with its occurrence is faulty (not insufficient) feeding, and the diet is very constantly found to be deficient in animal fats, *i.e.*, those fats which contain fat-soluble A vitamin. It is to the absence

of this accessory food-factor that rickets is now commonly attributed. Hence infants reared by hand upon proprietary foods, those kept too long at the breast, and those nursed by a sickly mother, are more likely to suffer than the breast-fed children of a healthy woman. Defective hygiene in general—a term including overcrowding, lack of fresh air, and above all, lack of exercise—is at least a contributory factor, if not the sole determining cause. Findlay and Paton consider that it may produce rickets even in the absence of vitamin deficiency. The theory that it is due to a defective supply of calcium in the food is now abandoned as contrary to the evidence, but there is no doubt that such deficiency aggravates the already existing disease. The disease is not hereditary.

Morbid Anatomy.—1. *The bones.* The long bones, the ribs, and the skull are chiefly affected.

- (1) The calcareous salts are much diminished in amount, from imperfect assimilation.
- (2) The cartilaginous epiphyses are thickened, but ossification is delayed. The bluish cartilaginous zone is increased in thickness, very irregular, and softer than is normal. The line of ossification is irregular, very vascular, and spongy. The fibrous periosteum is thickened, and proliferation of bone beneath it is active; but the bone so formed ossifies imperfectly, while the medullary cavity increases at the normal rate. This normal increase, along with the delayed ossification, causes softening of the shaft; there is no *abnormal* absorption of the earthy salts.
- (3) Periosteal proliferation causes thickening of the flat bones of the skull (frontal and parietal), but ossification is slow, and the fontanelles long remain open. The occipital bone is apt to be thinned by the pressure of the growing brain, so that it may crackle like parchment under the finger (*craniotabes*). The top of the head is flat, and the forehead broad. When ossification is complete the sutures are prominent.

Kassowitz regards the hyperæmia of the bone-forming tissues as the primary lesion, and he has shown that such hyperæmia leads to defective deposition of lime salts.

2. The spleen and lymphatic glands generally show extensive fibroid changes. The spleen is usually enlarged and the liver may also be so. This results in enlargement of the abdomen, increased by flatulent distension.

3. The muscles are small and flabby, and their striæ are indistinct.

The blood is often said to be anæmic, but Findlay has shown that this is by no means constant.

Symptoms.—The symptoms of a typical case of rickets are very characteristic.

General Configuration.—The head is elongated from back to front, the forehead is square and overhanging, the fontanelles are slow in closing, and the veins in the skin are distended. The flat bones are usually much thickened, and frequently “bossed” by irregular masses of calcified material. Often, however, the occipital bone and certain parts of the parietal bones are *thinned*. Though the skull as a whole is enlarged, the puny face makes the enlargement more noticeable by comparison; measurements show the enlargement to be more apparent than real. The eruption of the teeth is delayed by several months.

The ribs often show characteristic “beading” at the junction of the costal cartilages (*rhachitic rosary*). Pressure of the external air on the softened anterior ends of the ribs produces the “rickety chest,” characterised by a shallow vertical depression on each side of the sternum. “*Pigeon breast*” is due to impeded inspiration, as is “Harrison’s groove,” a transverse depression running from the xiphoid cartilage towards the axilla.

The lower limbs are bowed, or sickle-shaped, and show well-marked epiphyseal enlargements, especially at the lower end of the *tibia*.

The upper limbs also show the most marked changes at the lower ends of the ulna and radius, but the humerus and clavicle may also be affected.

The pelvis is often much deformed, and this may later add serious complications to parturition.

The spine is bowed forwards from muscular weakness. There may be lateral curvature.

The deformities, dependent partly on excessive deposits of calcareous material, are largely due to the yielding of the softened bone to mechanical causes; hence the necessity of rickety subjects avoiding any undue or avoidable strain, such as too early walking.

The most prominent *general symptoms* are three—profuse sweating of the head at night, throwing off the bed-clothes even in cold weather, and crying on being moved or handled. The last, usually ascribed to a general tenderness, Eustace Smith thinks to be due to a desire to limit respiratory movement. The mind is often backward; the body is stunted and may be emaciated, but the abdomen is prominent from flatulent distension, and from the enlargement of the liver and spleen. The bowels are sometimes costive, sometimes loose, and the stools are usually pasty, or green like boiled spinach, and very foetid. Taken along with the deformities, these symptoms make a diagnosis easy. Of the many *complications*, pulmonary diseases, convulsions, tetany, and laryngismus stridulus must be specially mentioned. Green-stick fractures are not uncommon.

A form of *late rickets* is described, in which the onset may occur from the fourth to the twelfth year. It sometimes follows the febrile diseases of childhood.

Treatment is mainly dietetic and hygienic. The child should have a daily warm bath, and should be kept much in the fresh air and sunshine. If the mother be unhealthy, a wet nurse should be provided, and if this is impossible, artificial feeding must be resorted to, cows' milk, suitably diluted, being the essential element of the diet, which may be carefully added to after the first year. Excess of carbohydrates must be avoided. Walking must be prohibited to prevent deformity, and for this purpose splints projecting beyond the feet may be applied. The chief medicinal remedies are phosphorus, cod-liver oil, and syrup of the iodide of iron. Kassowitz strongly advocates the following:—Phosphorus, 0·01, cod-liver oil, 100; one to three teaspoonfuls in the twenty-four hours. Daily friction with sweet oil is often beneficial.

BERI-BERI

An endemic multiple neuritis, characterised by paralysis and dropsy.

Etiology.—Until a comparatively recent date it was held that beri-beri was of microbic or toxic origin, and ought therefore to be placed among the infections. It is now recognised that the disease is a nutritional disorder, due to the absence of the water-soluble B vitamin from the food. It occurs mainly among rice-consuming peoples, and therefore the relationship of rice to its production was first investigated. When white or polished rice forms the main ingredient of the dietary, beri-beri frequently develops, whereas it is rare when the whole grain is used; and cases which have occurred on a polished rice dietary can be cured by the use of the whole grain. The pericarp, aleurone layer, and germ of the rice-grain contain the vitamin, and these are all removed by milling. The administration of an alcoholic extract of the millings suffices to cure the disease. But beri-beri also occurs in certain instances where the dietary does not consist of polished rice—on board ship for example, and, in a recent instance, among the labourers on a Brazilian railway whose diet consisted mainly of tinned vegetables and meal and of white flour. The vitamin is readily destroyed by heating to above 100° C., and the high degree of heat required in the sterilisation of tinned foods suffices to remove it completely.

The chief habitat of the disease is Japan, the Malay Archipelago, Burma, and Brazil, but it occurs in other localities. Cases are sometimes brought by sea to the ports of this country, and some originate in ships towards the end of long voyages. Overcrowding, warmth, and moisture are predisposing causes. Males between fifteen and twenty-five are oftenest attacked, but neither sex and no age is exempt. The incidence and mortality of beri-beri have much diminished since its etiology has been definitely established.

Morbid Anatomy.—In all cases, inflammatory and degenerative changes are found in the axis cylinders and medullary sheaths of the peripheral nerves. In acute cases, the phrenic and vagus also suffer. Wasting and degeneration of the muscular fibres, both voluntary and cardiac, are present, and in the "wet" form of the disease, œdema, and dropsy of the body cavities. There is enlargement of the right side of the heart, with little change on the left side.

Symptoms.—The disease has two main forms:—

1. *Atrophic, dry, or paralytic.* Weakness and pains in the limbs are followed by rapid wasting, loss of knee-jerks, loss of

power, and impairment of sensation, or anæsthesia. The phrenic and vagus are sometimes attacked, and dyspnœa due to cardiac dilatation is present. Most cases end in slow recovery.

2. *Dropsical* or *wet*. Wasting is slight, and loss of power not marked. The whole subcutaneous tissues become œdematous, and there is effusion into the serous sacs. Cardiac symptoms are common; albuminuria is absent.

A *rudimentary* type is described, in which paresis and parasthesiæ replace paralysis and anæsthesia, dropsy is slight or absent, and cardiac symptoms trifling; and an acute, *pernicious* or *cardiac* type, marked by symptoms of acute heart failure. The rudimentary type may persist for months, and recur with each warm season; the cardiac ends in death, sometimes in a few hours, usually in a few weeks.

Treatment.—Alteration of the faulty diet is the essential measure, any others being directed to the relief of symptoms. The dietary should be mainly nitrogenous. When polished rice has been responsible, alcoholic extract of the millings, yeast or *marmite* (dried yeast which can be made into soup) should be given. The heart must be supported by strychnine or, if need be, digitalis. In acute heart failure purgation and bleeding are necessary, and in dropsy purgation or aspiration of serous cavities. Electricity and massage are needed for the wasted muscles.

The use of undermilled instead of polished rice is the chief prophylactic measure. It has done away with beri-beri in all the Siam Government institutions and among the gendarmerie.

SCURVY

A nutritional disorder characterised by great debility, a spongy condition of the gums, a tendency to hæmorrhages, and anæmia.

Etiology.—The disease is much less common now than in former times. It is usually associated with improper and insufficient food, unhealthy hygienic surroundings, etc. It was formerly very common in sailors, and is still endemic in parts of Russia.

The theories of its causation until recently held—that it is due to an undiscovered specific micro-organism, that it is due to a deficiency of the inorganic or organic salts found in fresh

fruits and vegetables, that it is due to poisoning by a ptomaine produced by the decomposition of food—have been abandoned since the discovery of an accessory food factor differing from fat-soluble A and water-soluble B, and known as the antiscorbutic vitamin (*see* p. 154). This substance is rapidly destroyed by drying, by heat above 60° C., and by alkalies. It is protected by acids, and is soluble in water and alcohol.

Post mortem widespread hæmorrhages are found. The blood has the characters of secondary anæmia.

Symptoms are at first insidious; the patient becomes weak, breathless, drowsy or languid, with more or less general aching of the bones and joints. The gums are soft and swollen, bleeding easily on the slightest pressure.

As the disease progresses, the teeth may fall out, and the breath emits an intensely fœtid odour. There may be petechial hæmorrhages around the hair follicles, or large subcutaneous extravasations of blood on the extensor aspects of the limbs, popliteal spaces, etc. Epistaxis or subconjunctival hæmorrhages may occur. Hard, brawny, tender swellings of the calves are due to subcutaneous and intramuscular hæmorrhage. The heart is often irregular, and hæmic murmurs may be present at the base. The patient assumes a cachetic appearance, and is rendered quite unfit for mental or physical exertion. In some cases a peculiar form of night blindness develops, dependent not on permanent ocular changes, but on exhaustion of the retina. Death may be due to heart failure, syncope, or complications such as pneumonia.

Treatment.—1. General hygiene must be attended to.

2. Diet should consist of good soup, fresh milk, cream, etc. The juice of two to three fresh lemons or oranges should be taken daily. Preserved lime-juice is useless. Fresh fruits and vegetables should be liberally given, but vegetables must not be cooked with soda.

3. Medicinal: Calcium lactate may be given if hæmorrhage is profuse, and iron may be needed for the anæmia. Local measures for the bleeding gums: nitrate of silver, antiseptic mouth-washes, etc.

Infantile Scurvy (*Barlow's disease*) sometimes occurs in children brought up on proprietary foods, and is most frequent

between the sixth and the twentieth month. The symptoms are tenderness of the lower limbs and an unwillingness to move them, which may simulate paralysis; swelling in the shafts of the long bones of the legs, and sometimes crepitation at their epiphyses, which may become separated from the shaft; anæmia, debility, and in severe cases subcutaneous or internal hæmorrhages. If teeth have appeared, the gums are swollen and spongy. The swellings are due to subperiosteal hæmorrhages. Cows' milk and fresh fruit-juices form the treatment.

PELLAGRA (*Maidismus*)

A disease characterised by a chronic erythematous eruption, digestive disturbances, and nervous and mental symptoms, and associated with the consumption of maize. It is variously regarded as due to deficiency of an amino-acid (*tryptophane*) in the dietary, and as caused by the absence of an as yet unknown vitamin. The disease is met with in countries surrounding the Mediterranean Sea and in the Southern States of America. Of late years, cases have also been recognised in Britain. Digestive disturbances and debility are followed by an erythematous eruption, recurring every spring, affecting the parts exposed to light, and causing very troublesome itching. It lasts about a fortnight, ends in desquamation, and leaves the skin roughened, scaly, and pigmented. After a few attacks mental changes occur, which may end in melancholia or dementia. There is great emaciation. The reflexes are exaggerated, and the gait is spastic. Sclerosis of the lateral and posterior columns of the cord has been found *post mortem*.

Treatment, apart from a varied and generous diet, is mainly symptomatic.

DISEASES DUE TO PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL AGENTS

SUNSTROKE

EXPOSURE to the direct rays of the sun, or to excessive heat, may produce one of three conditions, grouped under the above title. They are heat-exhaustion, sunstroke proper, and thermic fever. Fatigue, employment in a confined space, a moist atmosphere, ill-health, and alcoholic indulgence are predisposing causes. The excessive external heat is supposed to cause a breakdown of the heat-regulating mechanism in the medulla, in consequence of which the internal temperature rises, and coagulation of the myosin results. Some authorities hold that thermic fever is due to a specific organism which can develop outside the body only at high temperatures.

Extreme cerebral and visceral congestion is the chief morbid change. *Rigor mortis* is rapid. When death is sudden, there may be no characteristic lesions.

The *syncopal form*, or heat-exhaustion, may arise as the consequence of fatigue or depression during exposure to heat. Faintness or syncope, a cold and damp skin, and a rapid and feeble pulse are the chief symptoms. Death is due to heart failure, but most cases recover.

Sunstroke proper (the *asphyxial form*) is due to exposure of the head and spine to the direct rays of the sun in a heated atmosphere. The rays, therefore, act immediately upon the brain and the cardiac and respiratory centres. The onset is generally sudden. Unconsciousness, pallor, feeble pulse, and rapid failure of the heart *and respiration* are the symptoms. Death is common, and recovery often partial, the brain being permanently injured.

Thermic fever (the *hyperpyrexial form*, *siriasis*) arises either by night or by day from exposure either to artificial or solar heat. There are often premonitory symptoms, malaise, diarrhoea, nausea, giddiness, or sleeplessness, after which the tempera-

ture rises abruptly to 108° F., 110° F., or even higher. Lividity of the face, dyspnœa, and delirium are rapidly followed by coma and death in a few hours. Recovery is slow and incomplete.

Treatment.—In the syncopal form removal to a cool place, loosening the clothing, and stimulation are required. In the asphyxial form cold douching to the head and body is the principal remedy; in thermic fever, the ice-bath or application of ice to the head and friction of the body with ice, controlled by frequent rectal temperature readings. If hyperpyrexia continues after the bath ice-water enemata may be given. Convulsions should be controlled by chloroform. If malaria is suspected, quinine should be given intravenously. Bleeding may be practised if asphyxial symptoms are marked.

Patients who have recovered from sunstroke or thermic fever should leave the tropics, and should not return.

CAISSON DISEASE

A form of paraplegia occurring in divers or workers in caissons, who are subjected during their work to a pressure much greater than that of the atmosphere.

Etiology.—The symptoms occur for the first time on returning to normal atmospheric pressure. Under a pressure of several atmospheres nitrogen in excessive quantity is forced into the blood and tissues. When the pressure is suddenly lowered, the nitrogen boils or bubbles within the tissues, causing destruction of tissue and formation of gas emboli in the vessels. These effects may occur in the ligaments and fasciæ, the muscles, the pulmonary vessels, the spinal cord, and sometimes in the brain. Congestion and hæmorrhages are the principal changes found after death. If decompression is slow, symptoms do not occur.

Symptoms.—Pains in the knees, arms, and shoulders are the most common; dyspnœa, choking sensations, epistaxis, and even pulmonary hæmorrhage may occur. The spinal symptoms vary from slight weakness of the lower limbs to complete paraplegia, and come on within an hour or two. In severe cases there is anæsthesia as well as paralysis; the urine is at first retained, but afterwards there may be incontinence of urine and fæces, with exaggerated reflexes and ultimately cystitis and bed-sores. Transitory hemiplegia may occur.

Treatment is chiefly preventive, and consists in slow decompression in a chamber known as the *lock*, before the workman returns to the outer air. If symptoms have already appeared, he is subjected to recompression, the pressure being afterwards more slowly released. If there is no opportunity for this, pains may be relieved by morphia, and the stiffness treated by massage and hot baths, while paraplegia must be treated like a myelitis.

ALCOHOLISM

Alcoholism may exist in two forms, acute and chronic. Of acute alcoholism little need here be said. The diagnosis of ordinary intoxication is obvious; but when a large overdose has been taken, the victim is frequently found comatose, and it becomes necessary to decide between alcoholism, organic disease, and opium poisoning. The diagnosis is discussed under Uræmia (*see* p. 445), but it must be emphasised here that the smell of the breath is an entirely fallacious indication, and that as a mistake may lead to the patient's being left alone in a police-cell to "sleep it off," its consequences may be fatal.

Of **chronic alcoholism** the predisposing causes are heredity, occupation, and "good company." Hereditary influence is often strongly marked, but it is apt to be confused with parental example; and there is no more false or disastrous idea for a young alcoholic to entertain than that, because an ancestor has suffered, it is useless for him to fight. The influence of occupation is shown in the prevalence of the disease in publicans, barmen, draymen, and those whose trade exposes them much to heat (puddlers, furnace-men, riveters, etc.).

The *morbid changes* are numerous. The digestive tract suffers early, chronic œsophageal, gastric, or gastro-intestinal catarrh being frequent. The liver is often fatty; cirrhosis is most common in spirit-drinkers. Arterio-sclerosis is very constant; fatty degeneration and dilatation of the heart are frequent. The interstitial nephritis (granular kidney) which is often present, is probably secondary to the arterio-sclerosis, and not a direct effect of the alcohol. The nervous system is especially liable to suffer, peripheral neuritis being the most constant manifestation, while pachymeningitis is not uncommon, and myelitis may occur.

The *symptoms* generally begin with digestive disturbances.

Nausea, or a feeling of sinking in the morning, is followed by morning vomiting. The tongue is furred and tremulous, appetite fails, and the bowels, at first constipated, may afterwards become loose. As time goes on, the hands become tremulous, muscular power is materially diminished, the gait may be ataxic, and the knee-jerks are lost (Peripheral Neuritis, which see). Albuminuria is present if the kidneys are diseased; and glycosuria may occur. Insomnia or disturbed sleep is common; the memory fails; the moral sense becomes defective, and lying is a constant characteristic. Hallucinations of sight or hearing may occur, and some cases end in dementia. Others terminate in cirrhosis of the liver or kidney, in cardiac failure, or in meningitis. The course of the disease may be broken by attacks of—

Delirium Tremens.—Very rare as the result of a single indulgence, this condition is frequent in habitual drinkers. It may follow upon injury, shock, or exposure, or may develop in the course of acute disease. It is to be distinguished from *mania a potu*, a transitory state of acute and often homicidal insanity which occasionally replaces ordinary intoxication in those of nervous heredity. The onset of delirium tremens is accompanied by irritability, restlessness, and disturbed sleep. Tremor is marked. The patient talks to himself, or answers imaginary voices. In a day or two visual hallucinations of moving animals (rats, snakes, or insects) appear, from which he tries to escape, often by springing out of bed; noisy delirium is present; perspiration is abundant; the temperature is somewhat elevated, and the pulse rapid and soft; and there is complete insomnia. Sleep returns as a rule about the third day, but in severe cases it may not do so till the fifth. In fatal cases, death may be due to exhaustion, or the patient may die comatose or convulsed.

Treatment.—In profound alcoholic coma the stomach should be washed out. Hot coffee may be given by the stomach-tube, and alternate hot and cold applications should be made to the skin. If the diagnosis is doubtful after emptying the stomach, the case should be watched for further indications. In *mania a potu* apomorphine hypodermically produces vomiting and removes both cause and symptoms. *Delirium tremens* being due to a toxæmia, the first object of treatment is rapid elimination of the poison. Alcohol must be stopped at once, the popular idea that it is required to prevent collapse being altogether

fallacious. If there is much prostration, ammonia or ether may be given. Treatment should begin with a brisk mercurial purge. Many authorities advise sedatives and narcotics, and push them from the outset. But they do not act unless in large and repeated doses, and these may have a dangerous cumulative effect. Sleep usually returns about the third day; if it does not, sedatives may then be carefully used. Chloral is safer than morphine, and hyoscine, gr. $\frac{1}{150}$ - $\frac{1}{100}$ (grm. 0.0004-0.0006) is often effectual. Norman Kerr almost entirely dispensed with hypnotics, and got better results from promoting diaphoresis by Liq. Ammon. Acet., combined if necessary with an emetic dose of ipecacuan. The diet must be fluid and bland, and vigilant nursing is essential. The strait-jacket should be used only when absolutely necessary.

The treatment of *chronic alcoholism* is moral as much as medicinal. If the patient is to be treated at home, complete abstinence must be practised from the outset, for any attempt at "tapering-off" will lead to a gradual increase of dosage. Treatment in an institution or home is preferable, and there the dosage can be gradually decreased until within a week alcohol is entirely stopped. It is well to begin with a brisk purge. Diet should be light and nourishing. A tonic containing cinchona, strychnine, and gentian may be given every three hours, and a hypodermic injection of Liq. Strychninæ and Liq. Atropinæ (gr. i to $\frac{3}{4}$ i) twice or thrice daily. The dose of strychnine is gradually increased from two to five minims, that of atropine from one to six minims. The maximum dosage is reached in about three weeks, and the injections are then as gradually reduced to nil. In the later stages of treatment massage and exercise are useful. Much is often to be accomplished by persevering non-hypnotic suggestion in the building up of the patient's shattered will.

MORPHINISM AND COCAINISM

The habitual use of opium or morphia leads to a tolerance of the drug, which often results in its employment in increasing quantities. As much as gr. 60 (grm. 4.0) of morphine hydrochlorate have been injected daily,¹ and over a pint of laudanum has been regularly taken. The practice is common among brain-workers, physicians and literary men being specially

¹ Norman Kerr.

addicted to it. The habit is usually begun for the relief of pain. In those accustomed to morphia the ordinary narcotic effect is replaced by a sense of euphoria and exaltation, with quickening of the intellectual processes; but this is succeeded by profound depression as the effect passes off. The main symptoms are a sallow, cachectic appearance, a hard and wrinkled skin, and emaciation; variable appetite, occasional colic, alternating constipation and diarrhœa; restlessness, exaggerated sensibility, disturbed sleep; palpitation or dyspnœa; indolence, irresolution, and untruthfulness. The reflexes are at first increased, later abolished; the pupils, contracted just after a dose, are dilated in the intervals. Death may be due to progressive emaciation, to intercurrent disease, or to an accidental or intentional overdose.

Cocainism, a less frequent but yet prevalent habit, is also practised among physicians, and by those who, having found pleasure in the medicinal use of nasal or laryngeal sprays containing the drug, continue it after the need has passed. Emaciation, mental disturbance, and moral perversion develop more rapidly than with morphia; and a sensation of grains of sand or small shot under the skin is frequently complained of. If unchecked, cocainism leads to melancholia or mania.

The *treatment* of both conditions is on similar lines. There is no hope but in complete withdrawal of the drug, and treatment in an institution is essential. In morphinism sudden withdrawal is attended by agonising suffering; the reduction must be gradual, and should be spread over a period of several weeks. Narcotics may occasionally be necessary for sleep or pain, but care must be taken lest one habit be merely replaced by another. Warm baths are useful in allaying restlessness, cardiac tonics to support the heart, and the gastric condition must receive attention. Alcohol must be resolutely avoided, and the cured morphinomaniac should be a total abstainer from both opium and alcohol. The process of cure may occupy from three months to a year or more.

LEAD-POISONING (Plumbism or Saturnism)

There are three ways in which lead may enter the system: by deglutition, inhalation, and absorption through the skin. Poisoning may therefore result from the use of water con-

taminated by passage through lead pipes, from food-stuffs coloured with substances containing lead, or from tinned foods, particularly fruits, the acid of which may dissolve out lead from the solder. It is also common in occupations involving the inhalation of lead fumes (smelters), or dust (compositors, white-lead workers, painters, potters), and in workers in lead who eat with unwashed hands. Lead may be absorbed through the skin when perspiring, and poisoning has thus followed the use of cosmetics or hair-dyes containing it. In the form of diachylon plaster, lead may be swallowed as an abortifacient. All ages are liable, and both sexes, but the female is specially susceptible. Lead is eliminated principally by the bowels and kidneys, and to a less extent by the skin.

Morbid Anatomy.—

1. *Nervous System*.—Peripheral neuritis is very frequent, and most commonly affects the musculo-spiral nerve; but sometimes the peroneal is principally involved. There may be secondary changes in the cells of the anterior cornua. Neuro-retinitis or optic atrophy may occur. Meningo-encephalitis is sometimes present.

2. *The Kidneys*.—The glomerular and tubular epithelium is first affected, and interstitial nephritis develops later.

3. *The Circulatory System*.—Arterio-sclerosis is almost constant. It leads to cardiac hypertrophy and ultimately to dilatation. Cerebral hæmorrhage may follow.

4. *The Blood*.—Anæmia is constantly present, the red corpuscles and hæmoglobin being diminished in the same proportion. The red cells show a basophil granulation (*punctate basophilia*), and nucleated cells (*normoblasts*) are common; the leucocytes are not altered.

Symptoms.—Anorexia and constipation, with a metallic taste in the mouth on rising, and a tendency to headache are among the early symptoms. The face becomes increasingly pale and sallow (*saturnine cachexia*); and at this stage a *blue line*, due to the formation of sulphide of lead in the papillæ, is seen at the margins of the gums. It is produced by the sulphuretted hydrogen evolved from the tartar of the teeth, and is absent where teeth have been extracted. The patient is next attacked by severe abdominal pain (*lead colic*), often of sudden onset, and centred about the umbilicus. It may be of two

kinds, acute, superficial, accompanied by tenderness, and more severe on one side than the other; or deep-seated and dull. The former is paroxysmal, the latter constant. The abdomen is retracted, the pulse slow, small, of high tension, and sometimes unequal on the two sides; there is usually constipation, and often vomiting. The colic is probably due to irregular spasm of the small intestine. The attack usually passes off in about three days, but may be frequently repeated.

Lead palsy is most frequent in the form of bilateral *wrist-drop*. The extensor muscles of the fingers, hands, and wrists are affected, and the hands hang flabbily at the sides. These muscles are supplied by the musculo-spiral nerve; but the supinator longus and the extensor metacarpi pollicis, which have the same nerve-supply, usually escape. Less frequent forms of paralysis are *ankle-drop*, when the muscles supplied by the peroneal nerve are affected; paralysis of the muscles of the upper arm, including the supinator longus; and paralysis of the intrinsic muscles of the hands (*Aran-Duchenne type*). In all these forms muscular atrophy is rapid, and the reaction of degeneration (*see p. 492*) is present. Pain is slight or absent.

Saturnine encephalopathy is fortunately less common, and is most frequent in women. Severe headache is followed by convulsions and coma, and death may take place on the second or third day. In cases that recover from the coma, temporary or permanent blindness may follow. A "toxic hysteria" (Oliver) may precede the onset of the coma, and is apt to mislead the diagnosis. The condition may arise without warning, neither colic nor wrist-drop having preceded it.

In pregnant women abortion or still-birth is the rule, and of the children born alive, most die in early infancy. Hence lead is often used as an *ecbolic*.

The condition of the *kidneys* may result in uræmia. Both in gout and in lead-poisoning there is retention of uric acid, and gout is apt to occur in those lead-workers who are addicted to beer.

Treatment.—Mild cases of lead colic require rest in bed, warm applications, and an aperient, or if there is vomiting, an enema. Severe pain may be relieved by a warm bath, but sometimes morphia is necessary. For elimination of the lead a mixture containing magnesium sulphate and a small dose of

potassium iodide, gr. iii-v (grm. 0·2-0·3), should be given thrice daily. Large doses of the iodide are apt to liberate too much lead in a soluble form. The paralysed limbs should be kept at rest on splints, and treated by electricity; later, massage and strychnine are useful. The anæmia must be treated by iron.

In saturnine encephalopathy nitrite of amyl may be inhaled during the convulsions. If the urine is scanty, pilocarpine should be given, and lumbar puncture may relieve intracranial pressure.

ARSENICAL POISONING

Chronic arsenical poisoning occasionally occurs in workers in arsenic or its salts, in those trades in which arsenical colours are employed, and as a sequel to the prolonged medicinal use of the drug. Until recently wall-papers and artificial flowers were often coloured by arsenic. It is contained in weed-killer, in sprays for fruit trees, and in fly papers. Beer has been contaminated with it through the use of adulterated glucose; and it is used, sometimes to a dangerous extent, in the curing of furs.

Symptoms.—Workers in arsenical pigments are liable to dermatitis or to painful ulcers of the hands or scrotum, less frequently to general poisoning. Inhalation of arsenical dust or vapour, or long-continued administration of the drug leads to redness of the conjunctivæ and eyelids, huskiness of the voice, and digestive disturbances. Erythema of the palms and soles is frequent, and desquamation may follow; there may be thickening of the epidermis in these parts (*keratosis*); the limbs or trunk are liable to various eruptions, particularly herpes; and a brownish discoloration of the skin (*arsenical pigmentation*) is often seen. The most serious result is peripheral neuritis. It differs from that of lead in affecting the legs rather than the arms, and in being accompanied by marked sensory symptoms, viz., numbness, tingling, and acute tenderness of the muscles. Along with these there are loss of power in the legs and a high-stepping or ataxic gait; and in severe cases the arms are also affected. Recovery is slow.

Arseno-benzol (salvarsan) has given rise to arsenical poisoning, coming on usually from a fortnight to six weeks after a course of treatment. The symptoms are, first, jaundice with

pale stools, and later vomiting, epigastric pain and hæmatemesis. Delirium and coma may precede death. In fatal cases the kidneys are degenerated, and the liver small and fatty, showing a condition resembling acute yellow atrophy. Before such a course is given, patients should be examined for signs of disease of the kidneys or liver.

Treatment.—Once its ingestion ceases, arsenic is rapidly eliminated, and treatment is therefore symptomatic. Alcohol is obviously to be forbidden in any form of neuritis; rest in bed is usually required, and when the sensory symptoms have abated, electricity and massage. Strychnine or nux vomica is indicated later on.

FOOD-POISONING

Apart from the poisons accidentally or deliberately conveyed in it, meat may give rise to poisoning in one of three ways. It may be in a state of decomposition when eaten (*ptomaine poisoning*); organisms which gain access to it after slaughter may produce a chemical poison with no evident signs of decomposition, and the food may be swallowed in this state; or the organisms may be swallowed with the food before they have had time to produce their poison, which is then developed in the body. In the two former cases, the symptoms begin very soon after the food has been swallowed, in the last there is a period of incubation. True ptomaine poisoning is the least common of the three cases, for the alkaloid products of decomposition are seldom abundant enough to cause serious symptoms. The organisms chiefly concerned are three, *Bacillus botulinus* and the two varieties of *B. enteritidis*, *B. enteritidis* Gærtner, and *B. ærtrycke*. The first is responsible for the symptoms of sausage poisoning, and sometimes for poisoning due to undercooked or potted meat, but its toxin is destroyed by boiling. The symptoms of *botulism*, arising either at once or after an interval sometimes extending to forty-eight hours, include weakness, dizziness, and headache, with paralysis of accommodation, diplopia, and ptosis, and also paralysis of the lower facial muscles, and of the larynx and pharynx, causing aphonia and dysphagia. Constipation is present. There may be nausea and vomiting at the outset. Death is due to respiratory and cardiac paralysis, the mind being clear to the last. The

toxin is one of the most virulent known, but the disease is fortunately rare.

The symptoms due to *Bacillus enteritidis* and allied organisms are those of acute gastro-enteritis. Vomiting and purging, cramp in the legs, and collapse are the most important. The temperature is at first subnormal, but later it may be raised.

Poisoning with similar symptoms may also result from the ingestion of fish or shellfish, of milk and its products, or of mushrooms or other fungi.

The habitual consumption of certain *cereals* may give rise to poisoning. Bread made from rye contaminated with *Claviceps purpurea* (the ergot fungus) causes the symptoms of *ergotism*. The chief morbid changes are spasmodic contraction of the arterioles, and sclerosis of the posterior columns of the cord. The early symptoms are those of digestive derangement, and the lesions are expressed in gangrene of the fingers and toes, or in painful spasmodic clenching of the hands, and hyper-extension of the feet. Ataxia may also be present.

Lathyrism is due to eating food made from the seeds of the vetch or chick-pea. The symptoms are those of spastic paraplegia.

The first step in the **treatment** of poisoning by animal food is elimination of the poison by evacuation of the bowels and stomach. Afterwards stimulants, morphia, and external warmth are necessary. If it is obtainable, an anti-serum may be given in cases of botulism. In mushroom poisoning gr. $\frac{1}{50}$ of atropine sulphate (the antidote to muscarine) should be given, and repeated in half an hour if necessary. In grain poisoning an emetic may sometimes be needed, but for the most part the treatment is symptomatic.

DISEASES OF THE ALIMENTARY TRACT

I. THE MOUTH

THE mouth is liable to a number of diseases, chiefly inflammatory, which may be local or symptomatic of general disease. The local diseases are mainly due to organisms ingested or inhaled, but may also be produced by the coughing up of infected sputum, as in phthisis. Pathogenic organisms may be present even in health, and require a suitably modified soil before they can cause disease. The most frequent are the *Staphylococcus pyogenes aureus* and *albus*, the *Streptococcus pyogenes*, the *Diplococcus pneumoniae*, and the *Micrococcus tetragenus*. Fungi, such as the *Oidium albicans* or *Monilia candida*, are also found.

The importance of *oral sepsis* in the production of local diseases of the mouth and also of many disorders of the gastro-intestinal tract, and of general affections such as rheumatoid arthritis, muscular rheumatism, ocular inflammations, infective endocarditis, neuritis, and pernicious anæmia, must always be borne in mind. Pyorrhœa alveolaris and abscesses at the roots of the teeth are the two main causes of septic absorption, whether by the alimentary tract or by the blood-stream.

STOMATITIS

An inflamed condition of the mouth is common during dentition, the infective fevers, and morbid states of the blood. It may be also caused by mechanical irritation, by the internal use of mercury, or by the presence of carious teeth.

Such a condition, however caused, is likely to be attended with the following symptoms :—

1. *Pain and difficulty* in mastication, articulation, and deglutition, in proportion to the severity of the disease.
2. Increased salivation.
3. Fœtor of breath.
4. Constitutional disturbances.

Like all inflammations of mucous membranes, the condition varies much in severity, and accordingly the following types are described :—

20% Simple, or *catarrhal* stomatitis, a mild form which readily yields to the local application of glycerin of borax. In acute cases irregularly increased production of epithelium.

Simple Stomatitis

R Tr. Myrrhæ 3ss
Glycer. Acidi. Boric. ad 3j
Misce—
Sig. Apply with a brush to the affected parts.

Aphthous Stomatitis

R Sod. bifornat. 3 ii
Acid. Carb. 3 ii
Glycerini 3 vi
Tr. cocci 3 ij
Aq. rosae ad 3 iii
Fiat lotio.

Sig. Teaspoonful in half a tumblerful of warm water as a mouthwash several times daily.

Ulcerative Stomatitis

R Pot. chlorat. 3 ii
Glycerini 3 j
Aq. aor 3 xii
Fiat gargarema

Sig. To be used frequently.

and constricted at the joints. Both hyphæ and spores are to be seen.

The patches may extend, though rarely, to the œsophagus, stomach, and cæcum.

Symptoms.—The mouth is *dry*, and tender or painful; there is usually much debility and gastric disturbance. Small white roundish patches form, and may coalesce, producing larger areas. The patches, at first adherent, are later easily detached, leaving behind them little ulcerations.

Treatment.—Absolute cleanliness of the feeding bottles, the avoidance of stale milk, and the frequent swabbing out of the mouth with a solution of boracic acid or permanganate of potash, are the principal indications for successful treatment. Everything must be done to improve the debilitated condition generally.

Gangrenous Stomatitis (*cancrum oris* or *noma*) is sometimes seen in debilitated children between the ages of two and five years. It follows upon defective nutrition and bad hygiene, and may be a sequela of the acute infections of childhood, especially measles. It is very probably of spirillary origin.

Symptoms.—At first there appears a small diphtheroid patch of necrosed tissue with a general inflammation around it. This inflammatory zone extends and becomes brawny in character, the slough separates, and the ulceration goes on until the cheek is perforated. The disease frequently kills the patient before necrosis is well marked, but sometimes the gangrene extends to the jaw, malar bones, tongue, etc., before the fatal termination, which takes place in about a week or ten days. The constitutional disturbance is very great, although fever is moderate, and usually the typical typhoid state rapidly ushers in a fatal ending.

Treatment is unsatisfactory. Complete excision of the diseased area by the knife, with the administration of quinine and stimulants, are the best measures. To parts which cannot be excised, nitric acid or pure phenol should be freely applied. Should the child recover, a plastic operation will be necessary later on.

Like all inflammations of mucous membranes, the condition varies much in severity, and accordingly the following types are described :—

Simple, or *catarrhal* stomatitis, a mild form which readily yields to the local application of glycerin of borax. In acute cases the surface is very red and raw, in milder cases irregular white patches show increased production of epithelium.

Aphthous, or *vesicular* stomatitis, occurs chiefly in children, and is characterised by the presence of small pseudo-vesicles upon the mucosa of the lips, tongue, and cheeks. The appearance is due to the presence of a fibrinous exudation beneath the epithelium, which after a time is shed, leaving behind small greyish ulcers. Treatment of the constitutional symptoms and the use of a mouth-wash lead to rapid recovery.

Ulcerative Stomatitis occurs in weakly and ill-nourished children, and sometimes in adults. It may be epidemic, as among troops. The gums become swollen and ulcerated at their margins. The ulcers are covered with a greyish membrane, and in bad cases may extend deeply, loosening the teeth, and exposing the alveolus. The submaxillary glands are enlarged, and constitutional symptoms are often severe. True ulcerative stomatitis occurs most frequently *after* the first dentition.

Treatment.—Chlorate of potash should be given internally, gr. x (grm. 0·6) thrice daily for a child, gr. xx (grm. 1·2) for an adult, and also used as a mouth-wash. The ulcers may be touched with nitrate of silver, or with dilute chromic acid (1 in 200).

Parasitic Stomatitis (*thrush*) is a *specific* disease, dependent upon a fungus termed the *saccharomyces* or *Oidium albicans*; it is frequently met with in weakly children and infants.

The fungus is probably identical with the *Mycoderma vini*, and is therefore a mould. It causes the formation of milk-white or greyish adherent patches on the mucous membranes of the mouth and pharynx of the child attacked.

Microscopically, these patches consist of epithelium united into a membrane by twisted filaments (the fungus), which are often branched and composed of long cells joined end to end,

and constricted at the joints. Both hyphæ and spores are to be seen.

The patches may extend, though rarely, to the œsophagus, stomach, and cæcum.

Symptoms.—The mouth is *dry*, and tender or painful; there is usually much debility and gastric disturbance. Small white roundish patches form, and may coalesce, producing larger areas. The patches, at first adherent, are later easily detached, leaving behind them little ulcerations.

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Treatment is unsatisfactory. Complete excision of the diseased area by the knife, with the administration of quinine and stimulants, are the best measures. To parts which cannot be excised, nitric acid or pure phenol should be freely applied. Should the child recover, a plastic operation will be necessary later on.

ACUTE TONSILLITIS

Inflammation of the tonsils is not only a common complication or symptom of many fevers, but is also a common primary affection. It may affect chiefly the follicles (*follicular tonsillitis*), or the whole stroma may be involved (*parenchymatous tonsillitis*). When in parenchymatous tonsillitis the inflammatory process goes on to suppuration (as it frequently does), and involves the peritonsillar tissues, it is popularly termed *quinsy*.

Etiology.—Acute tonsillitis is most frequent in young people, but may occur at any age. Ill-health, overwork, and defective drainage are predisposing causes. It is often associated with, or precedes, acute rheumatism. Primary tonsillitis is a direct infection. In either case the organisms found are mainly the pus-forming cocci.

Symptoms.—The onset is sudden. The throat is hot and dry, and the temperature runs rapidly to 104° F., or more, accompanied with severe frontal headache. The tongue is foul and the breath foetid. The glands below the jaw are enlarged, and surrounded by diffuse tender swelling. There is great pain on movement of the jaw or in swallowing. The tonsils are enlarged and congested, as are the fauces and soft palate. Yellowish patches of secretion may protrude from the mouths of the follicles, or thin dirty yellow exudate may cover the surface of the tonsils. In some cases the exudate may be thicker, patchy, and semi-membranous in appearance, but it differs from diphtheritic membrane in that it strips off readily on brushing with 10 per cent. solution of silver nitrate.

If treatment is effective, the acute symptoms subside in four or five days, and the patient is well in about a fortnight. Sometimes, however, suppuration occurs in the peritonsillar connective tissue, and an abscess forms on one or both sides (*quinsy*). In such a case the fever does not subside, the swelling becomes so great that the mouth can hardly be opened, and fluctuation can be felt by the finger on one or other side. The abscess may rupture spontaneously into the mouth, and the rupture occasionally leads to profuse hæmorrhage.

An *epidemic* form of tonsillitis, with early and pronounced involvement of the cervical glands and cardiac complications, has been observed in England in recent years.

Diagnosis.—The difficulty lies chiefly in distinguishing between acute tonsillitis and diphtheria. There may be membrane in the former ; it may be absent in mild cases of the latter. It is often impossible to decide on a first examination whether diphtheria is present. Even a film prepared direct from a swab may not show the characteristic bacilli. Cultures made upon blood-serum clinch the diagnosis of diphtheria, but time is lost in this examination, as the colonies require about eighteen hours for the result. It is always safest in doubtful cases to inject a small amount of the culture into a guinea-pig. If the animal dies within 48 hours, diphtheria is present. If it survives, the disease is not present.

Acute Tonsillitis

Treatment
calomel follow
Subdue fever
The salicylate
also an excell
Locally use gl
nally, and pain
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(grm. 5·3), A
(cc. 15·0), Aq.
useful in acut
pain.

The abscess was opened with a No. 11 scalpel knife. In the evening the patient was given 10 grains of glycerin, and the next day 20 grains. During convalescence the patient was given 10 grains of glycerin daily.

This condition
disease, or ma

children before puberty, and is very often associated with adenoids. Both tonsils are enlarged, and either the lymphoid tissues or the stroma may be principally affected.

Symptoms.—In conjunction with post-nasal adenoids, chronic tonsillitis sets up the habit of *mouth-breathing*, at first most noticeable at night, when snoring is common, and the *alæ nasi* are often indrawn during inspiration. A short, dry cough, which may cause small hæmorrhages from the dilated

R
Sod. salicyl. 3 $\overline{\text{ij}}$
Syr. Aurant. 3 $\overline{\text{j}}$
Aq. ad ad 3 $\overline{\text{vi}}$
Fiat mixtura,
Sig. 3ss t.i.d.

R Pot. chlorat. gr. lxxx
 Acid. hydrochlor. dil. 3jss
 Glycerini. 3iv
 Aq. ad 3viii
 Fiat gargarisma.
 Sig. To be used frequently.

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Treatment.—Begin by opening the bowels freely with calomel followed by a saline, and keep them freely open. Subdue fever and relieve headache by antipyretics or salicylates. The salicylates, gr. x-xv (grm. 0·6-1·0) every three hours, have also an excellent effect on the general course of the disease. Locally use glycerin of belladonna and hot fomentations externally, and paint the throat before food with a 2 per cent. solution of cocaine, or in mild cases gargle with Potass. Chlor. gr. lxxx (grm. 5·3), Acid. Hydrochlor. dil. ʒiiss (cc. 5·3), Glycerini ʒiv (cc. 15·0), Aq. ad ʒviii (cc. 230·0). Antiseptic sprays are more useful in acute cases, in which gargling is attended with much pain.

The abscess of quinsy should be opened with a guarded knife. In the *low, subacute* forms, frequently seen in over-worked patients, astringent applications, such as iron and glycerin, are useful. Nourishing diet and tonics are required during convalescence.

CHRONIC TONSILLITIS

This condition may follow repeated attacks of the acute disease, or may be chronic from the outset. It is frequent in children before puberty, and is very often associated with adenoids. Both tonsils are enlarged, and either the lymphoid tissues or the stroma may be principally affected.

Symptoms.—In conjunction with post-nasal adenoids, chronic tonsillitis sets up the habit of *mouth-breathing*, at first most noticeable at night, when snoring is common, and the *alæ nasi* are often indrawn during inspiration. A short, dry cough, which may cause small hæmorrhages from the dilated

tonsillar vessels, is not uncommon. The expression of a mouth-breather, as he stands with parted lips, is heavy and stupid ; and the condition leads in time to changes in the shape of the chest, of which pigeon-breast is the most frequent. There is a great tendency to recurrent bronchitis, which may aid in producing the deformity. The general health suffers, and the child becomes thin and anæmic. Hearing, taste, and smell are often impaired. Enlarged tonsils increase the liability to specific infections, and make the prognosis of diphtheria and scarlet fever less favourable.

Treatment.—If the condition does not yield to astringent applications, tonics, and an open-air life, the tonsils should be removed. Adenoid vegetations must be dealt with at the same time. Spontaneous recession of the hypertrophy often occurs at puberty, but it is a mistake to wait for this if the organs are very large.

VINCENT'S ANGINA

This is an inflammatory affection of one or other tonsil, occurring usually in weakly people, and due to the presence of the *Bacillus fusiformis* and *Vincent's spirochæte*. It begins insidiously with slight fever, malaise, and a tender swelling of the glands on the affected side. There is little pain in the throat, but the tonsil is covered with a pseudo-membranous exudate, which may resemble that of diphtheria, but is softer and more friable. In a few days this may become partially detached, exposing a sharp-edged ulcer, sometimes superficial and sometimes deep. This in its turn begins to heal within a week, and convalescence is rapid. Local treatment—application of tincture of iodine or of a solution of silver nitrate—is all that is necessary ; but in view of the possible confusion with diphtheria, bacteriological examination is called for.

II. THE ŒSOPHAGUS

ŒSOPHAGITIS

Inflammation of the œsophagus may be acute or chronic. The acute form arises (1) from scalds or burns, or the swallowing of corrosive poisons ; (2) as a complication of the specific fevers ;

(3) towards the end of wasting diseases ; (4) in infants, as a purely catarrhal type, often without apparent cause. Ulceration or cicatricial stricture may follow upon acute œsophagitis.

The **symptoms** are, mainly, pain in swallowing, tenderness over the cervical portion, and spitting of mucus.

Treatment consists in the administration of bland fluid food. Where corrosive poisons have been swallowed, rectal feeding must be instituted.

CHRONIC ŒSOPHAGITIS may follow the acute affection, may arise above a stricture, or may be the result of chronic alcoholism.

It tends to lead to ulceration and perforation. In alcoholics, morning vomiting, usually of œsophageal mucus, but sometimes mixed with the contents of the stomach, is the principal sign. Where the vomit comes only from the œsophagus, its reaction is alkaline ; if the gastric contents are also expelled, the reaction is acid.

STRICTURE

Simple stricture of the œsophagus may be (1) cicatricial, (2) spasmodic (*œsophagismus*).

CICATRICIAL STRICTURE is usually due to the after effects of burns, scalds, or corrosive poisons ; but it may follow upon cicatrization of ulcers of any kind. Narrowing of the œsophagus may also result from external pressure, as in aneurysm or mediastinal tumour.

Obviously, the stricture must vary in its length with the cause that has produced it. In different cases the gullet may be slightly narrowed, or so much that even fluids can scarcely pass.

The **symptoms** depend to some extent on the position of the stricture. Dysphagia is common to all sites. If the stricture is high in the tube, regurgitation of food may be immediate, if low, after a slightly longer interval. Emaciation follows when the narrowing is great.

The position of the stricture, and the degree of stricture, must be determined by the passage of an œsophageal bougie, after all serious intrathoracic diseases have been carefully excluded. Aneurysm, mediastinal tumour, valvular affections of the heart, etc., preclude such an examination.

Treatment.—Progressive dilatation, with specific treatment in syphilitic cases ; if the stricture is impassable, gastrostomy.

SPASMODIC STRICTURE occurs in neurotic individuals, especially young women. It commences suddenly, usually during a meal, the food sticking for some time, and then either passing on to the stomach or being returned. It is attended by severe burning pain and retching. There is little emaciation.

On passing the sound, the stricture will be found to occupy various positions at different examinations.

Treatment.—Pass a full-sized bougie, twice or thrice weekly. This is often sufficient to cure the condition. At the same time treat any nervous disturbance that may be present.

TUMOURS

Innocent tumours occasionally occur, but are of small importance. Sarcoma is extremely rare.

CANCER, of the type of squamous-celled epithelioma, is common between the ages of forty-five and sixty, and most frequent in the male. The growth is annular, infiltrating all the coats, and ulcerates rapidly from the passage of food over it.

The **symptoms** are increasing dysphagia, regurgitation of food mixed with mucus and blood, and rapid emaciation. The passage of a bougie locates the site of the stricture. This must be carefully done, as the diseased wall is very liable to perforation.

Death occurs from six months to a year after the onset of symptoms. It may be due to starvation, or to complications due to direct extension of the growth (septic broncho-pneumonia, perforation of the aorta, etc.). Metastases are uncommon, except in the thoracic and cervical glands. In the latter situation they may aid the diagnosis ; and an X-ray examination after a bismuth meal will reveal the site of the stricture.

Treatment.—Where the cervical part is affected, excision of the tumour has been attempted, but is rarely successful. In other cases permanent intubation, or if this is not tolerated, gastrostomy.

DILATATION OF THE ŒSOPHAGUS may occur above the site of any stricture, but is also occasionally idiopathic (*œsophagectasia* or *achalasia of the cardia*). This latter condition is attributed

by Hurst to a failure of relaxation of the cardiac sphincter (achalasia) when the œsophageal peristaltic wave reaches it. The cause is not known. The symptoms are those of obstruction, at first intermittent, afterwards permanent. The diagnosis is made by X-rays and by the œsophagoscope. Treatment consists in the passage of a rubber tube filled with mercury before each meal.

ŒSOPHAGEAL DIVERTICULA may be caused by impaction of foreign bodies or by local injury (*pressure diverticula*), or by the traction of adhesions between the œsophagus and inflamed bronchial glands (*traction diverticula*). The latter are not clinically important; in the former the weakness of the muscular coat at the seat of injury leads to bulging of the mucosa and submucosa, and accumulation of food in the sac so formed, which gradually enlarges. Dysphagia, intermittent regurgitation of food, and fœtor of the breath are the symptoms. If the sac cannot be excised, the patient should be fed by the œsophageal tube.

III. THE STOMACH

EXAMINATION OF THE STOMACH CONTENTS

To gain a clear idea of the various disturbances of gastric function, it is necessary to recall the main facts relative to gastric digestion. The action upon the starches of the ptyalin derived from the saliva continues for twenty or thirty minutes, until it is inhibited by acids; and during that time starch is converted into maltose, with an intermediate stage of dextrin. The direct action of the gastric juice converts proteins into peptones, with an intermediate stage of proteoses (albumoses); and fats are liberated by the dissolution of their proteid cellular envelopes. The caseinogen of milk is at the same time converted into coagulated casein by the action of rennin. The churning movement of the stomach is necessary for the complete mixture of the food and gastric juice; and its propulsive movement sends the elaborated chyme onwards into the duodenum. It is evident that the digestive processes can be retarded by—

1. Deficiency either in quantity or quality of gastric secretion.
2. Deficient movements of the stomach, through muscular atony.

It is therefore often desirable to know the exact state of the secretion, and the amount of motor or peristaltic power.

The *reaction* of the stomach contents varies according to the stage of digestion—

1. Immediately after food is taken it is faintly alkaline from the saliva swallowed.
2. Within the next half hour it becomes slightly acid from lactic acid.
3. After this time it gradually becomes more distinctly acid from the presence of free HCl.

Lactic acid is derived from the food, and is normally present during the first hour or so of digestion: after that time *there should only be a trace*. Its presence in any quantity tends to inhibit the secretion of HCl; consequently, if lactic acid is found in excess two hours after a standard meal, we may infer that HCl is deficient.

When it is desired to ascertain whether gastric digestion is normal, a test meal is first given; then, after a definite interval, a portion of the gastric contents is withdrawn by the stomach tube, filtered, and chemically examined. More recently the so-called "fractional test meal" (*see below*) has been advocated in place of the single test.

Examination by this means is chiefly useful in obscure cases of gastric neurosis and functional disorder where there is no vomiting; also where, in an early stage, carcinoma is suspected, but the symptoms are not diagnostic.

Conditions contra-indicating the passage of the stomach tube are the same as those that contra-indicate sounding the œsophagus, with in addition the presence of acute gastritis, gastric ulcer, or a late stage of carcinoma. Where vomiting is present, examination of the vomited matters may suffice.

The first step is to determine the *total acidity* of the gastric juice by a decinormal solution of NaHO, of which 1 cc. = 0.00365 gm. HCl. 10 cc. of the juice are placed in a porcelain capsule with a few drops of a 1 per cent. solution of phenolphthalein, and the NaHO is added drop by drop. A pink colour forms, which disappears on shaking, but becomes permanent when neutralisation is complete. The percentage acidity can be calculated from the number of ccs. of NaHO employed, but it is usual to express the acidity simply in terms of NaHO. If 6.5 cc. are required for 10 cc. of juice, 65 would

be required for 100, and the acidity of the juice is spoken of as 65.

We next determine whether the acid is present as free acid or in combination, by adding to the filtered juice a solution of Congo red. In the presence of free acid a dark-blue colour is produced.

To determine that the free acid is HCl, a series of colour tests is used—

1. Dimethyl-amido-azo-benzol (0.5 per cent. alcoholic solution) gives a cherry-red colour with the unfiltered juice in the presence of free HCl.
2. Günzberg's test (alcoholic solution of phloroglucin and vanillin). If this be evaporated with a few drops of the juice, a rosy tint appears in the residue.
3. Boas' test (alcoholic solution of resorcin) is carried out in the same way.

The Congo red and dimethyl-amido-azo-benzol tests can also be carried out by means of test-papers dipped in the respective solutions and allowed to dry. The test-papers keep indefinitely, and are much more convenient than the solutions.

Töpfer's method of determining the total amount of free HCl present is simple and fairly accurate. A few drops of dimethyl-amido-azo-benzol solution are added to 10 cc. of the filtered gastric juice, and decinormal NaHO is cautiously added until the cherry-red colour has just disappeared. This indicates the moment when all the free HCl is neutralised, and its amount can be calculated from the number of ccs. of NaHO employed.

Fractional Test Meal.—The stomach is first emptied by a syringe attached to a small bore rubber tube perforated at the end, and the patient then swallows a meal consisting of two tablespoonfuls of oatmeal boiled with a quart of water till the volume is reduced to a pint, and then strained through muslin. About 10 cc. of the stomach contents are removed a quarter of an hour later, and this is repeated every quarter of an hour till the stomach is empty. The various samples are analysed for free HCl and total acidity, and thus an acidity curve can be constructed, which shows a gradual increase in HCl concentration during the digestion of the meal.

Lactic acid may be recognised by *Uffelmann's test*. The reagent is made by adding two drops of Liq. Ferri Perchlor. to 30 cc. of a 1 per cent. solution of carbolic acid. The stomach contents are extracted with ether, which is then evaporated off, and the residue is dissolved in water. A drop or two of this solution is added to the amethyst-blue reagent, which becomes canary-yellow in the presence of lactic acid.

Acetic and butyric acids may be recognised by their odour, vinegary in the one case, like that of rancid butter in the other.

Proteoses may be tested by the *biuret reaction*. To one drop or less of a 10 per cent. solution of sulphate of copper in a test tube, which is rolled round so as to distribute the solution over its sides, add equal quantities of neutralised and filtered stomach contents, and of 10 per cent. solution of NaHO. A pink colour shows the presence of proteoses, from which that of *pepsin* may be inferred. If proteoses are absent, pepsin can be recognised by the digestive action of the gastric contents on hard-boiled white of egg.

The presence of *rennin* may be recognised by adding 2 cc. of the neutralised and filtered stomach contents to 10 cc. of milk, the whole being kept at body heat for fifteen minutes, at the end of which time a solid curd should be formed.

The motor power of the stomach is estimated (1) by testing with ferric chloride for salicyluric acid in the urine at various intervals after a dose of salol has been taken by the mouth. Salol is not decomposed by the stomach contents, which are acid, but only when it meets with an alkaline fluid—*i.e.*, in the small intestine. If the urinary reaction (a violet colour) is delayed beyond an hour and a half, the motor power of the stomach is held to be deficient. (2) The stomach should be completely empty seven hours after even the largest meal.

It must be added to this brief account of gastric analysis that less reliance is now placed upon it as a diagnostic measure than was the case some years ago. Broadly speaking, certain types of disease are in rough correspondence with certain types of acidity, but it has been shown that almost any type of acidity may be met with in normal persons, and thus there is great difficulty in the interpretation of results. The fractional test meal possesses no clinical advantages over the older method. Information as to shape, size, and motility of the stomach, and

often as to the existence of ulcer or cancer, can be obtained with less discomfort to the patient (and fear of the examination may in itself alter the characters of the juice) by the use of X-rays. The clinical findings and the results of radiography must always be taken into account in assessing the significance of secretory disorder.

ACUTE GASTRITIS

Acute gastritis may be catarrhal, phlegmonous, toxic, or membranous. The *catarrhal form* is due to the severe irritation set up by the ingestion of unripe fruits, decomposed tinned meats, shell-fish, etc. It may also follow upon the abuse of alcohol or even of tea. Persistent hyperacidity (especially when due to organic acids), and delay of food in the stomach, favour its production. It is frequently a complication of convalescence from febrile diseases, low inflammation, etc.

Morbid Anatomy.—The mucous membrane is hyperæmic, swollen, and covered with mucous or mucopurulent exudation. The epithelial cells of the numerous glands may become highly granular, undergo mucoid degeneration, or desquamate. There may be minute extravasations of blood, hæmorrhagic erosions, pustules, or aphthous patches. The secretion of gastric juice is diminished.

The submucous coat is infiltrated, and the whole stomach wall may be congested. The pyloric region is principally affected.

Symptoms.—In severe cases the onset is sudden, with severe epigastric pain passing through to the back, and accompanied by deep *diffuse* tenderness; there is vomiting of food mixed with abundant mucus or streaked with blood; free HCl is absent; there are slight fever and marked prostration. Constipation is obstinate, unless enteritis is also present. In mild cases abdominal discomfort, nausea, and eructation end in vomiting, which brings relief.

Treatment.—The first point is to secure absolute rest for the stomach. It should be washed out once or twice at the outset with a dilute alkaline solution (NaHO 1-1000). This removes irritants, and often stops vomiting. If it can be retained, a mercurial purge should be given. If retching continues give

morphia hypodermically, and for pain apply belladonna fomentations. For thirst small pieces of ice may be sucked. Feed for the first twenty-four to thirty-six hours by nutrient enemata (see p. 193), and return to gastric feeding very gradually and carefully.

Phlegmonous Gastritis is very rare and its causes are obscure. The inflammation goes on to suppuration, either diffuse or localised, and the resultant abscess may burst into the stomach or peritoneal cavity. The symptoms are those of intense gastritis, and in addition those of sepsis. The disease is usually fatal.

Toxic Gastritis arises from the ingestion of corrosive or irritant poisons. Intense gastritis is accompanied by symptoms of prostration and rapid collapse. In those who recover, chronic catarrh is apt to be set up.

Membranous Gastritis is secondary to a general infection. False membrane may be found in diphtheria, pneumonia, typhus, etc., pustules in small-pox, multiple abscesses in pyæmia. The condition is generally diagnosed *post mortem*.

CHRONIC GASTRITIS (CHRONIC CATARRH)

This condition may follow acute catarrh or more commonly prolonged gastric irritation due to irritating or indigestible food, or to the abuse of alcohol. It is constantly present in cancer and dilatation of the stomach, and it accompanies the passive congestion of the organ due to chronic heart disease or cirrhosis of the liver. Except in the earliest stages, the secretion of HCl is defective (*hypochlorhydria*). There is lessened motor activity, often leading to dilatation and bacterial fermentation. Degenerative changes, especially fatty, affect the glandular cells. Mucus is at first continuously secreted; later, if the mucosa is widely destroyed, the secretion may be lessened. Fibrosis occurs between the glands, and the contracting fibrous tissue narrows their necks, and this causes intra-glandular cysts. These can be seen chiefly in the pyloric region, forming little pinhead-like projections on the surface of the mucosa (*état mamellonné*). Small erosions or superficial ulcers are sometimes present.

In some instances the interstitial changes result in great contraction, causing complete atrophy of the mucous membrane and shrinkage of the whole organ (*cirrhosis* of the stomach).

Symptoms.—The course is protracted and afebrile, but marked by subacute exacerbations, in which slight fever may occur. Pain comes on at once or soon after food, with diffuse epigastric tenderness greater in certain spots (by some supposed to mark the site of erosions) than elsewhere. Nausea is frequent, vomiting less so, though there is always vomiting at some periods of the course. It may be related to food, or may occur in the morning. The vomit contains much mucus, little HCl or pepsin, and partly digested food; organic acids (lactic, butyric) are also to be found. Constipation and flatulence are present, the tongue is thickly furred, and there is some wasting.

Treatment.—Rest to the whole organism, and especially to the stomach. Begin by washing it out. Give at first only fluids in small quantities and often, and increase the diet very carefully. Correct constipation. Of drugs, dilute hydrochloric acid after food, combined, if there is much pain, with Acid. Hydrocyan. dil., and the tonic bitters are the most valuable. Carbonate of bismuth or Liq. Bismuthi may also be given for the relief of pain. It is only in the earlier stages that cure can be expected, and then only if faulty dietetic habits are permanently abandoned.

GASTRIC AND DUODENAL ULCER

Perforating or peptic ulcer is a lesion peculiar to the stomach, the first part of the duodenum, and the lower end of the œsophagus, *i.e.*, to parts exposed to the gastric juice. The ulcer is usually single, but there may be more than one.

Etiology.—Gastric ulcer is most commonly met with in young women, especially those who lead a sedentary life, who live in areas shut out from the sunlight, or who are the subjects of chlorosis or anæmia. The evidence of surgery tends to show that the disproportion between the sexes is less than has been hitherto supposed, and *duodenal* ulcer is more frequent in the male. In women the disease is one of early adult life, in men it becomes commoner towards middle age. Occupation has no very marked effect in predisposing to it. Extensive burns may be followed by gastric or duodenal ulcer. Chronic appendicitis is not uncommonly associated with it. Multiple ulcers are sometimes met with in septic conditions.

Site.—Solitary ulcers are most frequently situated on the

posterior wall, near to, or involving the lesser curvature, and in the neighbourhood of the pylorus. They rarely attack the greater curvature. Acute ulcers may also be found in the middle portion, or at the cardiac end of the stomach. The cardiac *orifice* is very rarely implicated. Ulcers are occasionally situated on the anterior wall, and then are very liable to perforate.

Characters.—The ulcer may be acute or chronic, the acute form being small and sharply punched out, the chronic larger, funnel-shaped (broader at the level of the mucosa than in the deeper coats), and with thickened edges. The shape is circular or oval. The edges are *not* undermined, and there is an absence of vascularity in the margins and base. The edge of the acute ulcer is soft, that of the chronic ulcer firm and thickened. The floor is formed by the submucosa, the muscular coat, or the serous coat ; the latter is not infrequently thickened, and adherent to the neighbouring organs. These adhesions are of a conservative nature, and explain the relative infrequency of perforation. As the ulcer deepens, its floor or base becomes narrower, so that the walls come to have a terraced appearance and an oblique direction. If perforation occurs, the aperture in the serous coat is of small size, but presents the same clean-cut, punched-out appearance that distinguishes the margins. Perforation is frequent in acute ulcer, but may occur in either form. In the healing of the ulcer, if the mucosa be alone involved, the granulation tissue develops from the edges and the floor, and the newly-formed tissue gradually contracts and unites the margins, leaving a smooth scar. In large ulcers which have become deep, and involved the muscular coat, the cicatricial contraction may cause serious changes, the most important of which is narrowing of the pyloric orifice and *dilatation of the stomach*. *Hour-glass contraction* of the organ may also occur.

Another result of the ulcerative process is *perforation* of the gastric walls, and consequent fatal peritonitis. On the other hand, it is not uncommon for adhesions to form between the walls of the stomach and neighbouring organs, and the ulcer, after perforating the gastric walls, burrows into the pancreas, spleen, or liver. Large vessels may be eaten into in a similar manner, and bring about a fatal issue from *hæmorrhage*. Even quite small erosions may sometimes prove fatal in this manner. Other complications through the ulcerating process are—

1. Perforation into the pleura.
2. Gastro-duodenal fistula.
3. Perforation into the lesser peritoneum, giving rise to subphrenic abscess.

An old ulcer of the stomach may be the starting point of a gastric carcinoma. The frequency of this occurrence is very variously stated.

Pathology.—The ulcer is due to two immediate factors—

1. A devitalisation of certain areas of the gastric mucous membrane.
2. Erosion of these areas through the digestive action of the gastric juice.

It is not yet known how the devitalisation of the mucous membrane is brought about, though its proximate cause is generally considered to be a local interference with the blood-supply. This is variously attributed to spasm of the arteries, to embolism, and to thrombosis. The theory of thrombosis is due to Virchow, but it does not explain all the cases, and, as Osler points out, the gastric vessels are not end arteries. Ulcer is very common in chlorosis, and thrombosis in other parts is not common in that disease. Where ulcer is connected with septic states, embolism is no doubt the cause. In other cases Sidney Martin suggests bacterial invasion. If the gastric activity is lessened, bacteria may persist, enter the pyloric glands (where HCl is not secreted), and grow there and in the submucosa. Bolton leads evidence to show that the initial lesion in acute ulcer may be a local necrosis of the mucosa, local hæmorrhage, or local inflammation of the lymphatic follicles, these conditions being due to bacterial infection, irritants introduced by the mouth (as in toxic gastritis), venous congestion, and endogenous poisons of metabolic origin (*gastrotoxins*). Most acute ulcers tend to rapid healing; others extend in depth or superficially, or in both directions. The slower the extension the greater is the thickening; and thus arise chronic ulcers, always, he thinks, out of a previous acute condition. Pyorrhœa alveolaris and abscesses at the roots of the teeth must be remembered as sources of bacterial infection. The association with chronic appendicitis is similarly explicable.

Symptoms.—The symptoms of gastric ulcer are in many

cases very characteristic, but in other instances they may be extremely ill-defined. Taking a typical case, we may expect—

1. Pain and tenderness over the epigastric region. The pain is severe and shoots through to the back (xiphi-vertebral), and is rendered worse by eating, or by firm pressure. Mackenzie states that the position of the pain varies with that of the ulcer. When the ulcer is near the cardiac end, the pain is high up in the epigastrium. When in the middle of the stomach, the pain is in mid-epigastrium, and when at the pylorus, the pain is low down in the epigastric area. This pain must be distinguished from *cutaneous* or *muscular hyperalgesia*, which sometimes accompanies it and, like the pain, is *very localised*. Both are generally situated in the middle line, but the hyperalgesia may extend further to the left. The upper belly of the left rectus muscle is frequently contracted. When tenderness is severe and persistent it may indicate a localised acute peritonitis around the ulcer.

2. Vomiting after meals ; this may occur soon after food has been swallowed, but more frequently after an hour or longer, the interval being longest (two or three hours) in cases of ulcer at the pylorus. It usually gives temporary relief.

3. Hæmatemesis (vomiting of blood) may be very copious, and occurs in probably more than half the cases. It may be directly fatal, or comparatively slight. Melæna (passage of blood by the bowel) is present in about 10 per cent. of cases. The quantity of blood may be so small that it is recognisable only by chemical tests (*occult* bleeding).

4. The appetite remains good, but the patient is afraid to eat, lest pain is set up.

5. The tongue is clean, and may be pale and flabby. There is little wasting.

6. There is generally excess of free HCl in the stomach contents (hyperchlorhydria), most notable in ulcers situated near the pylorus. Increase of the organic acids is rare, but may occur in old-standing cases with dilatation or hour-glass constriction.

7. Upon X-ray examination after an opaque meal, a small niche or diverticulum may often be seen upon the edge of the stomach near the lesser curvature. This represents the protrusion of the stomach contents into the cavity of the ulcer, and corresponds to the position of greatest tenderness.

These symptoms in combination with the history, anæmia, and the absence of a tumour, point strongly to the presence of an ulcer. The symptoms, however, are not always so typical. Often, indeed, they are very slight, and, particularly in acute ulcers, a copious or even fatal hæmorrhage, or the occurrence of perforation, may be the first indication of the condition. In doubtful cases examination by the X-rays after a bismuth meal may aid the diagnosis, and the use of the tests for occult blood (*vide infra*) is of great service.

Duodenal ulcer is much more frequent in men than in women. The peptic ulcer occurs in the first part of the duodenum, above the point at which the acid chyme is neutralised by the pancreatic juice, and it is stated that its preponderance in the male is accounted for by the comparative fixity of the male duodenum. This predisposes to kinking at the first duodenal angle, and hinders the regurgitation of bile or pancreatic juice by which the acid chyme might be diluted. Acute ulcers may possibly be in the first instance follicular, and due to the breaking down of inflamed lymph follicles. Whatever the primary cause, the ulcer tends to become chronic through spasm of the muscular coats of the viscus.

A duodenal ulcer is not uncommonly "silent," or attended only by slight dyspeptic disturbances; it may be even until perforation occurs. In most cases it causes distinctive **symptoms**. These are—

1. "Hunger pain," *i.e.*, pain coming on from two to four hours after food, and often at night, and relieved by taking a meal. It is due to the escape of the acid gastric juice into the duodenum, and is relieved when the pylorus is closed. It is situated in the right hypochondrium.

2. Tenderness in the right hypochondrium, with rigidity of the right rectus.

3. Repeated attacks of melæna, *sometimes accompanied, but more usually unaccompanied by hæmatemesis*. Blood coming from a point high up in the small intestine is altered in its passage to the anus, being mixed with the fæces. The stools are black and tarry.

4. X-ray examination shows that the stomach is *hypertonic*, lying transversely and with its greater curvature well above the

umbilicus, and that it empties itself more rapidly than usual. The outline of the duodenal cap may be irregular.

5. Free HCl is present in excessive quantity.

Duodenal ulcer shows no tendency to become malignant.

The pain of duodenal ulcer may be confused with that of *gall-stones*, but the latter is not relieved by food, nor does it come on after every meal.

When the amount of hæmorrhage in gastric or duodenal ulcer is small, and not to be recognised by the appearance of the vomited matter or fæces, the *tests for occult blood* must be used. A portion of the suspected matter is treated with glacial acetic acid, and the blood pigment is then extracted by ether. The addition of a drop or two of tincture of guaiacum and 2 cc. of ozonic ether causes the appearance of a bright blue colour. The benzidine test, which is also used, is much too delicate, revealing one part of blood in 800,000. Before any test is employed, the patient must have abstained from any blood-containing or chlorophyll-containing food, such as meat or green vegetables, for at least forty-eight hours.

PERFORATION is indicated by the *sudden* occurrence after a meal, or severe exertion, or during vomiting, of intense pain in the upper part of the abdomen, with rigidity of its walls, faintness, rapid wiry pulse, pinched and anxious face. The pain may radiate into the back and shoulders. The abdomen is much distended, and the hepatic and splenic dullness are often absent. Later there may be fluid in the flanks.

SUBPHRENIC ABSCESS forms between the diaphragm and the liver, stomach, and spleen. After the initial symptoms of perforation, the physical signs are displacement of the cardiac apex, slight bulging of the affected side, cessation of abdominal breathing, and displacement downwards of hepatic dullness. Pulmonary complications are common.

Treatment.—The indications for treatment are—1. rest ; 2. appropriate diet ; 3. improvement of the condition of the blood.

(1) Absolute rest in bed must be insisted on for at least a month.

(2) Diet must at first be very restricted. If there has been a hæmorrhage within forty-eight hours, treatment must be begun

by rectal feeding, which should be kept up for from three to ten days, according to circumstances. Proteids are not absorbed from the rectum in the form either of albumin or peptone, but glucose is readily absorbed, and so to some extent is nitrogen in the form of amino-acids. An appropriate enema consists of milk pancreatised for twenty-four hours, to separate the amino-acids, and 5 per cent. of pure dextrose. This may be given to the extent of ten to fifteen ounces four times daily, the rectum being washed out once daily with normal saline. In the absence of hæmorrhage, two ounces of milk and lime-water may be given orally every hour, and the quantity may be increased to four ounces by the end of the first week. If there is no pain, the diet may then be very gradually added to, the intervals between the meals being lengthened as they are increased in quantity. When milk does not agree, egg albumin may be substituted. Normal diet must not be resumed for several months. Lenhartz's dietary, which he gives, it is claimed with safety, even after a hæmorrhage, is composed of eggs beaten up with milk and sugar. One egg with eight ounces of milk is given on the first day, and one egg and four ounces of milk are added daily until the patient takes six eggs and two pints of milk in the twenty-four hours. At the end of the first week an ounce of raw minced meat is added, and thereafter the diet is carefully extended, the number of eggs being gradually and proportionately reduced. More recently Sippey has introduced a severer method of treatment which, as modified by Hurst, is as follows:—Rectal feeding is practised for the first four or five days. The day begins with a soap and water enema, followed by a suppository of Ext. Belladonnæ. When mouth-feeding is begun, \bar{z} v of a mixture of equal parts of milk and cream, to which gr. x of Sodii Cit. and \bar{z} ii of Emuls. Magnes. have been added, are given every hour from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Before alternate feeds \bar{z} ss of olive oil is given, and before the remaining feeds, \bar{q} v of Tr. Belladonnæ. The oil is nutritive and unirritating, and like the belladonna inhibits gastric secretion. Half an hour after each feed, and continuing hourly till 10 p.m., gr. x Calcii Carb. and gr. xxx Bismuthi Carb. are given in water. At 6 a.m. \bar{z} ss Bismuthi Carb. is given, shaken up in \bar{z} v of water, to coat and protect the ulcer. The stomach is evacuated at 1 p.m., when gr. $\frac{1}{30}$ of Atrop. Sulph. is given hypodermically, to prevent acid secretion during the night. This treatment is continued till pain, tenderness, and occult blood have been

absent for three weeks. The results are good, *quâ* healing, but the treatment is a strain on both patient and attendants.

(3) Medicinal treatment. A combination of iron and sulphate of magnesia or Carlsbad salts will meet the anæmia and constipation. The pain may be relieved by a mixture of morphia, bismuth, and dilute hydrocyanic acid, or by the following powder :—Bismuthi Carb., Sodii Bicarb., aa gr. x (grm. 0·6), Pulv. Opii. gr. $\frac{1}{4}$ (grm. 0·016). Larger doses of bismuth are needed if vomiting is prominent. The importance of diminishing or neutralising the acidity of the gastric contents is recognised in all these forms of treatment. In active hæmorrhage, absolute rest, morphia and ergotin hypodermically, ice to suck, and rectal feeding are the measures to be taken. Adrenalin, ℥xx-xxx (cc. 1·2-1·8), calcium chloride or lactate by the mouth or rectum, or horse serum (10 cc.) may be given in severe cases. Subcutaneous infusion of saline solution may be required.

Surgical measures are called for in the event of perforation, subphrenic abscess, repeated or very severe hæmorrhage, in cases attended with pyloric stenosis and in duodenal ulcer. In some cases gastro-enterostomy may suffice, in others pylorotomy or partial gastrectomy may be required. Operation is also justified in old-standing cases of gastric ulcer, which have not yielded to medical treatment.

CANCER OF THE STOMACH

Primary cancer of the stomach is by no means a rare condition. The principal varieties are—

1. Adenocarcinoma, originating from the glandular epithelium, and hence cylinder-celled or spheroidal-celled. There are two forms: (*a*) medullary, (*b*) scirrhus. The former is highly cellular, in the latter the stroma predominates. Scirrhus is the common pyloric growth.
2. Colloid cancer, in which the cells have undergone a mucinoid transformation. The growth is of the infiltrating type.
3. Squamous-celled epithelioma at the cardiac orifice is due to extension of an œsophageal cancer.

Etiology.—The majority of cases occur between the ages of

forty and sixty years. The disease is somewhat more frequent in males than females. In a certain proportion of cases of simple ulcer, cancer develops subsequently, but the percentage is apt to be overstated. There is no definite relationship to other diseases of the stomach.

Morbid Anatomy.—The pylorus is much most frequently affected, then the lesser curvature, and after these, the cardia and the greater curvature. The disease begins in the deeper layers of the mucosa, and extends in the submucous and afterwards in the muscular coat, which is often thickened. The serous coat becomes implicated, and cancerous nodules in the course of the lymphatics may be seen externally. In many instances the disease spreads far beyond its point of origin, infiltrating the coats in a horizontal direction. This is especially true of colloid cancer and of scirrhus, in the latter of which contraction of the stomach is not uncommon, while in colloid cancer almost the whole organ may be infiltrated. In other cases growth is more prominently vertical, the tumour bulging into the lumen of the stomach, and ulceration is then frequent, as in the medullary or encephaloid type of adenocarcinoma. The contraction of a scirrhus is apt to cause stenosis of the pyloric orifice, leading to dilatation of the organ. At the cardiac end it may prevent the entrance of food, and produce dilatation of the œsophagus. Ulceration frequently leads to erosion of vessels, and hence to hæmorrhage. Sometimes it causes perforation, followed by subphrenic abscess, but more commonly adhesions to the liver, pancreas, or intestine take place, and the floor of the ulcer may be formed by these parts. Perforation may occur into the bowel, the pleura, or the pericardium. Metastases are frequent, and involve especially the liver, lymphatic glands, and peritoneum.

Symptoms.—These are for a time most insidious, but sooner or later the persistent vomiting, hæmatemesis, constant pain, emaciation, anæmia, and cachexia, with the presence of a local tumour, declare the true condition. The symptoms are considered in detail in the diagnostic table appended. Remember that *persistent* gastric symptoms, appearing for the first time in a patient over the age of forty, who has previously digested everything easily, are in themselves presumptive evidence of cancer.

Free HCl is present in the gastric contents in diminished amount, or may be altogether absent in the later stages. It must, however, be remembered that in the early stages of cancer following upon ulcer free HCl may be present in excess. Its absence is by no means characteristic of cancer, as a similar condition may exist, for example, in gastric catarrh, achylia gastrica, or pernicious anæmia; but in any case where the symptoms suggest cancer, the presence of free HCl in normal quantity speaks for the non-malignancy of the affection. Lactic acid is often persistently present, even after a test meal from which no lactic acid could be derived. A long non-motile bacillus—the Oppler-Boas bacillus—is also often found.

A further test—the *Wolff-Junghans* test—is of considerable value, and depends upon the albuminous character of the cancer juice. Successive dilutions (1-10, 1-20, 1-40, 1-100, 1-200, 1-400) of the gastric juice are made, and placed in a series of test tubes. The reagent consists of phosphotungstic acid, 0.3, hydrochloric acid, 1.0, alcohol (96 per cent.), 20, and water to 200 parts. This is floated on to the surface of the diluted juice, and when albumin is present a white ring forms at the line of contact. The test is positive in cancer even up to the last dilution. Blood must be absent from the suspected gastric juice, and the tests for *occult blood* must first be carried out.

On *physical examination*, a tumour may be discovered anywhere within an area formed by joining the ensiform cartilage with the umbilicus, and the umbilicus with the ninth costal cartilage. It is nodular and painful on handling; it is generally mobile, either with respiration or on palpation, and may receive an impulse from the abdominal aorta. Later, it may become fixed by adhesions. In about 20 per cent. of cases no tumour is recognisable from first to last.

Physical examination also reveals the dilated condition of the stomach; but when the pylorus is not affected, there may be no dilatation, and when the cardiac orifice suffers, the stomach may be atrophied. An X-ray examination after a bismuth meal is of great value. Enlargement of the cervical or inguinal glands may help the diagnosis, and in the late stages there may be an enlarged and tender liver, or signs of chronic peritonitis.

Cancer of the stomach generally proves fatal in from six months to two years.

Diagnosis.—**CANCER**

1. Is less common under than over forty years of age.
2. Epigastric pain is more or less continuous, and not much relieved by vomiting.
3. Anorexia is marked, *and early*.
4. Vomiting is not frequent, but is copious; and in the vomited matter the Oppler-Boas bacillus may be found. Cancerous fragments are rare. Free HCl is diminished or absent, and lactic acid is often present. The Wolff-Junghans test is positive.
5. Hæmorrhage is seldom copious, but may be frequent ("coffee-ground" vomiting); most common in the later stages. "Occult blood" is often present.
6. Loss of flesh; the development of cachexia is rapid.
7. Epigastric tumour is often easily detected.

ULCER OF STOMACH

1. Usually in young adults, especially women.
2. The pain is rendered worse by food, and vomiting gives much relief. The pain is also more localised and xiphi-vertebral in character.
3. Appetite is good, but the patient is afraid to eat.
4. Vomiting is frequent, and the vomited matter contains free HCl often in excess.
5. Hæmorrhage is not so frequent, but is copious at times. May be the first symptom.
6. When the gastric symptoms are severe and prolonged, a cachectic appearance may develop, but never to the same extent as in cancer.
7. No epigastric tumour, though there may be some rigidity of the rectus.

The appearance and the general symptoms may suggest *pernicious anæmia* rather than cancer. In doubtful cases the blood should be examined.

The fact that a patient is under forty must not be allowed to exclude the diagnosis of cancer, where other circumstances point to it.

Treatment.—Must be mainly palliative. Easily digestible food and hypodermic injections of morphia help to make the patient's life tolerable. Bacterial fermentation should be prevented by washing out the stomach once daily with a solution of bicarbonate of soda, ʒiij to the pint (grm. 20 to the litre), and the administration of the anti-fermentatives, such as hyposulphite of soda, creosote, or glycerin of carbolic acid. Surgical procedures offer some chance of prolonging life, but to

be of any use the radical operation (pylorectomy) must be performed early. In the later stages, if there is stricture of the pylorus, a gastro-enterostomy often affords much temporary relief, but though the direct mortality from the operation has been reduced, it is a formidable drain on the strength of an exhausted patient. If it is to be done, it should not be left too late.

HÆMATEMESIS

Gastrorrhagia is the name given to hæmorrhage into the stomach; *hæmatemesis*, which may be an important symptom in many diseases, is vomiting of blood.

The source of the hæmorrhage may be either congested and distended venules or capillaries in the gastric mucous membrane, or the bursting of a large vessel; for example, the splenic artery in gastric ulcer.

Causes.—The more common are—

1. Erosion of vessels by gastric ulcer or cancer; and occasionally in chronic gastritis.

2. Congestion of the portal circulation from any cause, but especially cirrhosis of the liver; less often hepatic tumours pressing on the portal vein, or extreme backward pressure from cardiac disease.

3. The action of irritant poisons.

4. Toxic alterations in the blood and blood-vessels, leading to oozing of blood, as seen in malignant fevers, purpura, acute yellow atrophy of the liver, etc.

5. Rarely, severe hæmorrhage occurs in young girls without visible lesion of the mucosa (*gastrastaxis*); but even in these cases it is possible that a minute acute ulcer has been overlooked.

6. Blood that has been previously swallowed may be afterwards vomited (epistaxis, pulmonary hæmorrhage, etc.).

Symptoms of course depend on the extent of the hæmorrhage; when it is severe the symptoms of collapse are marked. The attack is usually sudden, and accompanied by a feeling of intense nausea and of weight in the stomach. In ulcer, it

frequently follows a meal or sudden exertion. After the collapse has passed off, a stage of reaction occurs.

Diagnosis.—When the hæmorrhage is not profuse it is sometimes difficult to distinguish this condition from bleeding from the lungs.

A table showing the chief differences is appended :—

| HÆMOPTYSIS | HÆMATEMESIS |
|---|--|
| 1. Previous history of pulmonary or cardiac disease. | 1. Previous history of gastric disturbance. |
| 2. The blood is coughed up. | 2. The blood is vomited. |
| 3. The blood is frothy, bright red, and alkaline in reaction. | 3. The blood is clotted, not frothy, and acid in reaction. It may be dark. |
| 4. The blood may be mixed with sputum. | 4. The blood may be mixed with food. |
| 5. Dyspnœa and pains in the chest. | 5. Nausea, and weight in the epigastrium. |
| 6. Is not usually succeeded by melæna. | 6. Often followed by melæna. |

Whilst the above differences are of much value, they are not always conclusive. For instance, in cases of hæmoptysis the blood is occasionally *not* frothy, or some of the pulmonary blood may be swallowed and *vomited afterwards*. Again, the source of a sudden severe hæmorrhage may be very obscure, and ascertainable only by a thorough examination such as it is not desirable to make in a moment of urgency.

Treatment.—The first thing to be decided if possible is the source of the bleeding; but in severe hæmorrhage it is best at first to avoid excessive manipulation. Absolute quiet, mentally and bodily, must be obtained, and no treatment is more efficacious than a full hypodermic injection of morphia, combined with a little ice to suck. Ergotin may also be used hypodermically, or if necessary the other remedies referred to under Gastric Ulcer (p. 194). Small doses of citrated milk may be given after the first twelve hours, but if bleeding recurs, feeding must be done by rectum. Nothing more than milk should be given till melæna has disappeared. If collapse is persistent, rectal or subcutaneous salines may be given, or transfusion of blood may be performed. In very severe and repeated hæmorrhages operation with ligature of the bleeding vessel may save life.

DILATATION OF THE STOMACH

Acute dilatation of the stomach is fortunately uncommon. It may occur after abdominal operations or general anæsthesia, more seldom in the course of severe wasting diseases or specific infections, and sometimes after overloading the stomach, especially by vegetables. The gastric tonus is suddenly and completely lost. The onset is sudden; the symptoms are abdominal distension, repeated vomiting of large quantities of dark but not fæcal fluid, and extreme collapse. Three-fourths of the cases die. *Post mortem* the enormous dilatation is often found to extend into the duodenum. *Treatment* consists in repeated emptying of the stomach by the tube, placing the patient in the prone or knee-elbow position, raising the foot of the bed, and the administration of saline solution by rectum or subcutaneously.

Chronic dilatation may be non-obstructive or obstructive. Non-obstructive dilatation is due to atony of the muscular coat, whether this be the result of repeated over-distension by excessive meals, of constitutional diseases such as anæmia and the fevers, or of defective innervation. It is a frequent occurrence in chronic gastric catarrh.

Obstructive dilatation is caused by (1) stenosis of the pylorus (cancer, cicatrising ulcer); (2) pressure on the duodenum, or contraction after duodenal ulcer; (3) constriction of the pylorus by adhesions in chronic peritonitis.

In great dilatation there is bacterial fermentation, owing to delay of food in the stomach. In the lesser degrees there may be hyperchlorhydria, but more frequently there is hypochlorhydria, as in gastric catarrh. If the obstruction lie beyond the pylorus there is hyperchlorhydria, and bile is present in the vomited matters.

Symptoms occur at irregular intervals; it may be several hours after food, or at the end of the day, or several days may elapse between the attacks. There is diffuse burning epigastric pain (*pyrosis*), relieved by vomiting, which patients often excite. Flatulence and constipation are marked. Wasting is present. Both respiration and circulation may be affected. Where dilatation is marked, the outline of the greater curvature, and, if the stomach is displaced (*gastroptosis*), of the lesser also, may

be visible. By forcibly stroking the epigastrium, peristaltic movements of the stomach may be set up. On shaking the patient's body from side to side, or on jerky palpation by the finger-tips, a splashing sound (*succussion*) can often be heard, due to the mixture of gas and fluid in the stomach. It is not of diagnostic value unless heard after the time at which food should have normally passed into the intestine (five to six hours after the last food or drink), or below the normal level of the greater curvature. To determine the size of the stomach, it may be artificially distended by fluid or by gas. Air may be pumped in, or 30 grs. (gram. 2.0) of tartaric acid may be given in half a tumbler of water, followed by 30 grs. of bicarbonate of soda in the same quantity of water. CO_2 is thus developed in the stomach. The greater curvature can then be percussed out, giving a dull note if fluid has been used, if gas a tympanitic note. Auscultatory percussion is also employed, but the results are unreliable.

The vomited matters are characteristic. The quantity is larger than the normal content of the stomach, and the taste is excessively sour (in the early stages sometimes from hyperchlorhydria, later from the defect of HCl and excess of organic acids). Fragments of partly digested food are found, and under the microscope the *Bacillus acidi lactici*, *Bacillus butyricus*, *Sarcina ventriculi*, and yeast-cells.

Examination by the X-rays after a bismuth meal reveals the size of the organ, the possible presence of gastropnoia, and the delay in the passage of food into the bowel.

Prognosis is that of the causative disease, though appropriate treatment always relieves symptoms.

Treatment.—Careful regulation of the diet, avoiding carbohydrates where there is much bacterial fermentation. Meals should be small and dry. In non-obstructive cases, daily lavage of the stomach with anti-fermentative or alkaline solutions (boric acid, permanganate of potash, bicarbonate of soda) continued till the returning fluid is clear, then administration of antifermentatives, such as creosote or hyposulphite of soda. Massage and douching of the abdomen may be of value.

In obstructive cases washing out is only palliative. Gastroenterostomy or pylorotomy should be done as soon as the general health permits.

HYPERTROPHIC STENOSIS OF THE PYLORUS

This condition, which may occur in adults, is more frequent as a congenital affection. Marked hypertrophy is associated with spastic contraction of the pyloric muscular fibres.

The symptoms are characteristic. A few days after birth the child begins to vomit whatever food is swallowed, constipation is obstinate, and emaciation is rapid and extreme. The peristaltic movements of the stomach are visible, and a tumour is palpable in the pyloric area.

Under very careful dieting with lavage of the stomach many cases recover; in others operation is necessary. If it is to be done, it should not be delayed till emaciation is advanced.

NERVOUS DYSPEPSIA

With the increase of accuracy in gastric diagnosis due to modern methods of examination, the term dyspepsia has acquired a more limited significance. Many cases, formerly grouped as acid or atonic dyspepsia, are now recognised as early stages of gastric ulcer or catarrh, as mild cases of acute gastritis, or as symptomatic of general affections such as anæmia or renal disease. The most definite group of cases, that of nervous dyspepsia, comprises a host of neuroses of the stomach, of which only the most important can here be discussed.

The subjects of these functional disorders not infrequently manifest their nervous tendency in other ways, being often of nervous heredity, or presenting symptoms of neurasthenia or other nervous disease. In many instances, however, the gastric affection is much the more prominent element.

Besides the underlying nervous predisposition, causes contributory to the development of one or other of these forms of dyspepsia are the following :—

Intemperance in eating or drinking; imperfect mastication, often due to bad teeth; excessive use of tea, coffee, or tobacco; and mental overwork or worry.

Neuroses of the stomach are of three classes—motor, sensory, and secretory. In each class the error may be one either of excess or defect. Thus among *motor neuroses* there are on the one hand (1) *peristaltic unrest*, with noisy gurgling sounds (*borborygmi*) audible at a distance and distressing to the patient; (2) nervous *eructation* or *vomiting*, unattended by nausea and

most frequent in women; (3) painful *spasm* of the cardia; and on the other hand *atony*, which as we have seen (p. 200) is occasionally due to defective innervation, and leads to moderate dilatation.

Gastralgia or *gastrodynia* is the most important of the *sensory neuroses*. It occurs chiefly in neurasthenic women, and is usually associated with anæmia and constipation; but it may be met with in the male. It is marked by severe attacks of epigastric pain, which may radiate towards the back, and is often periodic. The pain arises independently of meals, and is usually relieved by food and by pressure. Vomiting is exceptional. The diagnosis should only be made after careful exclusion of organic disease of the stomach, locomotor ataxia, and gall-stones.

An example of sensory defect is to be found in the rare condition of *anorexia nervosa*, an occasional manifestation of hysteria, in which extreme emaciation accompanies annihilation of the sense of appetite.

Secretory neuroses are often associated with sensory or motor disturbances, but may occur alone, in which case symptoms may be long delayed. Error of excess is usually described as manifested in two forms, hyperacidity (*hyperchlorhydria*) and excessive secretion, but it is uncertain whether a true hyperchlorhydria, *i.e.*, a percentage of active HCl higher than that of normal undiluted gastric juice, ever actually occurs, and whether the symptoms attributed to it are not due entirely to hypersecretion. In the most usual form (digestive hypersecretion) the symptoms commence an hour or two after meals, and are most marked after the chief meal of the day. There is a sense of weight and burning in the epigastrium, often with eructations of sour fluid. Vomiting occurs occasionally, and is followed by relief of pain. The vomited material is highly acid. Appetite is at first normal, and there is often a "sinking feeling" before meals. Such cases are common in young and nervous women, but may be found at all ages and in all classes. The most extreme degrees of hypersecretion are met with in cases of pyloric and duodenal ulcer.

Apart from digestive hypersecretion, excessive secretion may be periodic or continuous. Periodic attacks (*gastroxyntesis*) occur at night when the stomach is empty. They are attended by severe spasmodic pain, and vomiting of large quantities of

very acid gastric juice, quite unmixed with food. The condition is rare. Continuous over-secretion leads to an irritative spasm of the pylorus and hence to dilatation.

Error of defect may take the form of subacidity or absence of secretion. Subacidity (*hypochlorhydria*) is met with, apart from organic or general disease, in those who follow sedentary mental occupations, especially towards middle age, in women about the menopause, in neurasthenia, and in hysteria. It leads to a sense of fullness and oppression after meals, lasting sometimes all day long, with flatulence, headache, drowsiness, and constipation. Vomiting is not a symptom. The tongue is pale, flabby, broad, and indented by the teeth. The condition is often associated with motor defect, and may then end in dilatation.

Absence of secretion (*achylia gastrica*) occurs in catarrh of the stomach when the mucosa is entirely atrophied, but also as a neurosis. Food withdrawn in the usual manner after a test meal is found to be unaltered, active HCl is absent, and the enzymes are deficient. Symptoms may be absent for years, intestinal replacing gastric digestion, but ultimately dyspeptic symptoms make their appearance.

Treatment.—Success in treatment is seldom to be looked for if the gastric symptoms alone are considered. Any constitutional condition must be dealt with, anæmia, for example, by iron or arsenic. Worry and mental exhaustion are best met by change of air and scene, and in some neurasthenic cases the Weir-Mitchell treatment (complete isolation, absolute rest in bed, and massage) is of great benefit. An exclusively milk diet is not desirable in the majority of instances; indeed in hyperchlorhydria, Osler recommends a strictly meat diet, the meat being either raw or very lightly cooked. In hypochlorhydria a light, easily-digested, mixed diet is the best, and in hyperæsthesia rectal feeding is sometimes required. In gastric atony the meals should be small and frequent, and fluids should also be limited. Lavage of the stomach is useful in excessive secretion and in atony accompanied by dilatation.

One of the most important points in medicinal treatment is to avoid indiscriminate drugging. Such patients are too apt to fly from one remedy to another, and to add a drug-dyspepsia to the original ailment. Strychnine or nux vomica is in most cases useful to counter the nervous predisposition, but other

drugs must be used to meet special indications. Thus the pain of hyperchlorhydria is best treated by large doses of alkalies given at the height of digestion, one or two hours after food ; in subacidity, on the other hand, small doses of alkalies before meals may promote secretion, or hydrochloric acid after food may be given to replace the defect. In excessive secretion, alkalies should be given during the attack of pain, *i.e.*, when the stomach is empty. The pain of gastralgia may sometimes be relieved by bromides ; severer cases require opium, best given in powder along with bismuth, and if possible without the patient's knowledge. Morphia should be used only as a last resort, and the syringe should never be entrusted to the patient. The accompanying constipation always requires attention (*see* p. 220).

Stimulants and narcotics should as a rule be entirely forbidden, and the use of tobacco either cut off or restricted to a minimum. The habitual use even of strong coffee is undesirable.

IV. THE INTESTINES

ENTERITIS

The mucous membrane of the intestines is inflamed in very many diseases, especially in the infectious diseases, such as cholera, typhoid fever, dysentery, etc., in portal obstruction and chronic cardiac disease, and as a terminal event in profound anæmias, cancer, and Bright's disease. But for clinical purposes, the term enteritis is much more strictly limited, and means an inflammation of the alimentary tract due to irritation by indigestible food, or a general catarrhal condition following exposure to cold, etc.

As in all other inflammations of mucous membranes, we may have the following varieties :—

1. The ordinary, or catarrhal inflammation.
2. The croupous or fibrinous form, when the inflammatory exudation is unusually rich in fibrin, and tends to coagulate.
3. The phlegmonous or gangrenous, and
4. The ulcerative type.

It should be noted that in some forms of enteritis the actual

inflammatory changes are very slight, and the symptoms are mainly due to bacterial intoxication.

CATARRHAL ENTERITIS

Catarrh of the intestine is most frequent in the hot summer months, probably because of the ingestion of large quantities of unripe or decomposed fruit, contaminated milk, etc. It should be remembered that food-stuffs are at this time open to fly-borne infection, and flies may thus be regarded as an indirect cause of enteritis. It sometimes follows a sudden fall of temperature. Other causes are the prolonged administration of mercury or arsenic, too vigorous purgation, and excess in strong alcoholic drinks.

Morbid Anatomy.—In acute enteritis the most marked changes are observable *in the ileum* as hyperæmia of the valvulæ conniventes and a swollen condition of the solitary glands, which project like small shot, and sometimes present abraded or slightly ulcerated surfaces (follicular ulcers).

In chronic catarrh the most marked changes are to be seen in the *large gut*. The mucous membrane is much thickened, often pigmented, and shows extensive small follicular ulcers, which after healing up, give a peculiar worm-eaten character to the gut on holding it up to the light. The surface is coated with viscid mucus. The superficial veins are distended, piles are often prominent in the rectum, and polypoid outgrowths may spring from the mucous surface.

Symptoms of Acute Enteritis.—The chief symptoms are—

1. Diarrhœa.
2. Abdominal pain, especially around the umbilicus.
3. Nausea, anorexia, and sometimes vomiting, *without faecal odour*.
4. In severe cases, pyrexia.

In a typical case of enteritis, watery diarrhœa is the chief symptom, and owing to decomposition within the intestines, the stools are very offensive. They consist principally of undigested food, epithelial debris, triple phosphates, biliary pigments, and mucus. Various organisms, such as the *Proteus*

vulgaris, the *Bacillus enteritidis*, and the *Bacillus coli*, may also be found. The fæces may appear to contain an excessive amount of bile through the haste with which the duodenal contents are hurried on; or on the other hand, the catarrhal secretions may block up the common bile duct and prevent the bile from entering the bowels, in which case the fæces will be pale and clay-like, and a subsequent jaundice may develop. When undigested food is present, the small intestine is the seat of the catarrh (*lienteric* diarrhœa); if there is much mucus, the colon.

Pain of a colicky type, worst just before the passage of a motion, is usually present. There is no abdominal tenderness, nor is there visible peristalsis.

The general symptoms are marked. The face is pinched, the tongue dry and furred. Fever may be absent, and is seldom high, but the pulse is disproportionately rapid. Thirst and oliguria are present, and in severe attacks, vomiting. In fatal cases collapse, due to toxæmia, and ending in coma, appears, often without warning. But in the great majority of cases recovery takes place in a few days, while some pass into the chronic stage.

In *chronic* enteritis diarrhœa, or diarrhœa alternating with constipation, is the main symptom. Colicky pains may be present or absent. The stools vary in character with the seat of the lesion. Wasting is prominent, and the complexion is muddy and pallid.

Treatment.—The patient must be confined to bed, and put upon a milk diet. If the attack is due to improper food, the bowels should be cleared by castor-oil and laudanum, or by a mercurial purge. This is unnecessary where there has already been much diarrhœa. Pain may be relieved by warmth to the abdomen or by turpentine stupes; morphia is sometimes necessary. Bismuth in large doses, or chlorodyne may be used to check the diarrhœa; but it tends to abate spontaneously when the irritant has been evacuated. Starch and laudanum enemata are also useful. In chronic cases the stools should be carefully examined. Bismuth, or the lead and opium pill should be used to check the diarrhœa. Salol is also valuable as an intestinal antiseptic. In protracted cases the colon may be douched out with astringent enemata.

Catarrhal Enteritis in Children is due almost entirely to improper feeding, and is rarely met with in breast-fed infants.

Its onset is favoured by warm weather, and by debility due to rickets or to teething, and sometimes "chill" may determine an attack. It is most frequent in the first two years of life. Organisms of various kinds, including *B. coli*, *B. proteus*, and the pyogenic cocci, are found abundantly in the stools, and in a large proportion of cases organisms allied to the bacillus of Shiga have been discovered.

The intestinal changes are similar to those of enteritis in the adult. The mesenteric glands may be enlarged. In chronic cases there may be extensive ulceration of the colon.

Symptoms.—In *mild cases* diarrhœa is the chief symptom. The stools are greenish and very offensive, and resemble chopped spinach. They may contain undigested casein. Abdominal pain causes restlessness and irritability. Fever is slight, and vomiting only occasional. In the *severer forms* (gastro-enteritis), of which milk contaminated by flies is the most frequent cause, the symptoms suggest a bacterial intoxication. Vomiting and diarrhœa are urgent, the stools being more fluid, but still greenish and offensive. The abdomen may be distended or hollow, and is tender. There is sharp fever, reaching 104°-105° F. Wasting is rapid, and collapse and coma may cause death in a few days, or after a longer interval broncho-pneumonia may end the scene. Most cases recover; some become chronic. The disease may be *chronic* from the first, the stools being large, pale, pasty, and offensive, and the abdomen distended. The child gradually wastes, and death is due to asthenia.

Treatment.—Where the disease occurs in breast-fed children, it is due to over-frequent feeding. A simple purge and proper regulation of the meals usually suffice for a cure. Cows' milk, pasteurised or boiled, and diluted in proper proportion to the child's age, with the addition of a little lime-water or citrate of soda to prevent the formation of large curds, is better than any artificial food for hand-fed infants. But in the presence of enteritis, milk should be stopped for a few days, and albumin water or raw-meat juice given in its stead, with barley-water for thirst. The abdomen must be kept warm. At the onset a dose of castor-oil should be given, or calomel, in divided doses, or hydrarg. c. creta, gr. $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 (grm. 0.03-0.06), twice or thrice daily. Lavage of the stomach where vomiting is urgent, and of the colon in profuse diarrhœa, are valuable measures. Bismuth and, if necessary, Dover's powder may be used to check the diarrhœa,

but all forms of opium should be used with great care in young children, and none should be given to an infant under six months old. Alcohol is sometimes necessary to meet the collapse.

Cholera nostras, a term now almost obsolete, is simply a severe form of acute gastro-enteritis due to food-poisoning, and considered at p. 171. *Cholera infantum* with a similar cause presents similar symptoms; but as it occurs in infants, its mortality is much greater.

Croupous or *diphtheritic enteritis* occurs chiefly in the final stages of chronic constitutional diseases (granular kidney, etc.), and is generally fatal. The treatment is purely symptomatic. *Phlegmonous* or *gangrenous enteritis* is a local affection, due to strangulated hernia, intussusception, or chronic obstruction. It involves all the coats of the bowel, and is therefore complicated with peritonitis, to which its chief symptoms are due.

Ulcerative Enteritis.—The intestine is subject to many forms of ulceration, among which the enteric and dysenteric forms, the duodenal ulcer, and the follicular ulcers of catarrh have already been described. Specific ulcers may also occur in syphilis and in tuberculosis. *Syphilitic ulceration* is most common in the rectum, and occurs chiefly in women. It is due to the growth of gummata in the submucous coat, and ends in the gradual onset of a hard fibrous stricture, easily distinguishable from that of malignant disease.

Tuberculous ulceration affects primarily the ileum, cæcum, and colon. The ulcers contrast with those of enteric fever in that they are irregular in outline, with their long diameter in the circumference, not the axis, of the bowel, and their edges are infiltrated and undermined. They involve the submucous and muscular coats, and may perforate. Cicatrisation may cause a single or multiple stricture of the bowel. In the ileo-cæcal region tuberculosis may cause a chronic hyperplasia, sometimes involving the appendix. The symptoms are periodic pain, alternating constipation and diarrhœa, and slowly advancing stricture. An elongated, hard, and tender tumour-like mass is found in the right iliac fossa. It is localised, and may be removed by enterectomy.

Stercoral or fæcal ulcers are apt to form in the colon in cases of long-standing constipation, or above the stricture in chronic intestinal obstruction.

Ulcerative colitis is a non-specific affection occurring in both sexes, most frequently about middle age. The mucosa is widely destroyed, and only islets or polypoid projections may remain. The muscular coat, which is greatly thickened, forms the floor of the ulcers. The colon is often dilated. Watery diarrhœa, the stools being brown, offensive, frequently blood-stained, and mixed with mucus and pus, griping abdominal pain without tenesmus, slight abdominal distension, wasting, and sometimes fever, are the chief symptoms. Death may be due to asthenia, hæmorrhage, or perforation. The treatment is that of chronic dysentery. In an early case, the colon may be irrigated through a stoma formed by appendicostomy or cæcostomy.

Mucous or muco-membranous colitis is a catarrhal colitis accompanied by atony of the bowel, and is most frequent in women of about middle age and of a neurotic disposition. It is characterised by the frequent or occasional passage of membranous casts of the lower bowel, the casts varying from a few inches to several feet in length. They are transparent, gelatinous, and show fæcal staining. Embedded in the mucus of which they consist are intestinal epithelium and crystals of cholesterin and triple phosphate. In the intervals between the attacks constipation, flatulence, and abdominal discomfort are common symptoms; the passage of the casts is preceded by colicky pain. The treatment consists in a bland non-irritating diet, irrigation of the bowel and attention to the nervous predisposition; but although recovery is not uncommon, many cases are very obstinate.

APPENDICITIS

Inflammation of the vermiform appendix is the commonest acute inflammatory condition of the abdomen affecting those under middle age.

Anatomy.—But for a small part of the upper portion of its posterior wall, which is in immediate contact with the iliac fascia, the cæcum, which extends upwards for about three inches from a point half an inch above Poupart's ligament, is

usually entirely surrounded by peritoneum. Its posterior surface may in rare cases be devoid of peritoneum, or be included within two mesenteric folds forming the boundaries of a retro-cæcal fossa. The ileo-cæcal valve, which prevents regurgitation into the small intestine, is situated on the left side of it, and at its upper end. The *vermiform appendix* arises posteriorly from the inner wall of the cæcum, below the ileo-cæcal valve. It, too, is usually entirely surrounded by peritoneum, but its root may be extra-peritoneal. A mesentery is attached to it for the proximal one-third or two-thirds of its length, the tip being free. The appendix may take different directions, running (1) upwards and inwards behind the coils of the ileum; (2) upwards, or upwards and outwards, either in the retro-cæcal fossa, when that exists, or in front of the colon; (3) downwards and inwards into the pelvis; and (4) it may be coiled upon itself behind the cæcum. Its length varies from half an inch to nine inches, the average being three to four inches. Its root is nearly opposite McBurney's point.

Etiology.—The disease is infective, the organism usually at fault being the *Bacillus coli*, although others, such as the pyogenic cocci and *Bacillus proteus*, are also found. In most cases the organism excites the disease only in presence of some cause of injury to the mucous membrane of the appendix. Thus catarrh of the appendix may cause blocking of its lumen; fæcal concretions, particularly in those of costive habit, may lodge in it; and less commonly it may be damaged by foreign bodies, such as pins or grape-seeds. Even without injury due to such causes, virulent bacilli may in some instances cause inflammation. The disease may follow chill or muscular over-strain, and may complicate pneumonia or the other infections. It may be set up by torsion of the appendix, or by traction upon it by bands or adhesions. Septic foci connected with the teeth or tonsils are important sources of infection. The disease is most common between the ages of fifteen and thirty.

Morbid Anatomy.—The main varieties are (1) catarrhal, (2) ulcerative, often leading to perforation, and (3) gangrenous, in which the tip of the appendix or even the whole organ may slough off. After repeated attacks, the inflammation may become chronic, in which case appendix, cæcum, and small

intestine are firmly united by adhesions, which may cause partial or complete obstruction of the bowel. In other instances chronic catarrh leads to (1) partial obliteration of the lumen, resulting in the formation of appendicular cysts, which may rupture into the peritoneal cavity, or to (2) complete obliteration.

In the ulcerative variety, the ulceration may be superficial or deep. Deep ulceration leads to perforation, of which the consequences depend upon the presence or absence of previously formed adhesions, and upon the relations of the appendix to the peritoneum.

1. *Perforation may occur after adhesions have formed*, and so be followed by circumscribed intra-peritoneal abscess. This localised abscess may after a time open into the peritoneal cavity, and excite an intense general peritonitis.

2. If the perforation takes place *between the folds of the mesentery, or at the root of the appendix when that is uncovered by peritoneum*, the result is a retro-peritoneal abscess; in such cases, the pus may burrow in the cellular tissue, between the gut and the iliac fascia, and may then extend in one of three directions—

- (1) Upwards, forming a perinephric abscess.
- (2) Downwards, to Poupart's ligament, where it is prevented from extending down the thigh by the union of the ligament and fascia, and so bursts externally.
- (3) Into the true pelvis, when it may burst into the rectum or bladder, or through the obturator foramen.

3. *Perforation may occur before adhesions are formed*, the appendix hanging free in the peritoneal cavity. In such cases, a speedy death results from violent septic peritonitis.

Symptoms.—In an ordinary attack the initial symptoms are pain of sudden onset, at first over the whole abdomen, but soon localised to the right iliac fossa, local tenderness, greatest at McBurney's point (which bisects the line between the right anterior superior iliac spine and the umbilicus), rigidity of the right rectus, elevation of temperature, furred tongue, constipation, and vomiting, not excessive and not fæcal. There may be frequent micturition. The patient lies on his back, with the right thigh slightly drawn up. A definite swelling can usually be made out in the iliac fossa. Rectal examination reveals a

tender mass to the right of the rectum. The great majority of these cases recover, fever and tenderness lessening about the third day, and the illness being over in about a week.

Should the case go on to the formation of a local abscess, the fever continues or increases, assuming a septic type, and the swelling becomes larger, harder, and more tender. Fluctuation is very rarely present. There is well-marked leucocytosis, and the general symptoms are severe.

When perforation into the peritoneum occurs, from ulcer or from gangrene, the symptoms are those of collapse, or those described under general peritonitis.

There is a great liability to recurrence. Repeated attacks often result in increased density of the adhesions, obliteration of the appendix, and ultimate recovery; but in any one of them abscess or perforation may occur.

Diagnosis.—The diagnosis is sometimes difficult, and the symptoms may closely simulate obstruction of the bowels; but in appendicitis the tumour is diffuse, and fæcal vomiting is never present, while in obstruction there is no fever. In children the history, tenesmus, bloody discharge, and the results of rectal examination under chloroform, make a diagnosis of *intussusception* fairly easy, though it sometimes simulates appendicitis. Biliary and renal colic, and pelvic cellulitis in women are also conditions which must be eliminated before arriving at a diagnosis. The "referred pain" of right-sided lobar pneumonia, which is often most intense in the appendix region, is accompanied by disturbance of the pulse-respiration ratio.

Where the appendix extends downwards into the pelvis, the existence of tumour may be made out only on rectal or vaginal examination.

Treatment.—In cases of acute appendicitis immediate operation is the best practice. Although complete recovery is the rule in ordinary cases, without surgical interference, yet there is no foretelling that a perforation may not at any moment occur, and cause a fatal peritonitis. Operation is of course necessary in the presence of abscess, and where there is generalised peritonitis it affords the only hope of recovery, though the hope is but slender. Medical treatment finds a place only where operation is refused, or in anticipation of an operation. In such

cases hot fomentations, enemata to open the bowels, morphia only when necessary for the relief of pain, fluid diet (chiefly milk), and absolute rest in bed are the chief means of treatment.

INTESTINAL OBSTRUCTION

The causes of intestinal obstruction are numerous. They may be divided into—

1. *Causes originating in the intestine itself.* These are intussusception; volvulus; stricture, malignant or non-malignant; and obstruction of the lumen by gall-stones, hardened fæces, or foreign bodies.

2. *Causes external to the intestine.* Such are bands or adhesions, giving rise to *strangulation*; incarceration by hernial or other openings; and compression by large tumours.

Strangulation is the most common cause of acute obstruction. The bands or adhesions causing it are generally the result of old peritonitis, but the bowel may also slip through omental or mesenteric slits, into peritoneal pouches, or under an adherent Meckel's diverticulum or appendix. The small intestine is involved in 90 per cent. of the cases. Males suffer more often than females, and young adults more often than children or elderly people.

Intussusception is most common in male infants and children up to the age of ten. In this affection one portion of the bowel is invaginated into another, usually the small intestine into the large. There are thus three layers of bowel, an innermost or *entering* layer, a middle or *returning*, and an outermost or receiving layer. The entering bowel cannot return because of the swelling produced by the pressure on its veins. It is therefore dragged steadily onward by the peristaltic action of the receiving layer, and thus the originally small tumour may increase in size till it becomes more than a foot long. The *ileo-cæcal* variety, in which the ileo-cæcal valve enters the colon, is the most frequent. *Enteric* and *colic* forms also occur. In the former, one part of the small bowel is invaginated into another; in the latter one part of the colon into another. The *ileo-colic* form, in which the ileum passes through the ileo-cæcal valve, is the least common.

Volvulus is a twisting of the bowel upon itself, or of one loop of bowel upon another. It is commonest in the sigmoid

flexure, where the mesocolon is long, and occurs chiefly in males about middle life.

Acute obstruction may also be caused by a gall-stone ulcerating through the gall bladder into the small intestine, which it blocks.

The other causes mentioned—stricture, whether due to a malignant tumour or to the cicatrisation of ulcers, impaction of fæces, compression or traction—usually give rise to chronic obstruction.

Morbid Anatomy.—In acute cases the intestine above the obstruction is distended, and filled with a mixture of fluid and gas. Its walls are deeply congested, and may be gangrenous. In intussusception, the opposed peritoneal surfaces may be united by adhesions, and the invaginated part sometimes sloughs. Peristalsis is at first active above the obstruction, but paralysis of the gut succeeds. Below the obstruction the bowel is contracted and empty.

Symptoms of Acute Obstruction.—The characteristic symptoms are pain, constipation, and vomiting, with abdominal distension. The *pain* sets in suddenly, and is usually intense. At first paroxysmal, it becomes continuous. Its seat is in the middle line, and in obstruction of the small intestine it does not descend lower than the umbilical region, while if the large intestine is affected, it descends into the hypogastric region. The *constipation* is absolute, not even flatus being passed; but fæces may be passed, or may be removed by an enema, from the bowel below the obstruction. The *vomited matter* consists at first of the stomach contents, then of bile-stained material, and finally of brownish fluid with a fæcal odour (*stercoraceous vomiting*).

There is a *uniform distension* of the abdomen, unless the obstruction is high up, but the flanks do not bulge. The abdomen is *not tender* unless peritonitis has set in. *Paroxysmal peristaltic movement*, visible through the abdominal walls, is an important sign. In obstruction in the small intestine, the peristalsis is mainly in the umbilical region; in obstruction low down in the colon, the waves may pass from right to left along the line of that viscus. A *tumour* may sometimes be felt in malignant stricture, and in *intussusception* a sausage-shaped tumour-like mass may be found in the right iliac fossa or in the line of the colon. Occasionally, in infants, it is to be felt in the

rectum, and the ileo-colic valve may be recognised there. Blood is passed by the bowel, and tenesmus is often marked.

The general symptoms are those of collapse, the face being pinched, the skin covered with cold sweat, the pulse small and rapid, the tongue dry, and the urine scanty. The temperature is normal or subnormal. Thirst is great. Death results from asthenia or peritonitis in from three to six days.

In *chronic obstruction* (most commonly due to malignant tumour) there is a history of gradually increasing constipation, alternating, it may be, with attacks of diarrhoea. The fæces are narrowed in calibre. They may assume a pipe-stem shape or be flattened like a tape-worm, or they may be passed in small rounded masses like sheep's dung. Frequently they are smeared on the surface with blood and pus. Portions of the growth are sometimes found. Recurrent threatenings of acute symptoms end in complete occlusion and death.

Diagnosis.—The seat of obstruction may sometimes be determined by rectal examination. In females a vaginal examination should also be made. The hernial orifices must be carefully examined, and abdominal palpation may reveal the site of a malignant tumour. In obstruction low down, the colon is distended and peristalsis may be visible over it; in obstruction in the small intestine, distension and peristalsis are more prominent in the umbilical region. In the former, blood and mucus may be passed by the bowel; in the latter, fæcal vomiting occurs early. The position of the pain is also helpful.

The cause of obstruction may sometimes be ascertained from a consideration of the age and the history (peritonitis, pelvic disorders, etc.), in other instances it is not accurately ascertainable.

Treatment.—*Purgatives must not be used*, but the lower bowel may be cleared by enema. In fæcal impaction, recognisable by rectal examination, the scybalous masses may be broken up by the finger, and cleared away by a large injection. In an early case of intussusception, return of the bowel is sometimes effected by a large injection of warm water, very slowly administered, the patient lying on the back with the hips raised. During the process, the operator should keep one hand on the abdominal tumour to watch its retrocession, and the method should not be attempted unless he is prepared for immediate laparotomy in the event of failure. The method is now seldom used in this country, and it is better to operate at once. Food

must be given by the rectum only, nothing but small quantities of ice for the thirst being swallowed by the mouth. To relieve the urgent vomiting, the stomach may be washed out three or four times daily. For the pain hot fomentations may be tried, but morphia is usually necessary. It is not desirable to give it until the diagnosis is decided, and then only in sufficient quantity to relieve the pain. In all cases of acute obstruction unrelievable by enema, operation, and *early* operation, affords the only chance of success, and the attendant must be firm in regard to its necessity, even against the opposition of the patient or the relatives.

In chronic obstruction careful regulating of the diet, opium for the relief of pain, and enemata may tide over threatening symptoms. Surgery is called for when the obstruction becomes complete.

TUMOURS OF THE INTESTINES

Simple tumours are uncommon, but sometimes produce obstruction. Of malignant growths by far the most frequent is—

CANCER. This affects the large intestine principally, especially the various flexures of the colon *and the rectum*. It is commonest in the male, between forty and sixty, but it may arise as early as twenty years of age.

Morbid Anatomy.—The growth, which is usually a cylinder-celled carcinoma, may be annular, or irregular and nodular. It tends to early ulceration. Metastases may be found in the mesenteric and other intra-abdominal glands, or a generalised peritoneal carcinosis may occur. It may spread by the blood-vessels through the portal vein to the *liver*.

Symptoms.—Besides cachexia and emaciation, commencing early when the lesion is high up, late when it is low down, the symptoms are—

1. Pain of two kinds—a permanent, dull, localised pain, often very slight, sometimes absent; and paroxysmal, colicky pain, worst just before defæcation.
2. Obstinate constipation, or constipation alternating with diarrhœa.
3. Reflex vomiting. Stercoraceous vomiting may occur when obstruction is complete.

The *physical signs* are (1) *tumour*, present in about 40 per cent. of the cases. The swelling is hard, nodular, tender, and *freely mobile*; (2) *meteorism*, localised or general; (3) in the later stages, where obstruction is becoming complete, *visible peristalsis*; (4) *alterations in the fæces*, which are mixed with blood and pus in large or only microscopical amount, and may be diminished in calibre when the stricture is low down; (5) occasionally ascites, or enlargement of the inguinal glands.

In *rectal cancer*, along with all the above symptoms, *pressure symptoms*, such as unilateral or bilateral sciatica, may occur. The first evidence is usually interference with defæcation. The stools are altered in calibre ("pipe-stem" or "sheep's-dung" stools). This is followed by tenesmus, and repeated unsatisfactory efforts at evacuation. Later, mucus, blood, and pus become persistent in the stools. Digital examination reveals the presence of a hard, irregular, nodular tumour. The chief complications are *rupture* into neighbouring viscera, and metastases in the *liver*.

Diagnosis.—In all cases in which the existence of an intestinal, or indeed of a gastric tumour is suspected, it is important to have the bowels thoroughly evacuated before the examination. In rectal cancer one must not be satisfied with a mere diagnosis, but must endeavour to determine the possibility of relief by operation. For this, the extent of the tumour, the degree of mobility, and the presence of complications must be considered.

Syphilitic stricture must be distinguished from cancer of the rectum. The ulcers of syphilis do not present the protuberant edges of carcinoma. They are *multiple* and the process is usually diffuse; and syphilis is often accompanied by proctitis or external abscesses. This form of stricture is more frequent in women, cancer in men.

Treatment of INTESTINAL CANCER.—No *cure* results from treatment, even in operable cases, for there is a liability to recurrence at any point of the after history. In inoperable cases treatment must be directed to (1) temporary increase of strength—tonics, and especially dietetic treatment; (2) removal of symptoms of stenosis by mild laxatives or appropriate changes in diet; (3) for the relief of pain, narcotics; (4) operative measures of a palliative nature. These are very various,

according to the situation of the tumour, but rarely lead to more than temporary amelioration. The technique of the operation of colostomy has now been much improved, and if it is skilfully done, the after condition of the patient may be fairly comfortable ; but a badly-formed artificial anus leads to a state of misery not less than that of the disease.

DIARRHŒA

The frequent passage of loose motions occurs, as we have seen, in many diseases associated with intestinal lesions ; but it may also arise from purely functional causes. Diarrhœa is due either to an increase in the intestinal secretions, or to increased peristalsis, and from one or other of these causes it may be excited by the irritation of unsuitable food, unripe fruit, etc., by drinking cold liquids, by chemical irritants, by putrefactive decomposition in the large intestine, by sudden changes of temperature, and by certain nervous influences, such as emotion or fear. It is also frequently met with in the late stages of portal congestion, as in cirrhosis of the liver, or of valvular affections of the heart and chronic renal disease. Irritation due to food often leads to diarrhœa occurring on rising in the morning, and may also cause looseness after meals. Vegetable foods rich in cellulose, or those containing an excess of sugar or fat, are particularly apt to cause it. In various nervous conditions it is liable to occur after meals.

Diagnosis.—It is not always easy to say whether the diarrhœa is a mere temporary disturbance, or evidence of an organic disease. In all cases note—

1. How the looseness commenced.
2. The consistency, colour, and odour of the fæces. Look for blood, mucus, undigested fat, excess of fat, segments of worms, etc.
3. The presence of pain or abdominal tenderness.
4. The amount of pain at the time and immediately after defæcation.
5. The presence or absence of fever.

Treatment.—If the diarrhœa is due to the presence of irritating substances in the bowel, a dose of castor-oil and

laudanum may suffice to arrest it. The diet must be carefully regulated, and in acute cases, sedatives such as Dover's powder may be given. In chronic cases, astringents are of much service, catechu and chalk, dilute sulphuric acid, bismuth, and the lead and opium pill being all of them useful. Rest in bed may be necessary at the beginning of the treatment, and warmth to the abdomen is serviceable, an abdominal belt being valuable where the diarrhœa depends upon changes of temperature. In diarrhœa due to intestinal putrefaction, douching the colon is an effective measure, and in the form which comes on immediately after meals, small doses (1-2 minims) of liquor arsenicalis, combined with a carminative, should be given just *before* food.

Diarrhœa in young children or infants, if not associated with other diseases, such as enteritis, tuberculous affections, or rickets, is nearly always due to either improper feeding or to irritation from worms, in which case anthelmintic treatment is indicated.

CONSTIPATION

To ensure the due evacuation of the bowels, the digestive functions of the stomach and small intestine, and the secretion of bile and pancreatic juice, must all be in proper working order; the colon must absorb some of the water from the fluid fæces, rendering them of a proper consistency for expulsion; and the intestinal musculature must be in a healthy condition. Evidently, then, constipation may be brought about by interference with any of these functions, and hence may be due to a large variety of causes. The chief are—

1. Causes producing atony of the intestinal musculature :
(a) general diseases such as anæmia, the specific fevers, chronic Bright's disease; (b) nervous diseases, such as neurasthenia, paraplegia, chronic brain disease; (c) sedentary habits.

2. A diet which does not sufficiently stimulate the bowel. There may not be enough food, or it may be too dry, or it may not cause sufficient mechanical irritation (defect of vegetable matters). The fæces may become dry through loss of water by other channels (diabetes, granular kidney, vomiting, perspiration).

3. Mechanical obstacles, such as ptosis of the bowel, or "kinks" due to bands stretching between the bowel and the abdominal wall, and giving rise to "intestinal stasis," which in its turn leads to *alimentary toxæmia*. Whether this condition is responsible for the manifold symptoms attributed to it is open to grave doubt, although the results of treatment based upon the theory have often been successful.

4. Inhibition of the reflex action of the bowel owing to painful defæcation or abdominal pain.

5. Neglect of the daily call to defæcation, leading gradually to extinction of the impulse.

Morbid Anatomy.—The changes in the gut are few. There may be hypertrophy of the muscular coat of the descending colon, and small ulcers in the cæcum. In extreme cases there may be enormous distension of the whole colon.

Symptoms are sometimes practically absent, but usually there are headache, anorexia, depression, and loss of energy. Where the lower bowel is much loaded, there may be *pressure* on the lumbar or sacral nerves, and pain down the back or front of the left thigh. Pressure on the intrapelvic veins may cause hæmorrhoids or varicocele.

Fæcal masses may sometimes be felt by palpation through the abdominal wall, or rectal examination may reveal the presence of hard scybala.

Treatment.—A daily attempt at evacuation should be made at a fixed hour, regular exercise must be taken, and any constitutional fault must be corrected. Add laxative vegetable foods to the diet. Give a tumblerful of water before breakfast, and an occasional laxative. Even in severer cases *avoid purgation*, but use a mild laxative habitually. The following is an excellent pill :—

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| R Aloin | - | - | - | - | - | gr. $\frac{1}{4}$ (grm. 0·016) |
| Strychninæ | - | - | - | - | - | gr. $\frac{1}{60}$ (grm. 0·001) |
| Ext. Belladonnæ | - | - | - | - | - | gr. $\frac{1}{6}$ (grm. 0·004) |
| Ext. Cascaræ | - | - | - | - | - | gr. ss. (grm. 0·032) |

Sig.—One pill thrice daily.

or give aperient waters in the morning. Liquid paraffin, $\mathfrak{z}\text{ii}$ – $\mathfrak{z}\text{iv}$ (cc. 8·0–15·0) night and morning, is now much used, and suits very well in some cases.

Phenolphthalein, gr. 2-5, is an excellent purgative, taken twice or thrice a week at night in tablet form. Other useful remedies are Pulv. Glycyrrhizæ Co., liquid extract of cascara, mild saline laxatives, and agar-agar. In anæmic cases the aloes and iron pill is a useful combination.

If the rectum is blocked by scybala, these must be removed mechanically, and soap and water enemata given daily for some time afterwards.

DISEASES DUE TO METAZOAN PARASITES

WITH the exception of the protozoal organisms already described in connection with specific infectious diseases, nearly all the internal animal parasites of man inhabit the intestine during part of their life history, and are therefore appropriately described in this place. Of some, man is the *host*, of others, the *intermediate host*; the host being that animal in which the parasite passes the mature stage of its existence, the intermediate host the animal in which the larval or embryonic stage is passed. The parasites belong to the order *Vermes*, and are divided into three genera, *Cestoda* (tapeworms), *Nematoda* (round worms), and *Trematoda* (flukes).

CESTODA

(Κεστός—a girdle)

The Cestoda are all endoparasitic worms, and infest the intestinal canal of vertebrata.

General Characters.—The cestodes are multiple in character. The tapeworm is not a single individual, but a multitude of organisms arranged in a chain, thus forming a compound jointed colony. The cestoda are thus compound, flat, parasitic worms, varying much in size. Some forms measure a quarter of an inch, others twenty-four feet in length.

The adult worm or Strobila consists of a number of complete sexual individuals arranged in a chain. It is composed of—

(1) The Head or Nurse, which is usually small in size, pyriform in shape, and has one or two suckers surrounded by a ring of chitinous hooklets, to enable the worm to cling to the intestines of its host. It has neither an alimentary system nor sexual organs.

(2) The Proglottides.—These are a series of segments pro-

duced one behind the other by a process of budding from the head or nurse. Each segment or proglottis resembles its neighbours except in size and degree of maturity. The segments farthest from the head are the oldest, the largest, and most mature; the segments next the head being immature and having no sexual organs. In an ordinary tapeworm there may be as many as 1200 of these segments. Each proglottis has a complete water-vascular system, composed of parallel canals running on each side of the body, and united at the hinder end of each segment by cross branches. The proglottides have no digestive organs of any kind, being nourished by imbibition. They are hermaphrodite, and ova are formed by sexual union within the proglottides. A single proglottis may contain as many as 35,000 eggs.

Life History.—As above stated, the ova of the cestoda are produced in the proglottides, which when ripe break off from the rest of the chain and are cast out by the body of their host. Within these ripe proglottides the ova are already partially developed, and when ejected are full of active embryos. These embryos are enclosed in a membrane to protect them from injury, and consist of a head furnished with three pairs of silicious spines or hooklets. By the decomposition of the proglottides the embryo-bearing ova are set free, reach water, and thence find their way into the stomach and intestines of their host, where the membrane enclosing the embryo is digested, and the embryos are liberated. They are called PROSCOLICES (*scolex*, a worm), and consist of a small vesicle with three pairs of silicious spines. By means of these hooklets the proscolix fastens itself to the intestinal wall, bores through it, and makes its way to the liver or other organ of its host. Here it becomes encysted, loses its hooks, and from its hinder end develops a small vesicle full of fluid.

It is now called a SCOLEX, and in some tæniada the scolices are known as *hydatids*, in others as *cysticerci*. When thus encysted, the scolex is composed of a vesicle united by a narrow neck to a head similar to that of the adult tapeworm, being armed with a circlet of hooklets, and having four oscula or suckers. It has no reproductive system, nor, in fact, organs of any kind, and can undergo no further development unless it gains entrance into the intestinal canal of man or other host. This is effected by an animal eating flesh, etc., containing the

scolices, when the cysts are digested and the scolices set free. They at once lose their caudal vesicle, attach themselves to the intestinal wall of their host but do not perforate it, and in this situation soon become the head of the future tapeworm and begin to produce proglottides, which again pass through the cycle of development above described. Thus we have—

1. The *Ova* discharged from the ripe proglottis.
2. The *Prosclex*.—The minute embryo liberated from the ova when taken up from water, etc., by some animal.
3. The *Scolex*.—The more advanced, but still sexually immature embryo, into which the prosclex develops when it has become encysted in the tissues.
4. The *Strobila* or adult tapeworm, infesting the alimentary canal of its host, and composed of a head, neck, and proglottides.

Division.—The Cestodes which infest man are—

1. *Tæniada*—
 - (1) *Tænia solium*.
 - (2) *Tænia mediocanellata*.
 - (3) *Tænia echinococcus*.
2. *Bothriocephalida*.—*Dibothriocephalus latus*.

I. TÆNIA SOLIUM

Synonyms.—*Tænia cucurbitina*, *Tænia humana armata*, *Tænia vulgaris*.

Larva.—Simple scolex, Measle, *Cysticercus cellulosæ*.

General Characters.—The adult worm or strobila measures about two to ten feet in length. It has a small head, long narrow neck, and transversely segmented body.

The *Head* is small, rounded, about the size of a pinhead, and consists of a rostellum or beak with twenty-six hooklets, and of a wider part on which are four suckers.

Body.—Next the head comes a long, narrow, thread-like neck, followed by a series of larger segments—the proglottides. The first segments are broader than they are long, and are immature. The remaining segments are the reverse, longer than broad, and are sexually mature proglottides. These proglottides are hermaphrodite, the genital orifices being placed alternately on each side of the body, and the male and

female organs open by this common genital pore. They have a complete water-vascular system.

The *Uterus* consists of a central stem, with seven to ten lateral branches on either side, each of which again branches freely. The testes appear as clear, white, convoluted tubes, with vesicles.

The *Ova* are nearly spherical in shape, about $\frac{1}{750}$ inch (0.03 mm.) in diameter, and are surrounded by a dense capsule which encloses the partly-developed, six-hooked embryos. In the flesh of the pig, these embryos give rise to the scolices, which are known as "measles," cysticerci, or bladder-worms.

Life History.—As above described.

Intermediate Host.—The pig, which gets the embryos from water or from garbage—the scolices forming the "measles" of pork. Within these measles or cysts, the hooklets, which do not decompose, are often found after the scolex has perished. They are short, broad, hook-shaped bodies, with a small knob at their base.

Host.—Man; owing to eating imperfectly cooked, measly pork. The parasite infests man, not only as the mature worm, but as cysticerci. The adult worm is found in man only.

Habitat.—The *immature* worm is found in the subcutaneous tissues, muscle, brain, eye, and liver of the pig; the *mature* form, in the small intestine of man.

II. TÆNIA MEDIOCANELLATA

Synonyms—*Tænia saginata*, *Tænia dentata*, *Tænia inermis*,
Beef tapeworm.

Larva—*Cysticercus bovis*.

General Characters.—This tapeworm is larger than *Tænia solium* both in length and breadth, and often measures from fourteen to twenty-four feet. It is commoner in Great Britain than *Tænia solium*.

The *Head* has four suckers, but no rostellum nor hooklets. Following the head is a narrow neck, and then the several segments or proglottides.

The *Uterus* has twenty to thirty lateral processes on either side, and these divide only once at their extremities, a character

by which the proglottis can be distinguished from that of the *Tænia solium*.

Ova.—Similar to those of *Tænia solium*.

Life History.—Similar to that of *Tænia solium*.

Intermediate Host.—Cattle.

Host.—Man.

Habitat.—Immature form, in the muscles of cattle ; as many as 300 have been found in a pound of flesh taken from psoas muscles.

The *mature* form occurs in the intestine of man.

III. DIBOTHRIOCEPHALUS LATUS

Synonyms.—Broad tapeworm, *Tænia lata*, *Tænia grisea*,
Dibothrium latum.

General Characters.—This is the largest human tapeworm. It measures from sixteen to thirty feet long, and about one inch broad, and consists of three or four thousand segments. It occurs in Switzerland, North-Eastern Europe, and Japan.

The *Head* is small, oval, or club-shaped, with a longitudinal groove or slit on each side. It has no proboscis, nor suckers, nor hooklets.

The *Proglottides* are about 4000 in number, the largest being in the middle of the chain. They are each bi-sexual. The uterus consists of a simple, coiled-up tube, and the genital orifices are placed along the middle line of the ventral aspect—not on the sides, as in the last group.

The *Ova* are oval in shape, and about $\frac{1}{350}$ of an inch (0.07 mm.) long. They have an operculum and a brown-coloured shell.

Life History.—The proglottides are passed not singly, but in strings, and the ova do not develop embryos in the uterus, but only on reaching fresh water. Thereafter the embryos burst the operculum, and swim about by means of cilia until they are swallowed by a fresh-water fish, the muscles of which they reach by their six hooklets, and there develop into the asexual larval worm or cysticercus.

If the fish be eaten by man, the larva develops into the sexual form above described.

Intermediate Host.—Certain fish, as pike, eels, etc.

Host.—Man, dog.

Habitat.—Intestinal canal.

Symptoms due to Tapeworm.—In many instances there are no symptoms, and not one that may occur is diagnostic ; but certain reflex disturbances are common, such as itching of the nose or anus, colicky pains, attacks of diarrhœa, voracious appetite, mental trouble such as melancholia, convulsions, and occasionally reflex vomiting. Symptoms suggestive of stone in the bladder have been known to arise in a case dependent on reflex irritation from tapeworm. Examination of the blood often reveals eosinophilia. If the above symptoms are present without any obvious cause or reason, *always examine the feces for segments of these worms.* A discharge of the segments is of course conclusive.

The *Cysticercus cellulosæ* is rare in man. It has been found in the brain, the muscles, and the eye. In the first it may or may not cause cerebral symptoms, according to the locality it attacks ; in the second, it occasionally produces rheumatoid pains ; in the last it may be recognised by the ophthalmoscope.

The symptoms due to *dibothriocephalus* differ from those produced by the *tæniæ*. While it may cause similar vague disturbances, the characteristic feature is that it almost always gives rise to a severe anæmia, closely resembling pernicious anæmia (*q.v.*) both clinically and in the character of the blood. The diagnosis depends upon the recognition of the cause. This is usually easy, since the segments of *bothriocephalus* are passed in strings often several feet long.

Treatment.—The liquid extract of male fern is the most appropriate anthelmintic, but to be effective it must reach the parasite, and especially the head, which is often protected by mucus or by the *valvulæ conniventes*. The patient is therefore kept on fluid diet for twenty-four hours, or even for two or three days, and a saline purgative is given every morning.

At the end of this treatment the male fern is administered on an empty stomach ; half a drachm (2 cc.) may be safely given to a child, one to two drachms (4-8 cc.) to an adult. It

is most easily taken in capsules, each containing 15 minims (1 cc.), one being given every ten minutes till the required dose is attained. The patient should lie quiet for some three hours to avoid nausea. A brisk purge is then given, and the worm is expelled. Castor-oil must not be given, as it dissolves the toxic filicic acid. The dejecta must be carefully examined for the head, since if it remains behind, the worm will grow again. If the head is not found, it is best to wait for the appearance of fresh segments (about three months later) before repeating treatment.

Other vermifuges are pomegranate root and its alkaloid pelletierin, pumpkin seeds, and turpentine.

IV. TÆNIA ECHINOCOCCUS

General Characters.—*Tænia echinococcus* is a small worm about an eighth to a quarter of an inch long. It consists of only four segments, including the head. The *Head* is pointed, has four suckers, and a double circlet of hooks. These hooks are about thirty to forty in number, and are shaped like those of *Tænia solium*, but are much smaller. The last proglottis, when mature, is equal in size to the rest of the body, and contains the reproductive organs. The genital pore is placed on the lateral aspect of the body. The ovaries are complicated, and the ova are small but not exceedingly numerous, and in them are developed the six-hooked embryos.

Life History.—When ripe the eggs set free from the intestine of the host—the dog or wolf—may be swallowed in drinking water or on vegetable food, and thus reach the stomach of man. There the embryos are liberated, perforate the intestinal walls, and getting into the circulation, are by this or other means carried to the liver or other organ, where they become encysted and develop a spherical vesicle which may reach a great size. They are now called HYDATIDS.

Hydatid Cysts are much larger than those of *Cysticercus cellulosæ*, and are composed of three parts—

(1) The false cyst—a fibrous capsule formed by the tissues of the part.

(2) The ectocyst—an opaque, chitinous membrane of great thickness, white in colour, smooth, glistening and laminated.

(3) The endocyst—a more opaque, granular layer, composed

of nucleated cells, and covered by small white spots—brood capsules.

Inside the cyst there is a colourless watery fluid which contains salts, but no albumin, a point of value in diagnosis. Within these cysts the scolices—echinococcus heads—are developed in the following manner :—

On the inner wall of the cyst are formed small vesicles—*brood capsules*—which project into the cavity of the cyst. From the walls of these brood capsules small cup-like buds or hollows are formed, each of which gradually elongates and becomes a cæcum with its cavity opening outwards—*i.e.*, it communicates with the cavity of the brood capsule. Within these depressions or hollow buds the echinococcus head is developed, and this, when mature, is everted, so that the head now projects into the brood capsule. These heads are similar to those of the adult worm, having a double circlet of hooklets and four suckers.

Development cannot proceed further than this in the human body, but if the cysts gain access to the dog, etc., then the adult tapeworm is formed in the intestine.

SECONDARY CYSTS are often found in connection with the primary cyst. This may occur in one of three modes—

1. By a process of budding out of the wall of the ectocyst, thus giving rise to a number of daughter-cysts, side by side—*exogenous cysts*.

2. Again, the daughter-cysts may be formed inside the primary cyst—these are called *endogenous cysts*.

3. Or, the cysts may be *multilocular*, *i.e.*, composed of many separate alveoli divided from each other by dense fibrous tissue. They occur as hard, firm tumours in the liver.

Daughter-cysts may in turn give rise to *grand-daughter cysts*, and thus the original mother-cyst may come to contain enormous numbers of smaller cysts of varying size.

Intermediate Host.—The cystic form alone is found in man.

Host.—The adult worm occurs in the dog, wolf, and jackal.

Habitat.—The *cystic* form is most common in the liver, but is also found in the kidneys, lungs, brain, heart, and muscle ; the *mature* form, in the intestine.

Diagnosis and Treatment.—See Hydatid Diseases of the Liver.

NEMATODA

(Νῆμα—a thread)

Synonym—Roundworms.

General Characters.—The roundworms are a very large and well-known group of helminths. They are simple, not compound, and do not form colonies. They are round or thread-like and unsegmented. They undergo no metamorphosis, the sexes are distinct, and there is a marked difference between the male and female—the male being the smaller.

STRUCTURE.—The Nematoda have a distinct alimentary canal with a mouth, œsophagus, stomach, intestine, and anus. There is a thick elastic ectoderm or cuticle and a well-developed muscular system. The genital pore, placed on the ventral aspect, is, in the female, situated about the middle of its length; in the male, near the anus, where there is a chitinous prehensile investment.

The most common Nematoda are—

1. *Trichina spiralis*; 2. *filaria sanguinis hominis*; 3. *filaria medinensis*; 4. *dochmius duodenalis* or *ankylostomum duodenale*; 5. *ascaris lumbricoides*; 6. *trichocephalus dispar*; 7. *oxyuris vermicularis*.

I. TRICHINA SPIRALIS

Synonyms—*Trichinella spiralis*, Flesh-worm, *Pseudalius trichina*.

Larva—Muscle trichinæ, Encysted trichinæ, Flesh-worms.

General Characters.—*Trichina spiralis* is a very minute worm, the male and female being distinct. The male is about $\frac{1}{18}$ inch and the female $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in length.

The *Head* is narrow, pointed, unarmed, with a simple central oval aperture.

The *Body* is thread-like, bent upon itself, thicker behind than in front, and in both male and female the hinder part of the body is straight. In the male, however, it has a short, bilobed caudal appendage, between the lobes of which is the anus. The testes are convoluted tubes. The female is about one-eighth of an inch long, rounder and shorter behind than the male. There are an ovary, vagina, and uterus, and the genital orifice is near the head.

The *Ova* are $\frac{1}{170}$ inch (0.15 mm.) long, and are hatched within the parent (ovoviviparous).

The Larval Form—the trichina of muscle—is a very small worm, about $\frac{1}{30}$ inch long, coiled up in a spiral manner within a fibrous capsule or cyst, the long axis of which lies in the long axis of the muscular bundles. A single capsule may contain two or more larvæ, and there may be as many as 325,000 of these capsules in an ounce of meat. They are especially common in the abdominal and thoracic muscles, and appear as whitish spots, owing to calcification of the cyst towards the poles. This small worm has a digestive system and an imperfect sexual apparatus.

Life History.—When a piece of meat affected with trichinæ is eaten, the capsules are dissolved, and the embryo parasites which they contain are liberated. These mature in a day or two in the intestinal canal of the host. Embryos are formed within the ova within seven days of ingestion; and a single worm may produce as many as 1000. The fertilised female penetrates the intestinal villi, and the embryos are deposited in the lymphatics or lacteals, whence they are carried to the striped muscles.

Once in the muscles the embryos penetrate the primitive bundles, reduce their contents to debris, and soon become mature muscular trichinæ, forming cysts, part of which is made up of a chitinous secretion of the parasite, part of a wall of fibrous tissue formed of the perimysium of the muscle bundles. These cysts, as above stated, may become partly calcareous, giving rise to the white shining spots in the muscle. They may remain quiescent for years.

Intermediate Host.—The trichinæ are found in pigs, rabbits, sheep, dogs, rats, mice, and other animals. The pig acquires them through eating dead rats, or feeding on trichinised offal.

Host.—Man, the trichinæ entering the body in uncooked or undercooked pork.

Habitat.—The adult worm inhabits the intestine, and lives for only a few weeks.

Symptoms of Trichiniasis.—Unless a large number of embryos are eaten, definite symptoms may not arise; but in

well-marked cases of trichiniasis the symptoms are very characteristic. A few hours or days after eating the infected flesh symptoms of gastro-intestinal irritation appear; there may be vomiting, diarrhoea, and abdominal pain.

Towards the second week great soreness and stiffness of muscles develop, the temperature runs up, and may be remarkably remittent in character, and a characteristic œdema sets in. It begins in the face and spreads to the skin over the affected muscles. The respiratory muscles are implicated, and there may be intense dyspnœa. In protracted cases the patient becomes emaciated and exhausted, and a typhoid condition may supervene and end in death. In mild cases the symptoms subside in about a fortnight. There is marked leucocytosis, the eosinophil cells being especially preponderant (*eosinophilia*). The disease sometimes occurs in epidemics.

Diagnosis.—This is easy in the course of an epidemic, the characteristic features being—1. marked muscular pain; 2. œdema, beginning in the face; 3. dyspnœa; 4. eosinophilia.

The stools should be examined for adult worms, and the food for encysted embryos. If necessary, a piece of muscle may be “harpooned” and examined. During the second and third week the embryos may also be found in the blood by treating it with ten volumes of 3 per cent. acetic acid, and examining with a low power.

Treatment.—Prophylactic measures consist in efficient food inspection and thorough cooking. The bowels and stomach should be cleared at the outset by a purge (calomel gr. v-grm. 0.3) and an emetic, and the bowels should be kept open by repeating the purge every few days. Large doses of glycerin are said to destroy the worms by dehydrating them, but ordinary vermifuges are without effect. When the embryos have reached the muscles, they are unaffected by drugs, and all that can be done is to treat symptoms.

II. ASCARIS LUMBRICOIDES

Synonyms—Roundworm, *Lumbricus teres hominis*.

General Characters.—These parasites closely resemble the common earth-worm. The male measures about six to ten inches in length, the female ten to sixteen inches. The parasite is a broad, smooth, fusiform, translucent, brownish or pink

coloured worm, with fine circular striæ. Its anterior extremity has a three-lobed mouth. The tail is bluntly curved in the male, and has a double spicule near its end. The numerous ova are oval in shape, $\frac{1}{500}$ to $\frac{1}{150}$ inch (average 0.07 mm.) in diameter, and have a hard shell and albuminous envelope. The embryo developed from them, probably in wells or pools, reaches the human intestine in polluted drinking-water, passes thence to the lungs, where it undergoes development, and thence by bronchi, trachea, and œsophagus back to the intestine, its permanent habitat, and there becomes an adult worm. An intermediate host is not necessary. One or two parasites are usually present, but there may be many.

The *habitat* of the worm is the small intestine, but it has a marked tendency to wander. It may pass into the stomach and be vomited, or into the colon and be voided. It is often found in the nasal passages or pharynx, sometimes in the larynx or trachea. It may block the bile-duct, causing jaundice; it may perforate an intestinal ulcer; and a knot of ascarides may cause intestinal obstruction.

Symptoms.—These are very indefinite and may be absent. Picking of the nose, grinding the teeth, foul breath, etc., are popularly attributed to the presence of this worm, but obviously any irritation of the intestinal canal may cause such symptoms. Febrile or nervous phenomena, suggesting enteric fever or meningitis, are regarded by some authorities as due to the toxins of the ascaris. Eosinophilia is usually present. Other symptoms may arise from the wandering habit of the worm.

Treatment.—Santonin, followed by purging, is the best remedy. It should be repeated for three or four nights in doses varying from gr. $\frac{1}{2}$ (grm. 0.03) for a child, to as much as gr. v (grm. 0.3) for an adult. Temporary yellow vision (xanthopsy) may follow its use, and it colours the urine bright yellow. When all the worms have been removed, ova disappear from the fæces.

III. OXYURIS VERMICULARIS

Synonym—Threadworm.

Characters.—The female is thread-like, with a tapering tail, and is three-eighths of an inch long. The male is one-eighth of an inch long, and the tail is curled. The numerous ova, each containing a partly formed embryo, are expelled with the fæces.

The embryos develop fully when the ova are taken into the stomach, becoming adult in the small intestine. After conjunction the male dies, and the impregnated female passes into the colon and rectum. The worms often wriggle out at the anus, causing irritation; the patient scratches, and may thus transfer ova on his fingers to his mouth, and so reinfect himself.

Symptoms.—Presence of the parasite in the stools, irritation about the anus and genitals, and consequent sleeplessness.

Treatment.—Clear out the lower bowel by enema, then inject by the long rectal tube Inf. Quassiaë, salt solution ʒij to Oj (grm. 13 to the litre), or tincture of ferric chloride ʒij to Oj. From ten to twenty ounces may be introduced, and retained as long as possible. Hands, nails, and perineum must be kept very clean, and carbolic lotion applied daily. In obstinate cases santonin and purgatives may be used.

IV. ANKYLOSTOMA DUODENALE

A short, white, cylindrical worm, found in the upper part of the small intestine. The female is half an inch, the male one-third of an inch long. The mouth has four strong ventral hooks and two conical teeth. The ova, which are very numerous, and may be found in the fæces, are of oval shape, and about 0·05 mm. in length. The larval stage is passed in water or damp earth. The larvæ enter the human body by penetrating the skin. They are carried by the lymphatics from the subcutaneous tissues to the lungs and bronchi, whence they are coughed up, and being swallowed with the sputum reach their habitat in the intestine. The parasite is common in the tropics, especially Egypt, but is found also in Europe, and sometimes in this country, principally among miners. Besides ankylostoma, another species, *Uncinaria* or *Necator americanus*, distinguished by having a prominent dorsal median tooth, is found in the Southern States of America and in Porto Rico, and causes similar symptoms known as *uncinariasis* or *hookworm disease*.

Symptoms.—The worm sucks blood from the intestinal mucosa. If there are many of them, this may lead to profound anæmia of the chlorotic type, epigastric pain, diarrhœa, dyspnœa, and dropsy. The symptoms are at least partly produced by bacterial infection of the wounded mucosa, and by toxins

derived from the worms. Eosinophilia is pronounced. Severe cases end in death, and many of the workers in the St Gotthard tunnel died of ankylostomiasis.

An eruption, characterised by the presence of papules, pustules, and wheals, occurs on the hands and arms when these are constantly exposed to the larvæ, as in the case of the Cornish miners, to whom the condition is known as "bunches."

Treatment.—All drinking-water should be boiled in districts where the parasite is found. Keep the patient on fluid food for a few days, then, after clearing the bowel, give 20 to 30 grains (grm. 1·3-2·0) of thymol in cachet, and repeat two hours afterwards. Give a purge three hours later. After it has acted the patient may return to more solid food. Avoid alcohol, as it dissolves thymol, and may cause poisoning. Repeat the treatment once a week, so long as ova are found in the fæces. Beta-naphthol in doses of 60 grains (grm. 4·0), once or twice repeated, is as effective as thymol, and less depressant. Oil of chenopodium, 1 cc. in capsule, twice repeated, is also useful. Later, iron is needed for the anæmia.

Trichocephalus dispar (the whip-worm) inhabits the cæcum. It is about an inch long, and the anterior half of the parasite is thin and thread-like. It rarely causes symptoms.

V. FILARIA SANGUINIS HOMINIS

Several species of nematodes occurring in tropical or sub-tropical countries give rise to embryonic forms which circulate in the blood, and present such close resemblances that they are included in the one designation of *Filaria sanguinis hominis*. The most important adult form is—

Filaria Bancrofti, which is a long, thin, white organism, resembling a horse-hair, and inhabiting the lymphatics. The female is about three inches, the male one and a half inches long. The parasite is found in warm climates, and causes the various conditions mentioned below. The embryos pass by the lymph stream to the blood. They are found in the peripheral circulation only at night, and hence are known as *Filaria* or *Microfilaria nocturna*. In the daytime they are found in the large vessels of the lungs and thorax.

The *Filaria nocturna* is about $\frac{1}{10}$ of an inch long. It has a

rounded head and tapering tail, and is enclosed in a fine sheath. It is sucked up by the female mosquito from the infected blood. In the stomach of the mosquito it casts its sheath, becomes actively mobile, and passes into the thoracic muscles. There it grows for about a fortnight, again becomes mobile, and then passes to the base of the proboscis, from which it enters the blood of the next person bitten, and completes its development in the lymphatic vessels of man, where the sexes unite, and give rise to a fresh brood of embryos. The embryos do not cause symptoms, which are due to the blocking of the lymphatics either by the mature worm or by the *ova*, these being thicker than the full-grown embryos.

Other less important forms are *Filaria diurna*, which is found in the peripheral blood by day, the adult form being probably *Filaria loa*, and *Filaria perstans*, which is present throughout the twenty-four hours. Its adult form is not known.

Symptoms.—When the parent worm aborts, ova instead of embryos enter the lymph stream, and block the vessels of the part where the parent is situated. The adult worm itself may block the thoracic duct. From one or other of these causes chyluria, lymph-scrotum, or elephantiasis results.

Chyluria is the passage of milky urine, sometimes slightly stained with blood, owing to the rupture of obstructed lymphatics in the urinary tract. The urine, which contains filariæ, coagulates on standing. It is albuminous, and contains fat granules. The condition is intermittent. In *lymph-scrotum* the scrotal tissues are greatly thickened, and the lymphatics are prominent and may rupture, allowing chyle to flow over the surface. Inflammatory complications are common. Tropical *elephantiasis* is also due to obstruction of the lymphatics by the filariæ, although the parasites often cannot be detected.

Treatment.—Beyond rest, dry diet, and avoidance of excessive fat, there is no satisfactory treatment for chyluria. The treatment of lymph-scrotum and elephantiasis is chiefly surgical.

Filaria or *Dracunculus medinensis* (the Guinea worm) is met with in West Africa and the East Indies. The embryo inhabits the cyclops, a small fresh-water crustacean, and being swallowed, the impregnated female passes through the intestine to the

subcutaneous tissues, in which it travels downwards to the foot or ankle, where it creates an ulcer through which the embryos are discharged. The adult worm is about $\frac{1}{12}$ of an inch thick, and may be as much as three feet long.

TREMATODA

(Τρῆμα—a hole)

Synonyms—Flukes, Flat-worms, Suctorial worms.

The only parasite under this class that we will consider is—

BILHARZIA HÆMATOBIA

Synonyms—Schistosomum hæmatobium, Thecosomum, Gynæcophorus.

General Characters.—The male is about half an inch long and is cylindrical in shape, with a canal or groove—the gynæcophoric canal—at the posterior end of the body, in which the female is lodged. The female is four-fifths of an inch long, and thread-like. The ova are oval in form, $\frac{1}{180}$ to $\frac{1}{160}$ inch (0·14-0·16 mm.) in length, with a spine at one end (*S. hæmatobium*) or one side (*S. mansoni*) of each egg. When they are discharged into the water of small ponds or canals along with the urine or fæces of an infected patient, the ciliated embryos are liberated and enter the body of a fresh-water snail, in which they assume a larval form capable of piercing the human skin, through which they enter the blood. *Bilharziasis* may thus be conveyed by bathing or even washing in such pools.

Habitat.—The blood. The parasites are especially found in the inferior vena cava and portal veins, and in the vesical and hæmorrhoidal veins.

Effects.—The sexes unite in the blood, and the ova penetrate the vessel-walls and the walls of the bladder, ureter, and renal pelvis. If in large numbers they give rise to cystitis, vesical papillomatosis, pyelitis or pyonephrosis, with hæmorrhage from the affected mucous membrane. In the colon and rectum they cause colitis and the formation of polypoid adenopapillomata. Hæmaturia is the chief symptom, and, if the bowel is affected, a mucous diarrhœa. Anæmia follows. Eosinophilia is marked.

Renal or vesical calculi may form around the ova.

The parasite is rarely met with in England, but is common in Egypt, the Cape, Natal, and also in Arabia.

Treatment.—Intravenous injections of antimony tartrate dissolved in sterile normal saline are curative. The initial dose is gr. $\frac{1}{2}$, the next dose, three days later, is gr. i, and the dose is increased by gr. $\frac{1}{2}$ every third day till gr. $2\frac{1}{2}$ is reached. This dose is continued till 20 to 30 grains in all have been given. Severe bladder or rectal lesions call for local treatment.

DISEASES OF THE LIVER

BEFORE attempting the study of diseases of the liver, it is advisable to recall to mind the chief facts regarding its functions. It should also be remembered that the kidney is to a large extent the handmaid of the liver, excreting the waste material which it forms, and thus enabling it to perform its duties efficiently, and to keep the blood free from morbid products. Disease of the liver may thus alter the composition of the urinary secretion, and disease of the kidney, resulting in imperfect elimination, may prejudice the functional activity of the liver. The close relationship of the liver to the spleen, pancreas, and gall bladder must also be borne in mind.

FUNCTIONS OF THE LIVER

These will be considered briefly under three heads—

1. The metabolism of carbohydrates.
2. The metabolism of proteid material.
3. Bile formation.

I. METABOLISM OF CARBOHYDRATES

By the action of saliva (ptyalin) starch is converted into achroodextrin and erythrodextrin, and these partially into maltose. Inhibited by the acid gastric juice, the process of conversion is resumed by the pancreatic juice (amylopsin) and succus entericus (invertin), the maltose being transformed into dextrose and to a lesser degree into lævulose. On reaching the liver through the portal circulation, these bodies are transformed into glycogen. According to the bodily requirements the glycogen is once more converted into dextrose, and passes into the general circulation, by which it is distributed to all the tissues. There, and particularly in the muscles, it is oxidised to its end products, water and carbon dioxide, the process being accompanied by the production of heat and energy. Lævulose,

on reaching the liver, is almost entirely retained by it, and, in contrast to dextrose, does not enter the general circulation.

For further discussion of carbohydrate metabolism, the reader is referred to the article on Diabetes Mellitus (p. 143).

On the capacity of the normal liver to retain lævulose depends a *hepatic efficiency test*. In cases of hepatic deficiency, either toxic (*e.g.*, cirrhosis of liver, arsenobenzol poisoning) or diabetic, ingestion of grm. 30-50 of lævulose will cause a rise in the blood-sugar very similar to that produced by dextrose. This is absent when the hepatic function is normal.

II. PROTEID METABOLISM

The action of the various digestive juices upon proteids may thus be briefly stated:—Saliva aids in mastication, and so prepares them for digestion; the gastric juice converts them into acid albumin, proteose, and peptone; and the pancreatic juice and succus entericus form alkali albumin, proteose, and peptone. The end-product, peptone, which cannot be absorbed as such, is broken up by the trypsin and erepsin of the pancreatic and intestinal juices into the series of amino-acids which form the component parts of the proteid molecule. The series is made up of monoamines, diamines, and aromatic amines, groups which are represented by such bodies as leucin, glycin, arginin, lysin, tyrosin, and tryptophane. If putrefactive changes have occurred, as they may do under bacterial influences when there is constipation, indol and skatol may also be present. The greater part of the proteids derived from food passes as amino-acids through the liver into the general circulation, to be used by the tissue proteins, and ultimately transformed into nitrogenous waste products (ammoniacal salts). But if the diet be purely nitrogenous, part of the food proteids may be split up, the non-nitrogenous portion of the proteid molecule being synthesised into glycogen, and the remainder of it forming urea. In diabetes, increase in proteins, on a carbohydrate-free diet, causes increase in acetone and aceto-acetic acid.

The ultimate result of the action of the liver in dealing with nitrogenous waste products, such as excess of amino-acids or the ammoniacal salts derived from muscle, is the formation of urea. Possibly some small proportion of urea is derived from the nitrogenous waste of every body tissue, but the main source of its formation is undoubtedly the liver. If the liver of a frog

be removed, the formation of urea almost ceases. In mammals, if the liver be thrown out of action by joining the portal vein to the inferior cava, urea is much diminished. In both cases its place is taken by ammonia: in both, if a proteid meal be given, ammonia poisoning appears, and excess of ammonia is found in the blood. In birds, uric acid is the chief nitrogenous excretion in the urine. In them extirpation of the liver means disappearance of uric acid and appearance of ammonia. The liver therefore forms urea from the ammonium compounds circulating in the blood, whether these be the product of tissue waste or represent the excess of amino-acids in the proteid constituents of the food.

Compare these experimental results with the results of clinical examination of the urine in diseases of the liver. In cirrhosis there is marked diminution in the amount of urea, and increase of ammonia. In acute yellow atrophy, and also in phosphorus poisoning, the urea is enormously diminished, and leucin, tyrosin, and ammonia take its place. *Failure on the part of the liver to do its work results in imperfect oxidation of waste products*, the nature of the products so formed depending on the degree of oxidation. Comparatively slight defect may be attended by excess of uric acid (gout). If the defect be greater, there is excess of ammonia and its compounds in the blood and urine, and where the hepatic function is almost abolished, leucin, tyrosin, etc., appear unchanged.

III. BILE FORMATION

Bile consists principally of water, cholesterol, bile salts, bile pigments, and mucin. It is to be regarded as—

- (1) A *secretion*, which is concerned in the proper assimilation of fats, and favours intestinal peristalsis.
- (2) An *excretion*—a means by which broken-down blood pigments are excreted, with also a certain amount of proteid waste.

Bile pigments and bile salts are formed chiefly in the liver; cholesterol, lecithin, etc., exist as such in the blood.

The bile pigments, however, are ultimately derived from hæmoglobin, which in the liver is converted into hæmatin, and hæmatin, after separation of its iron, into bilirubin. They appear in the fæces as stercobilin, and in the urine as urobilin

(traces). As might be expected, an increased amount of bile pigment is present in diseases such as pernicious anæmia, which are attended with *destruction of red corpuscles*. Now bile pigment increases the thickness of bile, and, as Quincke showed, great destruction of red corpuscles in the liver is accompanied by increase of mucin, and this in turn materially increases the viscosity of bile. In such diseases, then, the bile is rendered thicker both by increase of pigment and by increase of mucin, and the increased viscosity produces a retarded flow and an increase of tension in the ducts. In this condition it is possible to find an explanation of the sallowness which accompanies so many anæmias.

The *secretion* of bile is continuous, but the rate of secretion varies. It is at its highest about four hours after a meal, and again rises about thirteen hours afterwards. It is but little accelerated by drugs, but it is increased by albumoses and bile salts. On the other hand, the *expulsion* of bile into the intestine is intermittent, occurring only when the acid chyme passes over the orifice of the common duct.

Bile is not an antiseptic. In obstructive jaundice the fæces become highly offensive, but this is due to slower peristalsis, which gives the intestinal bacteria a longer time to act.

JAUNDICE

Jaundice is the name applied to a group of symptoms arising from the circulation of bile pigment in the blood, and is clinically manifested by a yellow or greenish-yellow tint of the skin and mucous membranes. The retention of bile within the liver and its absorption into the blood give rise to two classes of symptoms.

1. *The absence of bile from the intestines* interferes largely with perfect assimilation of fat, delays absorption, and slows peristalsis. Consequently fat is frequently present in the stools, and putrefactive changes take place in the intestines, with formation of skatol and indol, to the absorption of which some of the toxæmic symptoms of obstructive jaundice may possibly be due.

2. *The circulation of bile within the blood* produces toxic effects both upon nerve centres and upon muscular fibres; consequently we get imperfect action of the heart, slowness of

the pulse, depression of the spirits, and mental torpidity. Persistent jaundice may end in profound coma.

Pathology.—The current conceptions of jaundice require modification in view of the recent work of van den Bergh and others upon bilirubinæmia. The bile capillary, surrounded by the polygonal glandular cells of the liver, has been regarded as the element of the lobule essential to the manufacture of bile pigment. Between the hepatic tubules, however, run the portal vascular capillaries, in the walls of which are to be found large endothelial cells (Kupffer cells) which form a part of Aschoff's "reticulo-endothelial system." It is these cells, and other similar cells in the spleen, which are now regarded as chiefly responsible for the breaking down of hæmoglobin and the formation of bile pigment, since in cases of blood destruction they are found to contain broken up red cells, hæmosiderin, and bile pigment. On this view the polygonal cells of the hepatic tubules are concerned mainly with the transference of bile pigment from the portal to the biliary capillaries, and not with its formation. It is evident that on this view jaundice may arise in three ways:—1. The bile pigment passes normally from the endothelial through the glandular cells to the bile capillaries, and is there obstructed in its outflow. 2. The glandular cells are so damaged structurally or functionally that the bile pigment cannot enter them and hence must pass direct to the hepatic vein, and so into the systemic circulation. 3. There are both damage to the glandular cells and obstruction to the bile passages; part of the pigment may pass direct to the hepatic vein, and part, through still functioning glandular cells, to the bile passages, where it is reabsorbed. In the van den Bergh test for bilirubin in the serum (*see below*) two types of reaction are found—a direct reaction, which may be immediate or delayed, and an indirect reaction. The immediate direct reaction is always found in cases of complete obstructive jaundice; in hæmolytic jaundice or in the serum of hæmorrhagic effusions the direct reaction is delayed or negative. The immediate reaction means, on the above theory, that the bilirubin has passed through the glandular cells and has then been absorbed on account of obstruction; the delayed reaction means that the bilirubin has been formed independently of the liver cells and has not passed through them.

In accordance with this theory M'Nee suggests that for

clinical purposes all cases of jaundice may be divided into three classes :—1. Obstructive hepatic jaundice ; 2. toxic and infective hepatic jaundice ; 3. Hæmolytic jaundice. These classes are not strictly exclusive of each other, as there may be both obstruction and toxic jaundice, for example, in the same case, but in many instances the jaundice may be assigned to one of the three groups alone. In cases of gross obstruction the mechanism of jaundice is evident, but it is not so clear whether catarrhal jaundice, for instance, is due to a complete inflammatory obstruction of the ducts or to a partial obstruction combined with functional disorder of the glandular cells. In the second class—toxic and infective hepatic jaundice—are included a large number of forms of jaundice occurring as a complication of acute fevers, after the administration of certain drugs, after damage to the liver cells of unknown origin, or after general conditions of infection and toxæmia. In these cases both varying degrees of damage to the glandular cells and of obstruction to the smaller bile-ducts from cholangitis may be present at the same time, and it is in such cases that the *biphasic* type of van den Bergh reaction (*see below*) is most commonly found. In the third class—hæmolytic jaundice—the direct van den Bergh reaction is delayed or even negative, bile pigment may be absent from the urine, and it is constantly present in the fæces. In such cases the primary feature is excessive blood destruction, which is followed by excess of bile pigment formed in the reticulo-endothelial cells, by its circulation in the blood, and by consequent icterus. The glandular cells of the liver are not involved, and the bile pigment probably does not pass through them. This group includes all the cases usually known as hæmolytic jaundice, with others such as splenic anæmia, pernicious anæmia, and Banti's disease.

The following is a tabular statement of the causes of jaundice :—

A.—Obstructive Hepatic Jaundice : van den Bergh reaction immediate direct.

1. Obstruction by foreign bodies within the bile-duct :—Gall-stones, hydatids and distomata, foreign bodies from the intestines.
2. Obstruction by inflammatory swelling of the duodenum or of the biliary mucosa (cholangitis), with exudation into the interior of the duct :—Catarrhal jaundice.
3. Obstruction by stricture or obliteration of the duct :—Congenital deficiency ; stricture due to perihepatitis, to cicatrisation of

biliary ulcers, or to spasm; closure of the orifice through cicatrisation of a duodenal ulcer.

4. Obstruction by tumours closing the orifice of the duct, or growing in its interior.
5. Obstruction by pressure on the duct from without by:—Tumours projecting from the liver; enlarged glands in the portal fissure; tumours of the stomach, pancreas, kidney, omentum, ovary, or uterus; abdominal aneurysm; fæcal accumulation; the pregnant uterus.

B. Toxic and Infective Hepatic Jaundice: van den Bergh reaction frequently biphasic: occurring:—

1. As a complication of acute infective diseases:—Yellow fever, malaria, relapsing fever, typhus, enteric fever, scarlatina, pneumonia, spirochætal jaundice.
2. After the administration of certain animal or chemical poisons:—Snake-venom; phosphorus, mercury, arsenic; toluylenediamin; chloroform or ether; T.N.T., tetrachlorethane, arseno-benzol.
3. After damage to the liver cells of unknown or obscure infective origin:—Acute yellow atrophy.
4. After general conditions of infection and toxæmia:—Sepsis, cardiac valvular disease with “back pressure.”

C. Hæmolytic Jaundice: direct van den Bergh reaction delayed or negative.

Diseases accompanied by excessive blood destruction, including splenic anæmia, pernicious anæmia, Banti's disease.

Symptoms of Obstructive Jaundice—

1. Icterus or tinting of the skin, conjunctivæ, mucous membranes, secretions, etc. The range of colour is considerable, from lemon-yellow to a deep greenish-black (black jaundice). The urine and sweat are tinted, the saliva, milk, and sputum usually escape. Like that of the skin, the colour of the urine ranges from saffron through greenish-yellow to dark brown. Yellow vision or xanthopsia is sometimes present.

2. Gastric disturbances, flatulence, nausea, and often complete anorexia.

3. Constipation, often alternating with diarrhœa; the fæces are pale, intensely foetid, and pasty in character.

4. Slowness of the pulse, which may fall sometimes as low as forty per minute.

5. Extravasation of blood, and hæmorrhages from mucous

surfaces or into the skin. The coagulability of the blood is diminished.

6. Cerebral symptoms. There is marked depression of spirits, the patient "sees things with a jaundiced eye," melancholia may occur, and, in the graver forms, an assumption of the typhoid state may end in death.

7. Itchiness of the skin.

Van den Bergh's Test in Jaundice.—This recent test for bilirubin in the serum differentiates between the various types of jaundice. Three cc. of blood are withdrawn from a vein, and the serum is separated and treated with Ehrlich's diazo reagent. The reagent is best kept in two solutions, mixed just before use:—Solution A—Sulphanilic acid, 1 cc.; concentrated HCl, 15 cc.; distilled water, 1000 cc. Solution B—Sodium nitrite, 0.5 grm.; distilled water, 100 cc.: 25 cc. of A are added to 0.75 cc. of B to make the reagent; 1 cc. of the reagent is added to 1 cc. of blood, when either an immediate direct or a delayed direct reaction follows. The immediate reaction is a bluish-violet colour change, beginning at once, and at its maximum within thirty seconds. This indicates obstructive jaundice. The delayed reaction may set in from one to fifteen minutes after the mixture has been made, beginning with a reddish colour deepening to violet. This indicates hæmolytic jaundice.

If there is no direct reaction, add 2 cc. of 96 per cent. alcohol to 1 cc. of serum, centrifuge till all the albuminous precipitate has sunk to the bottom, and add 0.25 cc. of the diazo reagent to 1 cc. of the supernatant fluid. A violet-red colour, of maximal intensity almost at once, is then obtained. This indirect reaction indicates hæmolytic jaundice. Obstructive jaundice gives both the immediate direct and the indirect reactions.

In certain instances a *biphasic* reaction occurs, a slight reddish colour appearing in ten to thirty seconds, and deepening very slowly to violet. It occurs in many instances of toxic and infective hepatic jaundice, and may be explained on the assumption that both types of bilirubin, that which gives the immediate reaction and that which gives the delayed reaction, are present in the serum at the same time.

The tests for bile acids and bile pigments will be found under Examination of Urine.

Treatment.—As jaundice is merely symptomatic, the cause must be treated. In the milder forms a catarrh of the alimentary canal, or the presence of small biliary calculi, will require attention. For detailed treatment, *see* Catarrhal Jaundice and Gall-Stones. The main indications are to remove the obstruction if possible ; to keep the patient on a light and easily digestible diet, with restriction of fats ; and to prevent constipation by exercise and saline laxatives, preceded at the outset by a mercurial purge. Itching should be relieved by warm baths, or by lotions such as carbolic acid (1 in 40), and the tendency to hæmorrhage may be reduced by hypodermic injections of calcium lactate.

ICTERUS NEONATORUM

The form of jaundice which occurs amongst new-born infants may be of either a mild or a severe type. The *mild* form appears on the second or the third day, and lasts from seven to fourteen days ; beyond the pigmentation few symptoms are present. There may be bile in the urine, and the fæces are pale.

The jaundice is possibly due to the large destruction of red corpuscles, which takes place in the first few days after birth. Patency of the ductus venosus, allowing the portal blood (which contains at this time bile pigment) to mix with the systemic circulation, has also been suggested as a cause.

The etiology is, however, very obscure.

The *severe* form is due to—

1. Congenital absence of the hepatic duct.
2. Congenital syphilitic hepatitis.
3. Phlebitis of the umbilical vein.

This form is invariably fatal.

For Familial Acholuric Jaundice, *see* Diseases of the Blood.

ACUTE YELLOW ATROPHY OF THE LIVER

A rare disease due to some unknown toxin, and characterised by a rapid and often complete destruction of the hepatic cells throughout the gland.

Etiology.—Women are more often attacked than men, and pregnancy is sometimes associated with the condition. The

disease is commonest between the ages of twenty and thirty. Emotional conditions, alcoholic excess, syphilis, and pre-existing disease of the liver are said to be contributory causes. There are many points of resemblance between acute atrophy and phosphorus poisoning, and the resemblance in the hepatic changes to those of T.N.T. poisoning or arseno-benzol poisoning is yet more striking.

Morbid Anatomy.—The liver is much diminished in size, soft and flaccid. The capsule is wrinkled. On section, destruction of the hepatic cells, and empty bile-ducts, are marked features. Yellow and red atrophic and necrotic patches are to be seen, while granules of pigment and crystals of leucin and tyrosin can be detected by the microscope. There is fatty degeneration of the kidneys, heart, and muscles, and petechial hæmorrhages occur subcutaneously and in mucous and serous membranes.

Symptoms.—Usually there are precursory symptoms, such as mental and bodily depression, constipation, and tenderness in the hepatic region. Slight simple jaundice may precede the fully developed disease. As a rule there is little fever, but in some cases it may run up to 106° F. In the confirmed stage, intense jaundice sets in, with vomiting, etc., severe hæmorrhages, evacuations of pale fæces (or the fæces may be black from mixture of blood); pregnant women abort; cerebral symptoms are prominent, first headache, then delirium, muscular twitchings, and death in coma. The liver dullness gradually diminishes, and may ultimately disappear. The urine is bile-stained, its urea is diminished, it is often albuminous, and it sometimes contains leucin and tyrosin. Death usually takes place within seven days of the onset of the confirmed stage.

Diagnosis.—*The severity of the symptoms*, with the jaundiced aspect, diminished hepatic dullness, cerebral symptoms, and, when it occurs, *the presence of leucin and tyrosin* in the urine, make the diagnosis fairly easy.

Treatment is useless, but an attempt may be made to eliminate the toxin by purgation, and large doses of sodium bicarbonate should be tried. Subcutaneous injections of saline solution may also be given.

ABSCESSSES IN THE LIVER

Suppuration in the liver may be due to many causes, but, though sometimes occurring in the distribution of the hepatic artery (general pyæmia), usually arises through portal infection, of which there are three main forms :—

1. Suppurative pylephlebitis.
2. Pyæmic abscesses, usually multiple (portal pyæmia).
3. Tropical abscess, usually single.

I. SUPPURATIVE PYLEPHLEBITIS

This disease follows upon suppuration in the portal area consecutive to diseases of the intestinal tract, and most often of the large intestine or appendix. It may follow suppuration of the mesenteric glands, abscess of the gall bladder, or disease of the pelvic organs. The liver is enlarged and congested. There may be cloudy swelling of the liver cells. On the surface and extending through the substance of the organ, are branching yellow areas, due to suppuration in the walls of the veins. The symptoms are similar to those of pyæmic abscesses, and treatment is purely palliative.

II. PYÆMIC ABSCESSSES

Pyæmic abscesses of the liver are usually small and scattered throughout the liver substance.

Pathology.—The condition is dependent on the presence of pyogenic cocci, the organisms gaining entrance to the liver in one of three ways :—

1. *Through the hepatic artery* in cases of general pyæmia, especially after acute periostitis or middle ear disease. In such cases the organisms must have first passed through the capillaries of the lung.

2. *Through the portal vein* in lesions of the portal area (bacillary dysentery, appendicitis, etc.).

3. *Through the bile-ducts* in ulceration from gall-stones, etc. In these cases the suppuration is in the course of the distribution of the portal vein.

Symptoms.—Hectic fever, rigors, sweating, prostration, and often vomiting, with jaundice and a tender, painful, regularly

enlarged liver, are the main indications, but the symptoms are often very obscure, and pain may be absent. "Febrile jaundice" is a valuable diagnostic indication when present. The other symptoms of pyæmia are also present.

Treatment is that of pyæmia.

III. TROPICAL ABSCESS

Etiology.—The disease is nearly always due to the *Amæba dysenteriae* (*Entamæba histolytica*), but other organisms, such as the *Bacillus coli*, are occasionally found. Most of the patients have had dysentery. Predisposing causes are alcoholic excess and a tropical climate.

Morbid Anatomy.—The abscess is usually single, but there may be two or more. Its most frequent seat is in the right lobe. Its walls are firm and thick, and have often three distinct layers—

1. *Inner.*—Grey in colour, and composed of necrosed tissue, amœbæ, and pus cells—no membrane internally.
2. *Middle.*—Brownish-red friable liver tissue.
3. *Outer.*—Hyperæmic liver tissue, surrounded by connective tissue.

Small amœbic abscesses contain a glairy, translucent fluid in which are amœbæ and detritus of necrosed liver tissue; in larger abscesses the contents are thick, viscid, chocolate-coloured, or like anchovy sauce, and of a peculiar, disgusting, sourish odour. Bacterial abscesses contain ordinary pus. The abscess if left alone most often bursts *into the right lung*.

Symptoms.—The earlier symptoms are pain, sense of weight and fullness, and tenderness in the right hypochondrium, *i.e.*, indications of acute hepatitis. Jaundice is sometimes present, but is slight. These symptoms are followed by rigors, fever of an irregular type, nocturnal sweats, pain over the liver and sometimes in the right shoulder, dry spasmodic cough, digestive disturbances sometimes including vomiting and emaciation. The physical signs are irregular enlargement of the liver, increase in the area of hepatic dullness both upwards and downwards, downward displacement of the hepatic margin, sometimes a

rounded, smooth prominence in the right hypochondrium, and local tenderness. Pleuritic friction, or crepitus over the lower lobe of the right lung, may be audible. It must be remembered that the symptoms may be latent until those of rupture appear. In such cases, marked leucocytosis may help to the diagnosis, but it is not always present. *When the abscess bursts into the lung, the expectoration of anchovy paste-like sputum is characteristic.* Other seats of rupture are the pleura, the peritoneal cavity, or the gastro-intestinal tract. If the diagnosis is doubtful, the liver may be punctured with a fine trocar, but this should not be done unless, if pus be found, the major operation is intended to follow at once. The exploration may be repeated if pus is not found at the first attempt.

Treatment.—In the stage of hepatitis, before abscess has formed, rest in bed, light diet, and saline laxatives may be given; but the most important factor in treatment is the daily hypodermic injection of 1 gr. of emetine hydrochloride. Improvement sets in after the first few days, but the course should be continued for twelve days or more. If an abscess has already formed, the pus should be drained by aspiration, with subsequent injection of a solution containing 1 gr. of emetine hydrochloride into the abscess cavity, and twelve daily hypodermic injections of 1 gr. each. Should this fail, open operation by incision and drainage may be required, but convalescence is very prolonged.

CIRRHOSIS OF THE LIVER

A chronic inflammatory condition (chronic interstitial hepatitis) characterised by a great increase of connective tissue at the expense of the proper glandular tissue. It occurs in two main forms—(1) multilobular, atrophic, or portal alcoholic cirrhosis, and (2) unilobular, hypertrophic, or biliary cirrhosis. An intra-lobular or pericellular cirrhosis also exists, and there are mixed types.

I. PORTAL OR ALCOHOLIC CIRRHOSIS

Etiology.—Portal cirrhosis is most common in the middle period of life, in the male sex, and *in those addicted to alcohol*, especially spirits. The disease may also occur in childhood, either from early intemperance or from hereditary influences, among which is syphilis. Alcohol is not the direct cause of

cirrhosis, its specific action on the liver being to produce fatty change, but it lowers the resistance of the liver to the action of other poisons, or possibly of even micro-organisms, which are then free to set up connective tissue proliferation. These poisons may reach the liver either by the portal circulation, or much less commonly by the hepatic artery. Their nature is not conclusively ascertained, but among them probably are bacterial toxins due to infections or absorbed from the alimentary canal, certain irritating foods, and occasionally mineral poisons, such as arsenic.

Morbid Anatomy.—Cirrhosis of the liver is generally regarded as chronic inflammation of the connective tissue in the portal areas, leading to secondary degeneration and atrophy of the hepatic cells. The view that it is due to a primary degeneration of these cells, and that the fibrosis is due to displacement, is not so widely held, but, as Rolleston suggests, it is probable that the causative poison affects both elements simultaneously, though in different ways.

The liver may be either enlarged, sometimes enormously (up to 200 ounces), or more commonly decreased in size or "atrophic," when it may weigh as little as thirty ounces. The enlargement may be due to active congestion, and therefore temporary, passing into atrophy at a later stage, or it may be due to extensive fatty change, when it is permanent. Fatty change and enlargement, as Rolleston shows, are not more common in beer-drinkers than in spirit-drinkers. The more atrophied the liver, the more likely is it to be rough, nodular, or "hobnailed" on the surface; and conversely, the larger the liver the greater is the probability of its being smooth or but slightly roughened. Atrophy is not necessarily preceded by a hypertrophic stage, but may be present from the first.

The following table gives the main features of the morbid anatomy both in portal and in biliary cirrhosis, and shows the differences between them:—

| PORTAL OR MULTILOBULAR CIRRHOSIS | BILIARY OR UNILOBULAR CIRRHOSIS |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The bile-ducts are not involved, and jaundice is a late symptom. 2. The new-formed connective tissue compresses the branches of the portal vein. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The smaller bile-ducts are inflamed (cholangitis); jaundice is early and severe. 2. The portal circulation is not impeded. |

PORTAL OR MULTILOBULAR CIRRHOSIS

3. In the earlier stages, active congestion and proliferation of connective tissue in the portal spaces may cause increase in the size of the liver; later, there is usually contraction.

4. The capsule is much thickened, and the surface is rough and hob-nailed.

5. The masses of liver cells vary in size, some consisting of several lobules, others being smaller than a lobule. Each mass forms a *distinct area* with a rounded outline, and is enclosed in a fibrous girdle.

6. On microscopic examination, the process is seen to be going on *chiefly* at the periphery of the lobules. The fibrous tissue is very dense.

BILIARY OR UNILOBULAR CIRRHOSIS

3. The new tissue is diffused throughout the organ, and causes a great increase in size.

4. The capsule is not thickened, and the surface is smooth (like morocco leather).

5. The masses of liver cells consist of isolated lobules. The cut surface has a uniform and finely-granulated appearance.

6. The fibrous tissue is not confined to the periphery, but invades the substance of the lobules. It is much more open than that of portal cirrhosis.

In portal cirrhosis the liver cells ultimately degenerate; in biliary cirrhosis they are for long well preserved. In both there may appear to be a new formation of bile-ducts, probably due to hyperplasia of the liver cells.

Portal cirrhosis, then, is a condition characterised pathologically by—

1. Increased growth of fibrous tissue in Glisson's capsule, and in the prolongations of it running into the liver substance.
 2. Obstruction to the portal circulation.
 3. Increased blood-pressure in the hepatic arteries.
 4. Obliteration of hepatic cells
 5. Obstruction of biliary ducts
- } *later.*

Ascites and hæmorrhoids are consequent upon the portal obstruction. Intestinal catarrh is very common, and enlargement of the spleen, due partly to toxæmia, partly to portal obstruction, is constant. Phthisis, pleurisy, or chronic peritonitis may be present as complications.

As the portal circulation becomes obstructed, a collateral circulation is established between the systemic veins and the

branches of the portal vein. The most common anastomoses are between—

1. The gastric and œsophageal veins.
2. The superior hæmorrhoidal of the inferior mesenteric and the inferior hæmorrhoidal of the internal iliac vein.
3. The veins of the intestines and the retroperitoneal veins.
4. The accessory portal vein of Sappey—*i.e.*, a vein running alongside the round ligament of the liver, connecting the portal vein with branches of the epigastric veins near the navel. This sometimes produces a large bunch of varicose veins, the so-called *caput medusæ*, surrounding the umbilicus.

Symptoms.—If the collateral circulation is well established, cirrhosis may remain latent and cause no symptoms. At first there is little disturbance beyond a catarrhal condition of the stomach—morning vomiting, anorexia, and acid eructations. Epistaxis is common in the early stages, and sooner or later a severe hæmatemesis or œsophageal hæmorrhage, coupled with a sense of weight in the hepatic region, reveals the true nature of the disease; and on examination, the liver is usually found to be enlarged, firm, sometimes slightly tender, and with a hard and sharp edge. Emaciation, pallor, with distended capillary vessels on the nose and cheeks, and flatulent distension of the abdomen are common at this stage, and if the emaciation is marked, granulations may be felt on the hepatic surface (“hob-nailed liver”). The spleen is also enlarged, although sometimes not palpably. There may be melæna. As time wears on, ascites and emaciation come to be the prominent features. The liver may remain enlarged, or may gradually contract, the area of hepatic dullness being diminished. Jaundice, probably hæmolytic in origin, is late and often slight; sometimes it is absent throughout. The ascites is well marked, and there may be œdema of the feet. The surface of the abdomen is covered by large distended veins, showing the attempted establishment of a collateral circulation. Fever as a rule is absent. There may be slight nervous symptoms at any time, but in the terminal stages drowsiness, delirium, or coma is specially liable to appear

and to lead on to death, which may also result from asthenia, uræmia, or cardiac failure.

Prognosis is bad as regards cure ; but if the collateral circulation be well established, the atrophy not marked, and if the patient is made to live temperately, bad symptoms may not arise for a considerable period. In far-advanced cirrhosis the treatment is merely palliative.

II. BILIARY CIRRHOSIS, OR HANOT'S DISEASE

Etiology.—Biliary, unilobular, or hypertrophic cirrhosis is most common between the ages of twenty and thirty, and not uncommon in young children. It may affect several members of the same family, and attacks males oftener than females. It has no definite connection with alcoholism, and the *causa causans* is unknown, though it is probably of a toxic nature, and derived from some chronic hæmic infection. The poison probably reaches the liver by the general circulation.

Morbid Anatomy.—The liver is uniformly enlarged, and may weigh as much as eight pounds. It is sometimes adherent to the diaphragm. The spleen is much more enlarged than in portal cirrhosis, and this may precede the hepatic enlargement. There is no intestinal catarrh. A secondary portal cirrhosis may be superadded to the biliary cirrhosis in old cases. For further details see the table on pp. 253, 254.

Symptoms.—The disease may begin with hepatic, splenic, or gastro-intestinal symptoms, the last being uncommon. The onset is generally gradual, and the course is slow. Jaundice is at first slight, but increases in intensity, and may at last be very marked. There are periodic attacks of abdominal pain, accompanied by *fever*, and wasting is progressive. Ascites is absent until late in the disease, when it may follow secondary portal cirrhosis ; but the upper part of the abdomen is distended by the enlarged liver and spleen. The liver is smooth, firm, slightly tender, and uniformly enlarged, and its lower border may be found at the level of the umbilicus or below it. The urine contains bile, but the fæces are not pale. Hæmorrhages such as epistaxis may occur in the late stages, but hæmatemesis is rare. The disease lasts several years and leads to death by

toxæmia, coma, or the typhoid state, or through intercurrent affections.

Treatment of Hepatic Cirrhosis.—Whichever form is present, the principles of treatment are the same. Temperance in eating, a light and nourishing diet, abstinence from alcohol, and from hot condiments or irritating foods must be observed. In portal cirrhosis milk diet is advisable at first, until some improvement is apparent, when the diet may be made less rigid. The bowels should be kept open by salines, such as sulphate of soda, or Carlsbad salts, which have also a beneficial effect on the intestinal catarrh. Chloride of ammonium may be tried, and iodide of potassium if there is any chance that the cirrhosis is syphilitic. Tonics such as strychnine or nux vomica with hydrochloric acid are useful, while abdominal massage and regular exercise are beneficial in the early stages. Arsenic is contra-indicated.

In *ascites*, the fluid should be evacuated by means of a trocar and cannula. The abdomen must afterwards be firmly bandaged, to avoid the consequences of too sudden relief of the pressure on the intra-abdominal veins. In lesser degrees of ascites, saline laxatives or jalap should be given. Stronger purgatives may set up intractable diarrhœa. *Hæmatemesis*, if moderate, should not be treated too energetically, as it often acts as a safety-valve by relieving portal congestion. If it be excessive, ice, ergot, acid sulph. dil., or a full dose of morphia should be resorted to.

The operation of *epiplopexy* (suturing the great omentum to the abdominal wall) is an attempt to increase the collateral circulation, and has proved serviceable in some cases of ascites, but its statistics are not very encouraging, and the mortality is high.

SYPHILIS OF THE LIVER

In congenital syphilis the liver is very frequently affected, being enlarged, firm, and resistant, and showing histologically a pericellular cirrhosis. Less commonly, isolated gummata are present, or a circumscribed gummatous hepatitis may simulate a tumour. The existence of other signs of congenital syphilis makes the diagnosis easy. When such cases are cured, the liver may be left with a diminished power of resistance to disease,

and multilobular cirrhosis may arise in such children when its exciting causes are present. The liver may also suffer in late hereditary syphilis.

In adults, jaundice is sometimes present in the secondary stage of syphilis. It is due to a specific hepatitis, and readily yields to specific treatment. Far more important are the tertiary lesions, which may closely simulate cirrhosis of the liver. Gummata, cicatrices, and gummatous infiltration are all found. In the cases resembling cirrhosis, the infiltration is usually combined with the presence of gummata or of cicatrices. Ascites is the most prominent symptom, and there may be other evidences of portal obstruction, along with enlargement of the spleen. The outline of the liver is, however, irregular, and the enlargement is not uniform, the left lobe being often relatively enlarged as compared with the right. Jaundice is present in about half the cases; emaciation is usually less in syphilis than in cirrhosis. There may be other signs of syphilis, or a history of it, while an alcoholic history speaks for cirrhosis.

In other cases a large gumma may simulate tumour, and in yet others there may be irregular fever, along with enlargement and tenderness of the liver, suggesting abscess.

For *treatment*, see p. 105.

CANCER OF THE LIVER

Cancer is the most common hepatic tumour. It may be primary, but is much more often secondary to cancer elsewhere, especially in the gastro-intestinal tract, and in women in the breast or pelvic organs. Sarcoma also occurs, but it is not common. Angioma is frequent, but of no clinical importance. Men are more frequently attacked than women, and oftenest in middle or later life. The predisposing causes are similar to those of cancer elsewhere, namely, heredity, injuries, etc.

Morbid Anatomy.—All types of cancer have been found in the liver, but the primary forms are nearly always epitheliomatous, and of the cylinder-celled variety.

Primary Cancer.—Two main types are distinguished—

1. The massive cancer, greyish-white in colour, occupies a large portion of the liver, and is abruptly defined from the liver tissue.

2. Nodular cancer, in which the nodules vary much in size, and are irregularly scattered throughout the organ.

In a third form, which is rare, the growth is diffuse, and the liver is usually contracted.

Secondary Cancer.—The tumours have the structure of the primary growth. They occur as nodules scattered throughout the substance of the liver, which becomes enormously enlarged. The growth of each nodule is uniform in all directions, and the more superficial nodules thus protrude as rounded tumours on the surface. As they grow larger their central portions become necrotic, and the surface consequently presents a central depression. Section of the liver shows scattered and irregular whitish areas of malignant growth, of which the central portions have undergone necrosis and fatty degeneration, and into many of which hæmorrhage has occurred.

Symptoms.—With or without previous indications of gastrointestinal, uterine, or mammary cancer, *pain* in the hepatic area and often in the right shoulder, at first slight, afterwards severe and lancinating, is usually present. In some cases it is not marked. The patient rapidly emaciates, and assumes the characteristic cachetic appearance. The liver is very greatly enlarged, often extending below the umbilicus; its edge is irregular; it is hard and tender; and its surface is studded with nodules easily felt through the emaciated abdominal wall, often with a central depression or *umbilication*, and of a hardness even greater than that of the rest of the liver. The nodules are sometimes even visible below the ribs (the so-called “Farre’s tubercles”). Jaundice, from pressure on the common bile-duct, is present in about half the cases and is often deep; ascites from pressure on the portal vein or from malignant peritonitis is not uncommon. Attacks of local peritonitis may from time to time increase the pain. Febrile attacks may alternate with afebrile periods. It should be remembered that cancer may occur in a cirrhotic liver, in which case there may be no enlargement. Should the growth be a melano-sarcoma, pigmented nodules in the skin may point to its true nature.

The course is rapid, and death is seldom delayed more than a year.

Diagnosis between cancer and cirrhosis is often difficult when there is a strong history of alcoholism. The following table may help :—

| | CIRRHOSIS. | CANCER. |
|-------------------|---|---|
| <i>Progress</i> - | 1. Often slow. | 1. Always rapid. |
| <i>Liver</i> - | 2. Enlarged or small ; nodules absent or small, not tender, and appearing late. | 2. Large and irregular ; nodules large, tender, and early apparent. |
| <i>Pain</i> - | 3. Not marked. | 3. Well marked. |
| <i>Ascites</i> - | 4. Usually present. | 4. Often absent. |
| <i>Jaundice</i> - | 5. Not till late. | 5. Often a marked feature. |

HYDATID DISEASE

Hydatid Cysts occur more frequently in the liver than in any other organ. They are usually single, but may be multiple. They are most frequent in the right lobe.

For the life history of the parasite and the characters of the cyst, *see* p. 229.

Symptoms.—A hydatid cyst of the liver grows slowly, and usually upwards towards the pleura, or downwards below the ribs. It is painless unless it suppurates, and may cause no symptoms until it becomes extremely large or bursts. Pain, often severe, rigors and sweating, remittent fever, and emaciation (*i.e.*, signs of septic infection) follow suppuration, which ends in rupture of the cyst. The blood shows a moderate degree of eosinophilia.

Physical Examination.—When the cyst grows from the anterior surface, a globular, dense, elastic tumour may be felt, and with care fluctuation is detected. On palpation, a peculiar vibratory thrill (hydatid fremitus) is sometimes present. There is no tenderness, nor any sign of “pointing” as in abscess. Jaundice is absent. If the cyst is on the posterior surface, the area of hepatic dullness is increased in an upward direction. When the cyst is very large, there may be pressure upon the lung, the abdominal viscera, the vena cava, or the portal vein, causing respectively dyspnœa, constipation, œdema, or ascites ; but pressure symptoms are usually absent.

Prognosis.—The cyst may undergo spontaneous cure without rupture, death of the parasite causing it to contract. As a rule it increases until rupture takes place into the lung or pleura, into the intestines, into the hepatic duct, or into the peritoneal cavity.

Treatment.—As soon as the cyst is discovered, employ surgical means. Aspiration is often practised, but incision and evacuation of the contents is much the best method of treatment.

Other cysts of the liver may occasionally occur, but their interest is chiefly pathological.

LARDACEOUS, AMYLOID, OR WAXY LIVER

The liver is often affected with lardaceous disease, and as elsewhere, the degeneration begins in the middle coats of the blood-vessels, and afterwards affects the capillaries, which become swollen and compress the hepatic cells, causing them to degenerate and atrophy. The liver is uniformly and enormously enlarged and smooth. On section, its substance is glistening, firm, and resembles yellow wax, the cut surfaces showing only faint traces of lobules. If tincture of iodine be poured upon the cut surface after it has been washed free of blood, the amyloid substance (*lardacein*) takes on a reddish-brown or claret colour. It must be remembered that amyloid disease may coexist with fatty or syphilitic disease of the liver.

Etiology.—Prolonged suppuration, as in tuberculous ulcerations, caries, necrosis, and phthisis; syphilis, even when there has been no suppuration; and very rarely chronic toxæmic conditions or the malarial cachexia.

Symptoms.—The only hepatic *symptom* is a sense of weight in the region of the liver; other symptoms, such as diarrhœa and albuminuria, are due to involvement of the bowel and kidney. The liver is enormously enlarged, firm, smooth on the surface, and not tender. The spleen is also much enlarged, and presents similar characters. Later, there may be a terminal ascites, but ascites is usually due to complications. *Pain is*

rare, and jaundice is absent. Simultaneous implication of the spleen and kidney is important for the diagnosis. The disease is usually fatal.

Treatment.—Remove the cause if possible. Iodide of potassium is often of great service, especially when the disease is due to syphilis. The general treatment is similar to that of tuberculosis (*see* Phthisis, pp. 410-19).

FATTY LIVER

Two conditions are included under this designation, fatty infiltration, or an excessive accumulation of fat-globules in the hepatic cells, and fatty degeneration, in which the cell-protoplasm is partially replaced by fat. Infiltration is merely an exaggeration of the normal condition, for the hepatic cells always contain fat-globules; degeneration is pathological. The two conditions tend to run into one another.

Etiology.—Fatty liver is met with (1) in obesity (infiltration); (2) as a result of poisoning by bacterial or other toxins (acute infections, *pulmonary tuberculosis*, *alcoholism*, anæmia, poisoning by *phosphorus* or other chemical poisons, acute yellow atrophy of the liver); (3) in combination with other diseases of the liver (cirrhosis, amyloid, passive congestion).

Morbid Anatomy.—The organ is uniformly and sometimes very markedly enlarged; its surface is smooth, its consistence sometimes firm, sometimes soft, and its edges are rounded. On section it is greasy. The fatty change is most marked at the periphery of the lobule, but the whole lobule may be affected.

Symptoms.—Any symptoms that are present are due to the causative disease. The physical signs are those of an enlarged liver, somewhat soft in consistence, regular in outline, and with rounded edges. The enlargement is *not* accompanied by pain or jaundice, or by enlargement of the spleen. The stools are pale but bile is not absent.

Treatment is that of the primary disease.

PASSIVE CONGESTION OF THE LIVER

This common condition is secondary to dilatation of the right ventricle, whether produced by pulmonary conditions such as emphysema, or by lesions of the left side of the heart. *Post mortem* the liver is found to be enlarged, deeply engorged, and firm; and on section, the intralobular and sublobular branches of the hepatic vein are seen to be dilated, so that the centre of the lobule has a deep red or purplish hue, while the periphery is yellowish or pale from fatty change (nutmeg liver).

Symptoms.—There is a feeling of weight in the right hypochondrium, with digestive disturbances. The liver is enlarged, often very considerably, markedly tender, and it presents a firm, smooth surface. Occasionally it can be felt to pulsate. Slight jaundice is often present, and its yellow tint may combine with the cyanosis of the cheeks and lips to form the so-called mitral facies. Ascites is not infrequent.

Treatment.—The cardiac condition must receive attention, and the hepatic engorgement should be dealt with by saline or mercurial purges, and the local application of leeches or cups.

DISEASES OF THE GALL BLADDER AND BILE-DUCTS

CHOLECYSTITIS

Inflammation of the gall bladder may be catarrhal, suppurative, or gangrenous. It is most frequently due to microbic infection produced by extension of inflammation from neighbouring parts. Parasites or calculi in the gall bladder may act as exciting causes. The organisms chiefly found are the coliform group, the typhoid bacillus, the pyogenic cocci, and the pneumococcus. The gall bladder is distended, and the cystic duct is often closed by swelling of the mucous membrane. The chief *symptoms* are fever, tenderness a little above and to the right of the umbilicus, and pain in the same situation or referred to the appendix. Jaundice occurs in about a third of the cases. There may be vomiting. The gall bladder can sometimes be felt. In the suppurative and phlegmonous cases, perforation may occur, and results in local abscess or general peritonitis. Treatment consists in confinement to bed, relief of pain, and soothing applications to the right hypochondrium; suppuration or the presence of calculi calls for operative measures.

CHOLANGITIS

Acute Cholangitis (*catarrhal jaundice*) has been generally supposed to be an inflammation limited to the lower end of the common bile-duct, associated with catarrh of the stomach and duodenum, and therefore produced by the causes of that disease, or with pressure on the duct due to catarrh of the head of the pancreas. Of late years, however, it has frequently occurred in epidemic form among children, and occasionally among adults, the cases being indistinguishable from those which usually arise in isolated instances. The inference would seem to be that the latter are sporadic cases of an occasionally epidemic malady caused by some organism as yet unknown; and it is suggested that a diffuse hepatitis, involving the common bile-duct by descending inflammation, may account for the obstructive jaundice.

Whatever its cause, it is one of the commonest forms of jaundice. Its onset is often gradual, the patient complaining for some little time of headache, drowsiness, anorexia, or dyspeptic symptoms, possibly also of slight feverishness. In other cases obstructive jaundice may set in without warning. The skin is yellow, but never bronzed, bile is absent from the fæces and present in the urine, and there is often pruritus. There is no pain or tenderness. The liver is not usually enlarged, but a moderate enlargement has occasionally been noticed even in the sporadic cases, and some enlargement is not uncommon in the epidemic form. The condition lasts for several weeks, after which the jaundice gradually disappears. *Treatment* consists in light diet, fats being specially restricted, abstinence from alcohol, and the use of saline laxatives, with an occasional dose of calomel. Salicylates or urotropin may also be given as biliary antiseptics. The patient should not be purged.

Suppurative Cholangitis, which is most frequent in the presence of gall-stones, is due to infection by micro-organisms (the pyogenic cocci, *B. coli*, *B. typhosus*), the activity of which is promoted either by local diseases or by general infections (enteric, pneumonia, cholera, etc.). Its chief symptoms are rigors, fever, nausea, and vomiting, with jaundice and a smooth, tender enlargement of the liver. The gall bladder is also enlarged. Pain may be severe or slight. The treatment is surgical.

TUMOURS

Cancer, whether of the gall bladder or bile-duct, is frequently associated with gall-stones, and is commoner in women than in men. Cancer of the gall bladder may begin either at the fundus or near the neck, and presents itself as a firm, hard, nodular tumour, very tender on pressure, and in the situation of the gall bladder. Pain is severe and often paroxysmal, and jaundice is usually present, but is not an early symptom. The liver may be secondarily affected. When the disease affects the bile-duct, the gall bladder is distended, and may be felt as a smooth ovoidal swelling below the ninth costal cartilage. Jaundice is present from the first, and becomes progressively deeper. Pain is slight or absent. Secondary growths are not common.

GALL-STONES

Gall-stones or biliary calculi are formed in the gall bladder, rarely in the bile-ducts, as the result of several contributory factors. The most important of these is infection of the gall bladder, which leads to a mild and chronic catarrh, the organisms principally concerned being *B. coli*, the less virulent strains of staphylococcus and streptococcus, and occasionally *B. typhosus*. The infection may be blood-borne (tonsils, teeth, appendix) or may spread from the liver or duodenum. An increase in the cholesterol content of the blood, whether from endogenous or exogenous sources, also favours the occurrence of gall-stones, and is present in a large proportion of the cases. Any cause which leads to stagnation of bile predisposes to their occurrence, and among such causes are sedentary occupations, constipation, corset-wearing, enteroptosis, and *pregnancy*. Women, therefore, are the most frequent subjects, and among female patients Naunyn states that 90 per cent. have borne children. Cholesterolaemia, it is to be noted, is a constant accompaniment of pregnancy, in which condition the percentage of cholesterol in the bile is also much increased. Gall-stones are rare before the age of thirty.

Characters and Composition.—Gall-stones may consist of pure cholesterol, or of cholesterol with a mixture of bile-pigment and salts of lime (bilirubin-calcium) and magnesia. They are formed around a nucleus which may be epithelial or

mucoid, or may consist of bile-pigment, but is most frequently microbic. The stones may be single or multiple. When single, they are ovoid in shape, and if composed of pure cholesterol, as is usual, they are light, glistening, and with a granulated surface. Much more commonly they are multiple, in which case they are *faceted* from pressure of the opposing surfaces. The ordinary gall-stone consists chiefly of cholesterol, arranged in laminæ, but its nucleus is of bile-pigment. It also contains salts of lime and magnesia. Externally it may be yellow or brown, and has a greasy surface when fresh. The numbers vary; there may be only a few, or many hundreds.

Symptoms.—If the calculi remain in the bladder, they may cause no symptoms whatever. If a calculus passes into the cystic duct or common bile-duct, it gives rise to *biliary colic*, of which the following are the main symptoms:—

1. Sudden and excruciating *pain*, usually paroxysmal, beginning in the epigastrium or right hypochondrium, and radiating in all directions over the abdomen, also into the lower part of the thorax, and sometimes into the right shoulder. Marked *tenderness* in the epigastrium and right hypochondrium, often with a palpably enlarged gall bladder.

2. Rigors, profuse sweating, great feebleness of pulse, symptoms of collapse. Fever is present in more than half the cases, and is due to a concomitant acute cholecystitis.

3. Reflex vomiting, which often gives some relief (probably by the diaphragmatic contractions aiding peristalsis).

4. In the majority of cases, *jaundice*, arising sometimes a few hours, sometimes as long as three days, after the onset of pain, and persisting for a few days or even a few weeks.

The attack lasts from three to twelve hours, but a rapid succession of attacks may cause almost continuous pain for several days. The pain ends suddenly when the stone slips into the bowel, but the patient is left very prostrate. The *fæces* should be examined for the presence of calculi.

Instead of passing into the duodenum, the stone may be impacted in the cystic duct. An attack of biliary colic *without jaundice* follows; and the permanent results are (1) *Dropsy of the gall bladder*, which may be felt as a smooth movable ovoid tumour beneath the lower edge of the liver, and has been mistaken for floating kidney. When the obstruction is chronic,

the contents of the tumour are clear mucus. (2) *Cholecystitis*, simple or suppurative, the latter (*empyema* of the gall bladder) being the commoner. (3) Atrophy of the gall bladder, which may be a sequel to dropsy.

If the stone is impacted in the common duct, permanent jaundice follows. If the obstruction is partial, so that the stone forms a ball-valve, the jaundice varies in intensity, and there are recurrent attacks of colic with the so-called *hepatic intermittent fever* (rigors, pyrexia, and sweating). The jaundice deepens with each paroxysm.

Calculi in the gall bladder may sometimes cause acute cholecystitis, or may lead to ulceration, with the establishment of a *biliary fistula* opening into the duodenum, colon, or other hollow viscus. A large stone passing through such an opening may give rise to obstruction of the bowel. Occasionally a fistula opens on the skin.

Gall-stone dyspepsia (pain in the right hypochondrium after food, flatulence, and occasional vomiting), and sometimes *cancer of the gall bladder*, may be late results of gall-stones.

The **Treatment** of biliary colic consists in—(1) Hypodermic injection of morphia ; (2) chloroform inhalations till the morphia acts ; (3) hot fomentations or the hot bath, and laxatives.

Subsequently, stagnation of bile should be prevented by regular exercise, abdominal massage, and the avoidance of tight corsets or belts, the diet should be regulated, and salines, especially the sulphate or phosphate of soda, should be given. Sodium salicylate in doses of gr. x (grm. 0.6) thrice daily is useful in promoting the flow of bile. Surgical measures are called for in recurrent attacks of colic, or in the presence of complications.

DISEASES OF THE PANCREAS

These are comparatively rare, but not the less important. In a series of 6000 autopsies performed at Guy's Hospital, the pancreas was diseased in ninety-nine instances, or 1.6 per cent. (Hale White.) Impairment of pancreatic functions leads to imperfect digestion of fats and of proteids, and frequently to imperfect metabolism of sugar. The stools therefore contain excess of fat (*steatorrhœa*), and are pale, soft, and bulky, and undigested

muscle fibre may be found in them (*creatorrhœa*), while glycosuria or a decrease in sugar tolerance follows deficiency of the internal secretion. Apart from these, the tests for pancreatic insufficiency are either too elaborate for clinical use or of uncertain value.

Pancreatitis may be acute or chronic. In either case it is the result of infection extending along the duct from the intestine, or, if the ampulla of Vater is obstructed, from the common bile-duct. The *acute* form may be either suppurative or hæmorrhagic, and may lead to thrombosis of the splenic vein and fat necrosis of the subperitoneal fat. It occurs chiefly in males between the ages of twenty-five and sixty. Though there may be previous duodenal catarrh, the actual onset is abrupt. Sudden and severe epigastric pain, vomiting, and collapse are the chief symptoms. Tenderness and rigidity across the middle of the epigastrium, where in the course of a few hours a circumscribed swelling may appear, are aids to diagnosis; and sometimes there is absolute dullness in both flanks, unaltered by any change of position. This is due to the presence of coagulated blood, which has flowed into the kidney pouches. It may aid in distinguishing the disease from acute intestinal obstruction, with which, or with perforating gastric ulcer, it is very often confused. Slight jaundice may be present, and after the initial collapse some fever. Medicinal treatment can do little but relieve pain, and cases so treated end fatally within four or five days; but of late years, though the mortality is still high, there have been many recoveries under *early* incision and drainage.

The *chronic* form has no very definite symptoms. It leads to generalised fibrosis with atrophy of the glandular substance (diabetes), and sometimes to jaundice from implication of the common duct. Cysts or calculi may form in the ducts.

Pancreatic Cysts, if small and numerous, may be due to chronic pancreatitis; if large, they are caused by an impacted calculus in the duct or by pressure upon it from without. They may reach a great size. The fluid contents possess diastasic and sometimes tryptic activity, an important point in diagnosis. The smaller cysts cause no symptoms; the larger cause tumour in the epigastrium (often with visible bulging) median in position, immobile, elastic, but non-fluctuant, and dull to percussion. Pain and fever are unusual, but wasting

may be present, and sometimes glycosuria. Inflation of the stomach shows that the tumour lies behind it. The *treatment* is surgical.

Cancer of the Pancreas affects chiefly the head of the gland. It may be scirrhus or medullary, and causes metastatic growths in the liver and spleen. It may press upon the duodenum (dilatation of stomach) or infiltrate the hilum of the liver (jaundice, ascites). The tumour often reaches a considerable size. The early *symptoms* are severe and paroxysmal epigastric pain, which may, however, be absent, with rapid wasting, and the other general signs of malignant disease. Later a tumour, or sometimes only increased resistance, is to be felt in the upper part of the abdomen, to the right of the middle line. The tumour, when present, is firm, tender, and immobile. Pressure symptoms (*see above*) may be noted. Glycosuria is sometimes present. Death occurs from asthenia or gastric hæmorrhage.

Hæmorrhage into the pancreas may cause sudden death. The symptoms are severe and sudden epigastric pain, with nausea and vomiting, and sometimes epigastric tenderness. *Post mortem* no other lesion may be found.

DISEASES OF THE PERITONEUM

ASCITES

ASCITES or dropsy of the peritoneum is not a disease in itself, but is merely symptomatic of some condition which causes an increased transudation of fluid into the peritoneal cavity. Dropsy is due to some abnormal change in the blood-vessel walls, along with an increase of pressure within the vessels, and sometimes an altered composition of the blood. These conditions are to be found as the result of inflammation, vaso-motor paralysis, or obstruction. Since the venous blood of the intestines is returned *via* the portal circulation, we naturally look for the more common causes of ascites in morbid states of the portal vein; but it must be remembered that inflammatory changes of local blood-vessels due to morbid processes in the peritoneum or abdominal organs also tend to bring about dropsy of the peritoneum. It is important to remember that the causes of ascites are *not confined to obstruction* of the portal vein; sometimes the dropsy is of local inflammatory origin, and the fluid is then frequently collected into localised pools, and lies within a meshwork of inflammatory adhesions so extensive as to mask the typical signs of ascites.

Etiology.—The local causes of ascites are—

1. *Portal obstruction*, either within or outside the liver.
2. Chronic peritonitis, simple, malignant, or tuberculous.

Ascites may also be due to general causes, forming part of the dropsy of renal or cardiac disease.

It must be remembered that venous obstruction does not of itself produce dropsy *until some retrograde change is set up in the walls of the vessels*. But the retarded flow which it induces ultimately alters the nutrition of the vessel wall.

As causes of portal obstruction may be mentioned thrombosis of the portal vein; cirrhosis of the liver and perihepatitis;

enlarged glands in the portal fissure ; neoplasms of the liver or pancreas ; and, secondarily, malignant disease in connection with the intestines or other abdominal organs.

Signs.—The cardinal signs are—

1. Enlargement of the abdomen, most marked in the flanks when the patient is lying on his back : the skin is tense and shiny, with dilated superficial veins on the surface.

2. Prominence of the umbilicus.

3. Fluctuation, or a thrill transmitted to the examining hand laid flat upon one flank when the opposite flank is tapped by the finger.

4. With the patient on his back, percussion yields a dull note in the flanks and hypogastrium, whilst the note at the umbilicus is resonant. The dullness changes its position as the patient turns on his side, the upper flank becoming clear, and the area of dullness in the lower flank increasing in extent as the fluid gravitates downwards.

5. In cases where the liver is enlarged, a sudden jerk with the finger upon the abdominal wall just beneath the right costal margin displaces the fluid, and allows the finger to settle down upon the surface of the organ (*dipping* for the liver).

The above conditions are sometimes associated with anasarca, or other symptoms of dropsy elsewhere.

Certain intra-abdominal conditions may alter these physical signs. If the amount of fluid is large and the intestines are bound by adhesions to the posterior wall, there will be no umbilical resonance, but the note will be dull all over. If the effusion of fluid is due to peritonitis, inflammatory adhesions may prevent its free movement as the patient changes his position. If the amount of fluid is small, no wave of fluctuation may be transmitted across the abdomen. If it is very small, even the dullness may be difficult to demonstrate in the dorsal position ; but in the knee-elbow position a peri-umbilical dullness will be found.

Large ascitic accumulations have often been mistaken for the pregnant uterus or for an ovarian cyst. A tabular statement of the distinctions between them is appended (*see* p. 272).

In all cases an examination should be made of the ascitic fluid, both microscopically and macroscopically.

Ordinary ascitic fluid is light yellow or straw-coloured,

generally of about 1010 sp. gr., and contains albumin. In *chylous* ascites, associated with disease of the pancreas and lacteals, the fluid is turbid and milky, exhibiting oil globules. In malignant ascites the fluid is often dark from the presence of blood. "Cancer" cells may be discovered under the microscope.

Fluid due to inflammatory exudation is of a higher sp. gr., 1014-1020.

DIAGNOSTIC TABLE

| OVARIAN CYST. | PREGNANCY. | ASCITES. |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Enlargement first noticed unilaterally. | 1. Enlargement median. | 1. Uniform distension of abdomen. |
| 2. Abdomen dull to percussion in front, resonant in the flanks. Area of dullness greater on affected side, but extends beyond middle line. | 2. Dullness median, flanks clear. | 2. Dullness in flanks and hypogastrium, resonance in umbilical and epigastric regions. |
| 3. Dullness does not change with change of patient's position. | 3. No change on change of position. | 3. Dullness leaves uppermost flank when patient lies on side. |
| 4. Fluctuation over area of tumour. | 4. No fluctuation except in hydramnios. | 4. Fluctuation general over whole abdomen. |
| 5. Umbilico - pubic measurement greater than umbilico-sternal; distance between umbilicus and anterior superior spine greater on affected side. | 5. Umbilico - pubic measurement greater than umbilico-sternal; distance between umbilicus and anterior superior spines equal on the two sides. | 5. Umbilico - pubic measurement less than umbilico - sternal; distance between umbilicus and anterior superior spines equal on the two sides. |
| 6. No signs of pregnancy; general health deteriorated. | 6. Other signs of pregnancy; health normal. | 6. No signs of pregnancy; general health deteriorated. |

Treatment.—Seek the primary disease, and direct the treatment to improving the general health on the principles already laid down under hepatic disease. In ascites of cardiac or renal origin, saline purgatives are often beneficial.

If the fluid causes dyspnœa, or other symptoms of pressure, it should be evacuated by a trocar and cannula, inserted either in the flank, or in the middle line between umbilicus and pubis after evacuation of the bladder. Paracentesis may be repeated many times without danger, if due antiseptic precautions are observed. It must not be forgotten that in old cases the vessels of

the abdomen may be so far devitalised that a sudden removal of the support afforded them by the dropsical fluid causes them to become engorged with blood, and may set up fatal syncope. The abdominal wall should therefore be supported during the operation by bandages, gradually tightened as the fluid is withdrawn.

ACUTE PERITONITIS

Inflammation of the peritoneum is very rarely primary.

In the words of Hilton Fagge—"The peritoneum is a huge areolar space or lymph sac, and its most intimate pathological relations are not with the skin or mucous membrane—not even with the joints or the so-called arachnoid space—but with the pleura, pericardium, and tunica vaginalis. The diseases of these three divisions of the same original cavity are the same: acute inflammation, serous or purulent, traumatic or septic; chronic adhesive inflammation with hypertrophy; chronic irritative effusion, and passive dropsical effusion—hydrothorax, hydropericardium, and ascites. All three serous membranes are liable to be invaded by tubercle, and also by cancer. All three are prone to follow the pathological fate of the viscera which they cover; they are all apt to suffer in the course of Bright's disease, and, lastly, they are all affected together often by inflammation or tubercle, or more rarely by cancer."¹

A peritonitic effusion differs, however, from pleuritic effusion in showing a greater tendency to become purulent, which is probably to be explained by the close proximity of the septic intestinal contents.

Etiology.—Acute peritonitis is almost always due to bacterial infection, by the pyogenic cocci, by intestinal organisms, or by the pneumococcus or gonococcus. It is very frequently secondary to perforation of an abdominal viscus, as in gastric ulcer, enteric ulcer, or *appendicitis*; or to extension of inflammation from neighbouring organs, such as the stomach, spleen, pancreas, liver, and *pelvic organs*. It may follow upon strangulation of the bowel, or upon penetrating wounds. The infection may occasionally be transmitted by the blood; and a fatal peritonitis may occur in the course of chronic Bright's disease.

¹ Hilton Fagge's *Medicine*, 3rd edition, vol. ii., p. 305.

Morbid Anatomy.—1. At first there is hyperæmia with loss of lustre ; the hyperæmia is most marked where the intestinal coils *are not* in close contact with one another. This is followed by—

2. Fibrinous exudation, giving a more or less shaggy appearance ; and by—

3. Effusion of fluid, which may be highly fibrinous and coagulate easily, forming extensive adhesions ; or which may become rapidly purulent.

Symptoms.—The symptoms of an *acute general peritonitis* present a most characteristic clinical picture, the main features of which are—

1. Great pain and tenderness over the abdomen, which is usually tense from tympanites, and *rigid* from muscular contraction.

2. Hurried, shallow, *thoracic* breathing.

3. Quick, wiry, and incompressible pulse.

4. Facies Hippocratica—*i.e.*, “a sharp nose, hollow eyes, collapsed temples ; the ears cold, contracted, and their lobes turned out ; the skin about the forehead being rough, distended, and parched ; the colour of the whole face being brown, black, livid, or lead-coloured.” The face is also anxious.

5. Constipation ; *vomiting* and often hiccough ; dry, small, red tongue.

6. Moderate fever.

7. Moderate and uniform abdominal distension, increased resistance, *absence of visible peristalsis*. In later stages dullness in the flanks (fluid effusion).

8. In *perforative* peritonitis the abdomen may be tympanitic all over, the hepatic and splenic dullness being completely obliterated. Partial obliteration of the hepatic dullness may be due to meteorism. The onset of symptoms is sudden.

The abdominal tenderness is sometimes so marked that the slightest touch, or even the movements of sneezing, coughing, or respiration, may cause exquisite agony.

Whilst the above are the cardinal symptoms of a general acute peritonitis, it must not be forgotten that the condition may occasionally be latent, or that the temperature may be

subnormal, diarrhoea may be present instead of constipation, and the patient's face may be actually *apathetic* instead of anxious. This latter state is probably more frequent when the peritonitic fluid speedily becomes purulent, as in some cases of puerperal or appendicular peritonitis, or those that follow perforation of an enteric ulcer.

Acute localised peritonitis may be appendicular (see Appendicitis, p. 210), or pelvic, originating in the Fallopian tubes or uterus, or it may implicate the cavity of the lesser peritoneum—*subphrenic peritonitis*. This condition may follow direct injury, but is usually due to disease of an abdominal organ—stomach, duodenum, appendix, liver, gall-bladder, or pancreas—and much most commonly results from perforation of a gastric ulcer. It may be non-suppurative, but generally ends in *subphrenic abscess*, of which the symptoms are often obscure. The local signs have been mentioned under Ulcer of the Stomach (pp. 189, 192); they are usually associated with hectic fever and sweating, rigors, and emaciation. Such an abscess is often mistaken for an empyema: when it is due to perforation it frequently contains air, and may simulate a pyopneumothorax. Attention to the history and to the previous symptoms should obviate mistakes.

Prognosis depends largely on the cause. When the disease is the result of perforation it may be fatal in a few hours. The prognosis is of course much more favourable when the peritonitis is localised.

Treatment is almost entirely operative. The extent of the operation depends upon the local conditions found when the abdomen is opened, and upon the general condition of the patient. It should be done as soon as possible; if for any reason it is delayed, the previous treatment must consist mainly in alleviating pain and lessening peristalsis by opium or morphine, and locally by ice or warmth, whichever is best borne. It is desirable not to mask the symptoms by using morphine too freely, but that is not to say that the appeal of humanity should be neglected. Where there is much shock or collapse, intravenous injection, or injection into the subcutaneous cellular tissue, of normal saline solution is of great value. Large quantities may be used. Besides producing a temporary restoration of the strength, such as may fit the patient for

operation, these injections tend to eliminate the toxins by flushing the kidneys.

In peritonitis due to perforation, the prospect of recovery is in inverse ratio to the amount of delay in operating.

CHRONIC PERITONITIS

Chronic peritonitis may be simple, tuberculous, or malignant.

Simple Chronic Peritonitis may be localised or general. The local form most commonly affects the capsule of the liver or spleen (*perihepatitis*, *perisplenitis*), where it may be sometimes recognised by a rubbing friction sound upon auscultation, and less commonly the intestinal peritoneum. In either situation it causes adhesions, and in connection with the intestine, these may form bands which lead to intestinal obstruction. The *general* form is common in association with cirrhosis of the liver, chronic Bright's disease, and chronic alcoholism. It sometimes follows a subacute attack, and may form part of a general serositis (*polyorrrhomenitis*), in which the pleura and pericardium also suffer. The peritoneum is greatly thickened, the mesentery and omentum are shortened, the calibre of the bowel is diminished, and adhesions are numerous. Effusion may be moderate in amount, the fluid being divided by adhesions into separate compartments, or it may be extensive, the fluid being free in the abdominal cavity. Constipation is often a symptom. The physical signs are increased resistance, sometimes with friction, and evidences of a localised effusion of fluid or of ascites. Treatment consists mainly in removal of the cause, if that be possible, attention to the general health, and repeated tapplings.

Tuberculous Peritonitis may occur at any age, but is most common in children, in whom it may arise by direct infection from the bowel as a consequence of the ingestion of tuberculous milk, the bovine type of bacillus being frequently found in abdominal tuberculosis. In many instances, however, the abdominal lymphatic glands are the primary site of infection; and the disease is often associated with the presence of tubercle elsewhere. In women it is generally an extension from the Fallopian tubes, and in men it may follow testicular disease. It may complicate phthisis, and sometimes other serous membranes

are affected at the same time. After childhood it is most common between the ages of twenty and forty.

Morbid Anatomy.—The peritoneum is studded with tubercles, most abundantly on the under surface of the diaphragm and in the flanks. There are numerous adhesions, by which the intestines may be matted together. The omentum is often thickened and rolled up so as to form a sausage-shaped tumour lying across the upper part of the abdomen. The mesenteric glands may be much enlarged, especially in children, in whom they may form tumour-like thickenings (*tabes mesenterica*). Caseous masses lie between the matted coils of intestine. Locular collections of serum or pus may be present, or a moderate amount of free fluid, which is sometimes hæmorrhagic.

Symptoms.—The disease may set in acutely with considerable fever, meteorism, and abdominal pain; or the onset may simulate that of enteric fever. More commonly the condition is chronic from the outset, and in children the symptoms are gradual enlargement of the abdomen, with areas of dullness and resistance, and others of resonant percussion, sometimes with distinctly palpable nodules due to the enlarged glands, at other times with the sausage-shaped omental tumour mentioned above. An *ascitic* and an *adhesive* form are described; in the one there is much free fluid, in the other a doughy resistance of the abdominal wall. The limbs and thorax are wasted. Diarrhœa is frequent, and there is often irregular fever. The pleura is sometimes involved.

In adults the *diagnosis* may be difficult, but it is assisted by the presence of tuberculosis elsewhere.

Treatment.—Rest in bed, with a plentiful supply of fresh air, and an appropriate diet are the chief general measures. If there is diarrhœa, milk alone must be given, but when diarrhœa and fever have subsided, the diet should be highly nutritive, and rich in fats. Cod-liver oil, creosote, or guaiacol are useful internally, and in children the syrup of the iodide of iron. Various local applications (iodoform, potassium iodide, etc.) are recommended in the form of ointment; the most useful is mercurial inunction, the mercurial ointment being rubbed once daily into the abdomen, which is then covered with a flannel binder. Many cases recover under this treatment; if the condition is obstinate, laparotomy with evacuation of the fluid

is often followed by cure. Laparotomy is especially indicated in the ascitic type of case. X-rays have been used with some success.

Cancer of the Peritoneum generally takes the form of a *malignant peritonitis*, although it may exist without inflammatory change. It is almost invariably secondary to cancer elsewhere, of which the stomach and ovaries are the most common seats, and it is most frequent in women. The peritoneal surface is studded with cancerous nodules which tend to cause it to pucker, and thus the omentum is drawn up into a cylindrical mass, like that described above in connection with tuberculous peritonitis. The intestine may also be narrowed, sometimes so much as to cause obstructive symptoms, but the most frequent symptom is ascites. The fluid is usually hæmorrhagic, and may contain the cell-groups of Foulis. When large the tender nodules can be felt through the wasted abdominal wall. The skin about the umbilicus is sometimes infiltrated, and there may be an enlarged inguinal gland.

DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

I. THE HEART

THE heart lies obliquely in the thorax, extending upwards to the lower limit of the second intercostal space. Its upper border is almost horizontal, and runs behind the sternum, just above the third costal cartilages, between two points respectively half an inch to the right and one inch to the left of the sternal margin. Its right border is formed by the right auricle, and runs in a curved line between a point three-quarters of an inch to the right of the articulation of the sixth rib with the sternum and a point in the second intercostal space half an inch to the right of the sternum. The left border, also curved, runs from the apex beat to a point in the second interspace an inch to the left of the sternum, and is formed by the left ventricle. The lower border joins the lower limits of the right and left borders, and is formed by the right ventricle. The apex beat lies in the fifth left intercostal space slightly internal to the nipple line and three and a half inches from the middle line of the body. The anterior surface of the heart is formed almost entirely by the right auricle and ventricle, only a thin strip of the left ventricle, which includes the apex, being represented at its left border. In children under twelve the heart is relatively broader, and lies higher up the chest, the apex beat being in the fourth interspace and also a little further to the left, in the nipple line.

The four valves lie close together, the pulmonic horizontally at the level of the third costal cartilage beneath its junction with the sternum, the aortic more deeply situated behind the sternum and running obliquely downwards from the lower border of the third cartilage, the mitral also running obliquely across the sternum at a slightly lower level, and the tricuspid running almost vertically downwards under the right half of the sternum between the fourth and fifth ribs. Hence auscultation over the site of the valves does not differentiate the sounds

produced at each, and these sounds must therefore be listened for at points where they are conducted to the surface (*see* Auscultation, p. 282).

Events in the Cardiac Cycle.—During the greater part of the long pause both auricles and ventricles are relaxed in diastole, and the blood-stream flows into the auricles from the great veins and is drawn into the ventricles by negative pressure. Towards the end of the pause occurs the short auricular systole, by which the ventricles are filled, and the auriculo-ventricular valves are floated up. This is immediately followed by the ventricular systole, which locks these valves and opens the semilunar valves. Its beginning coincides with the first sound and with the apex beat. It is followed by the ventricular diastole, at the beginning of which the semilunar valves are closed, and the second sound is produced, to be followed in turn by the succeeding long pause, and by a repetition of the cycle.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION¹

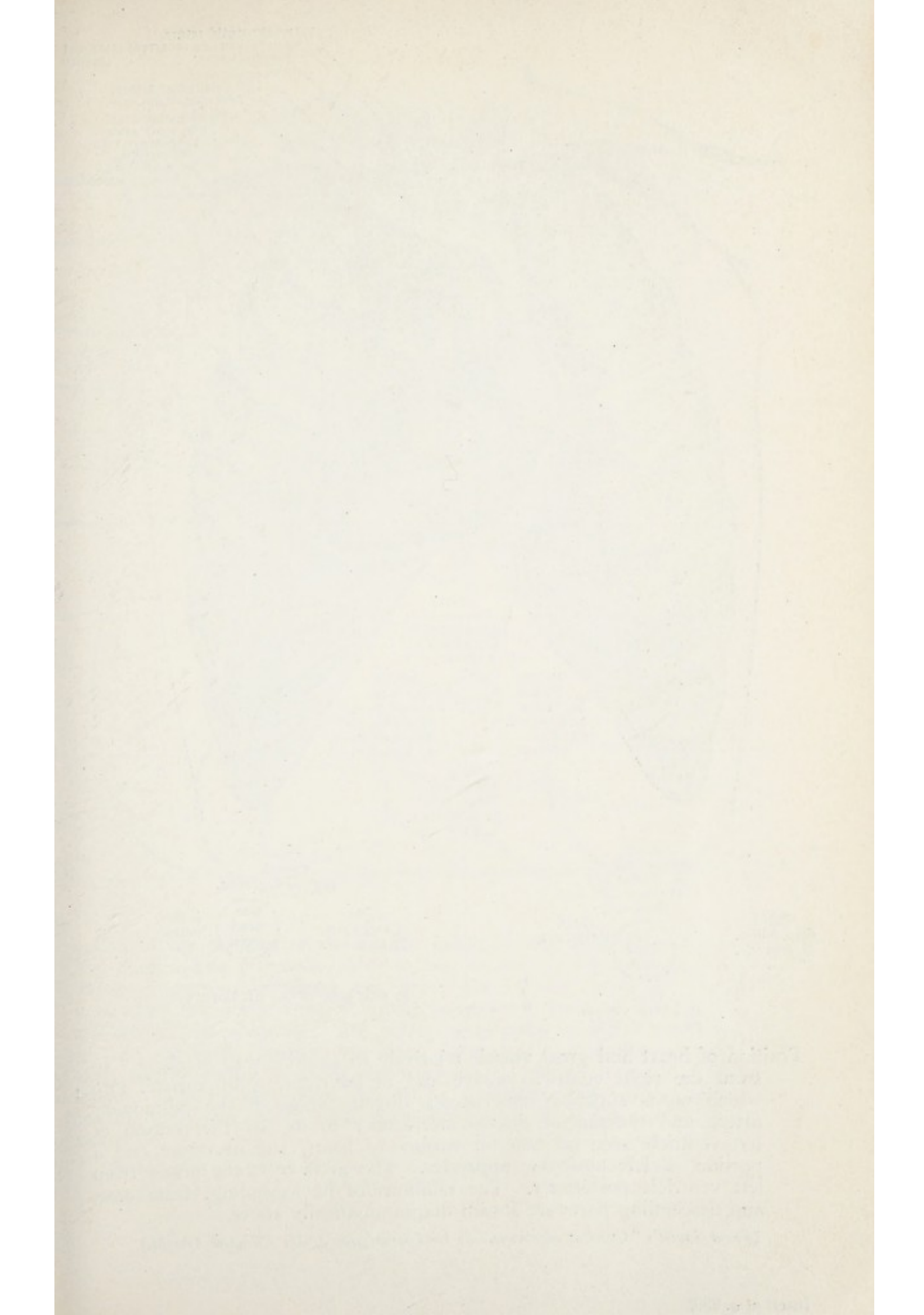
INSPECTION

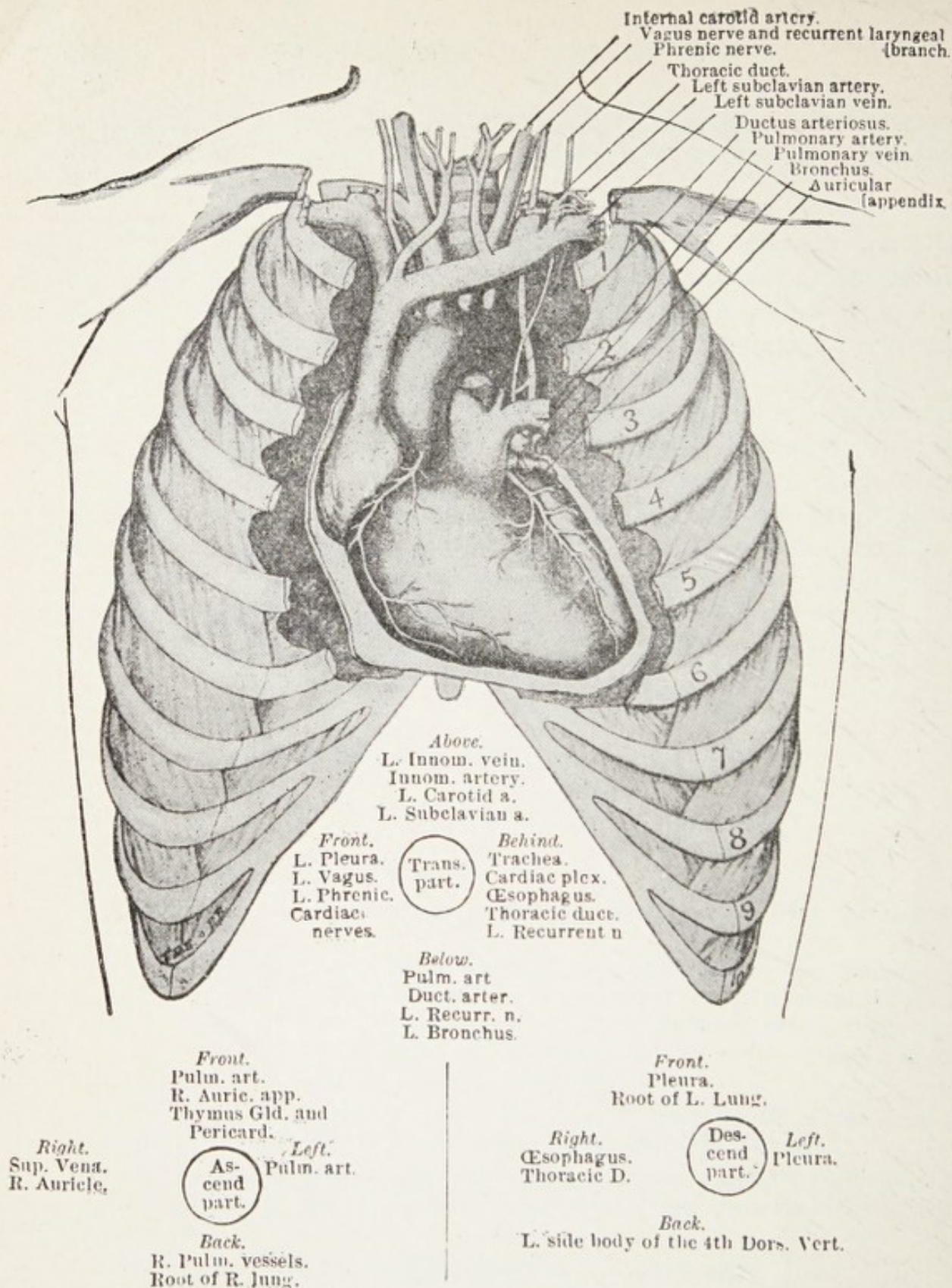
1. Of the *præcordia* and *aortic region*.
 - (a) *Form*. Is there bulging over the *præcordia* or over the aortic region?
 - (b) *Movements*. (1) Movement of the apex beat; its situation, amount, and diffusion; (2) pulsation in the epigastrium; (3) pulsation in the region of the pulmonary artery, common in anæmic debility; (4) pulsation in the aortic region, often present in cases of aortic aneurysm.
2. Of the *great vessels of the neck*. (a) Fullness of the great veins; (b) pulsation in these veins; (c) excessive pulsation in the arteries.
3. Of the *general circulation*: as exhibited in the patient's complexion, the condition of his peripheral arteries and veins, the presence or absence of dropsy, etc.
4. Of the *pupils*, in cases of aneurysm of the aortic arch.

PALPATION

1. Of the *præcordia*.
 - (a) Determine the *position* of the apex beat. The normal position is between the fifth and sixth ribs, about half an inch within the

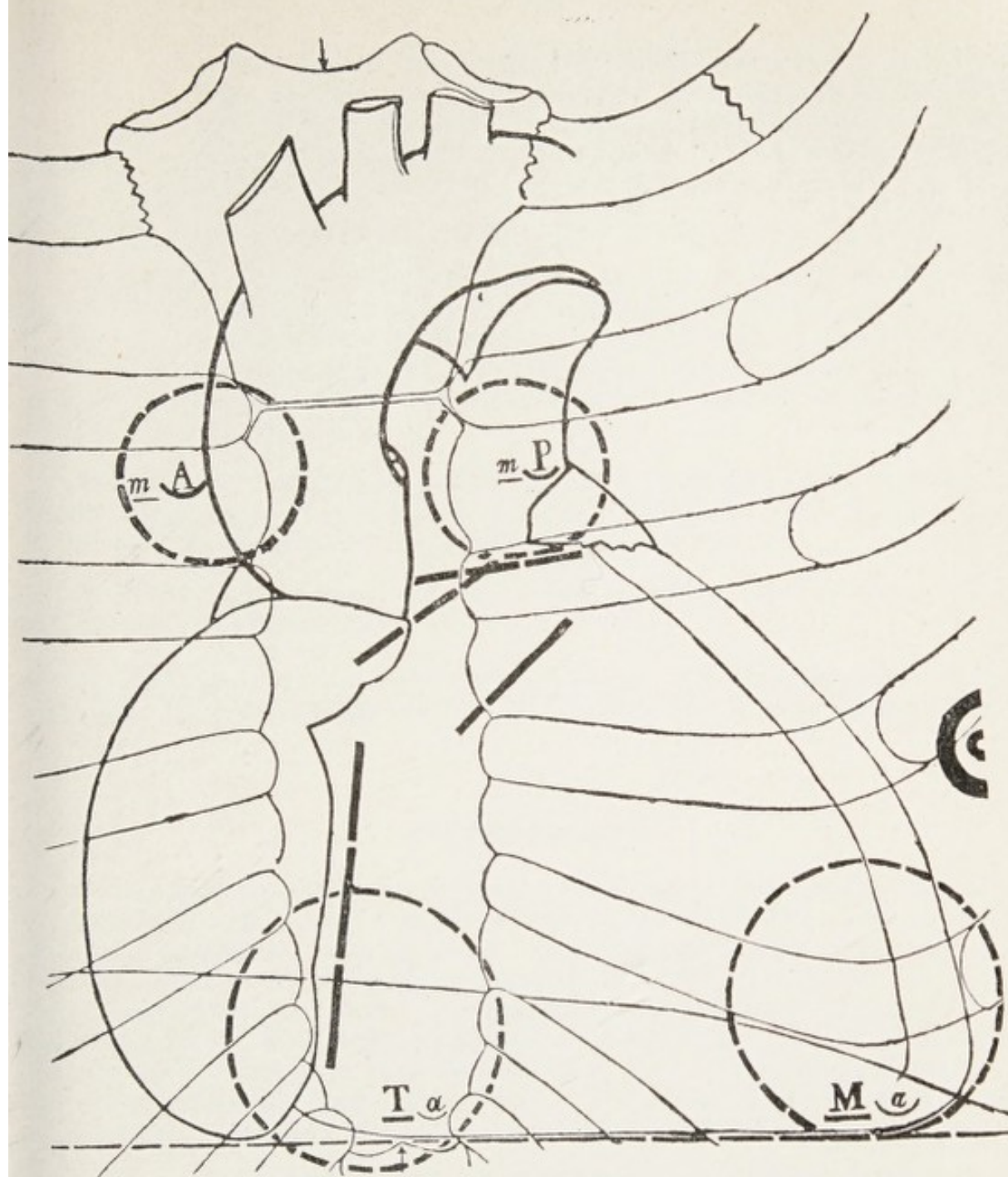
¹ This conspectus of the physical examination of the heart is mainly taken, by permission, from Dr Wyllie's original notes and diagrams.





Position of heart and great vessels relatively to anterior wall of chest. In front the right ventricle, above and to its right, right auricle, into which opens superior vena cava; directly above it the pulmonary artery and remains of ductus arteriosus; to its left the portion of left ventricle seen on anterior surface of heart, and at upper end a portion of left auricular appendix. The arch of aorta arises from left ventricle posteriorly. The relations of its ascending, transverse, and descending parts are shown diagrammatically above.

(From Savill's "Clinical Medicine," by kind permission of Mr Edward Arnold.)



Projection of the position of the cardiac valves on the anterior surface of the chest. The pulmonic valve is represented by the tripartite line running horizontally along the inner part of the third left costal cartilage; the aortic runs obliquely downwards from it towards the middle of the sternum; the mitral, beginning at the lower edge of the cartilage, crosses the third interspace; and the tricuspid runs nearly vertically along the sternum, separately from the other valves. The broken circles, M, P, A, T, indicate the areas in which mitral, pulmonic, aortic, and tricuspid sounds or murmurs are best heard.

(From Ewart's "Cardiac Outlines," by kind permission of Messrs Baillière, Tindall & Cox.



vertical line of the nipple. When the left ventricle is enlarged there is displacement of the apex beat downwards and to the left. When the right ventricle is enlarged there is diffuse pulsation to the right of the position of the apex beat, and there is often pulsation in the epigastrium.

- (b) Note the *limitation* or *diffusion* of the apex beat.
- (c) Note the force and character of the beat: whether moderate and deliberate, as in health; or strong and sudden, as in nervous excitement; or strong and slow (heaving), as in hypertrophy; or irregular, as in dilatation; or weak or imperceptible, as in debility. Note also the presence or absence of presystolic or systolic thrill.

The range of variation is considerable even in health, owing to the shape of the chest, etc. The beat may be imperceptible even in a healthy heart if the apex is overlapped by an emphysematous lung.

2. Of the *aortic region*. In cases of suspected aneurysm note presence or absence of pulsation or thrill.

3. Of the *great vessels at the root of the neck*. Venous pulsation is scarcely palpable, though strikingly visible; arterial pulsation is as strikingly palpable as visible.

PERCUSSION

1. In health the area of *superficial cardiac dullness* is of triangular shape; its truncated upper angle reaches as high as the fourth left costal cartilage; the right border descends vertically along the left border of the sternum; the left border passes obliquely downwards and to the left until it reaches the outer limit of the apex beat; the base cannot be percussed out owing to the proximity of the liver, but corresponds to a line drawn from the outer and inferior limit of the apex beat inwards until it meets the perpendicular limit of cardiac dullness, about mid-sternum. The measurement of the basic line is important; normally it measures about three or three and a half inches.

2. The area of *deep dullness*, obtained by heavy percussion, corresponds in shape to the area of superficial dullness, but is more extensive. It overlaps it on the right by about an inch, on the left by about half an inch. It corresponds roughly with the actual size of the heart, while the superficial dullness represents that portion of the heart which is in direct contact with the chest-wall.

In cardiac disease the areas of superficial and deep dullness may be specially extended to the right or left, according as the right or left chambers of the heart are specially enlarged. These areas may also be diminished or abolished in emphysema, where the heart is overlapped by the voluminous margins of the lungs; or increased when the lung is retracted as in fibroid phthisis.

3. The percussion of the region of the *aortic arch* (above the level of the third costal cartilages) is especially important in cases of aneurysm and of mediastinal tumour,

AUSCULTATION

A. THE CARDIAC SOUNDS

The areas in which sounds or murmurs produced at the different valves are to be listened for are as follows :—

1. Aortic area : the second right costal cartilage half an inch from the sternum.
2. Pulmonary area : the second left interspace close to the sternum.
3. Mitral area : the region of the apex beat.
4. Tricuspid area : the left edge of the sternum, just above its junction with the xiphoid cartilage.

Attention must be given to the characters of the sounds as well as to the existence of murmurs in each of these areas. Either the first or the second sound may be weakened or accentuated or reduplicated ; the first sound may be prolonged or booming ; or the cardiac rhythm may be altered, the long pause being shortened and the sounds succeeding each other like the tick-tack of a clock (*fœtal* or *embryonic* rhythm). Weakness of the first sound indicates cardiac failure.

B. ENDOCARDIAL MURMURS OR BRUITS

The first sound marks the beginning of systole. Systole continues through nearly the whole of the short pause.

The second sound marks the beginning of diastole. Diastole continues through nearly the whole of the long pause.

1. AORTIC—



Systolic.
(*Obstructive.*)



Diastolic.
(*Regurgitant.*)



Systolic and Diastolic.
(*Double.*)

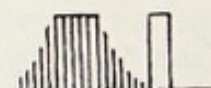
2. MITRAL—



Systolic.
(*Regurgitant.*)



Presystolic.
(*Obstructive.*)



Presystolic and Systolic.
(*Double.*)

1. AORTIC MURMURS.—As shown in the above diagram, there may be at the aortic orifice a systolic murmur indicative of obstruction, or a diastolic indicative of regurgitation ; and these murmurs are frequently combined so as to constitute a double aortic murmur. A systolic murmur does not always indicate obstruction, as it may be due to simple roughening of the cusps, to dilatation of the aorta beyond the valve, or exceptionally to anæmia. Such a hæmic murmur is usually softer than a murmur of organic origin. Aortic murmurs, organic and hæmic, are produced at the aortic orifice, which is

situated at the sternal articulation of the third left costal cartilage. They are thus basic murmurs.

2. MITRAL MURMURS.—These are heard best at the apex of the heart. A systolic murmur indicates regurgitation. This may be due either to organic disease of the valve, or to dilatation of the ventricle and its auriculo-ventricular orifice, the latter causing a “murmur of debility,” owing to “disparity of size” between the dilated orifice and its valve (“relative insufficiency”). The obstructive murmurs are almost always organic, being due to stenosis of the mitral valve. Two forces cause the blood to flow through the mitral orifice during the diastole of the ventricle, viz., the suction of the ventricle (*a vis a fronte*), and the propelling force of the auricle (*a vis a tergo*). The suction is strongest near the beginning of the diastole, and the propelling force at the end of it, immediately before the ventricular systole. When there is obstructive disease, the murmur is developed at the time when the flow of blood through the contracted orifice is rapid enough to produce a murmur. Generally it is limited to the period of auricular contraction, and is therefore presystolic. Sometimes, when the auricle is weak, it occurs only at the period of greatest ventricular suction, and is therefore diastolic. Occasionally, again, it may be both diastolic and presystolic. Obstructive murmurs are rough and purring. They are frequently succeeded by the blowing murmur of regurgitation, since the disease which produces obstruction often renders the valve incompetent at the same time. A common double mitral murmur is thus a rough, obstructive, presystolic, running up to, and immediately succeeded by, a blowing, systolic, regurgitant murmur. The relations of these murmurs to each other are shown in the diagrams. In sound the rough presystolic murmur might be represented by the letters *rrrp*, the terminal *p* representing the first sound of the heart, which, in such cases, is often loudly accentuated. A double mitral murmur may be represented by the letters *rrrfff*.

3. MURMURS AT THE PULMONARY ORIFICE correspond in time to aortic murmurs. A *systolic* murmur in this situation is fairly common. It may be “functional,” and due to hæmic causes, as anæmia; or it may be due to organic disease that has produced pulmonary stenosis—a form of congenital heart disease. A *diastolic* murmur at this orifice is sometimes present in mitral stenosis, but apart from this it is extremely rare.

4. TRICUSPID MURMURS correspond in time to mitral. Practically the only tricuspid murmur that is not extremely rare is a *systolic regurgitant*. It is a “murmur of disparity of size,” and is due to enlargement of the orifice without corresponding enlargement of the cusps, a condition that is always present when there is much dilatation of the ventricular chamber. With this murmur venous pulsation in the neck is generally associated.

5. In cases of ANEURYSM a *systolic* murmur over the sac is fairly common. In very rare cases a *double* murmur (systolic or diastolic) is produced by the flow of blood into and then out of the sac. There may be a double murmur in aneurysm of the first part of the arch, where aortic regurgitation coexists with the aneurysm. In many cases there is no murmur at all.

6. The MURMURS OF DEBILITY, so common in anæmia, are both vascular and cardiac.

The *Vascular* murmurs are (*a*) the *Arterial* murmur, systolic in time, heard over the great arteries of the neck. This is generally supposed to be

common, but it is very often produced artificially by the pressure of the stethoscope. (b) The venous hum (the humming-top murmur, or "bruit du diable"), heard over the great veins of the neck, and sometimes over other large veins, such as the ophthalmic veins and the cerebral sinuses. This is very common and important.

The *Cardiac* murmurs of debility are variously classified and explained, but there is as yet no consensus of opinion as to their origin. They are all systolic in rhythm, and usually soft and blowing in character. In order of frequency, they may be heard in the pulmonary, mitral, tricuspid, or aortic area; but aortic systolic murmurs are very rarely functional.

Of these *six* murmurs (vascular and cardiac) *three* are common in anæmia, namely, (1) the bruit du diable in the neck, (2) the basic murmur in the pulmonary region, (3) the mitral murmur at the apex; and that is the order of their development.

Observe that all the cardiac murmurs of debility are *systolic* in time. Systolic murmurs may thus be either of functional or of organic origin, while presystolic and diastolic murmurs are always of organic origin.

7. EXOCARDIAL MURMURS.—(a) *Pericardial friction*, due to pericarditis, is generally a "to-and-fro" or double murmur (systolic and diastolic). It is most apt to be confounded with a double aortic murmur, but its superficial rubbing and shuffling character generally renders the distinction easy. In most cases it appears first at the base of the heart, and spreads thence, if not arrested, over the whole organ. (b) A to-and-fro friction sound, of precisely the same character as the above, is sometimes produced by a *pleurisy in the præcordial region*, the subjacent heart causing the inflamed surfaces of the pleura to rub against each other synchronously with its own movements.

PROPAGATION OF ENDOCARDIAL MURMURS

1. AORTIC MURMURS are clearly heard about the third left costal cartilage at its junction with the sternum, that being the position of the aortic valve. They are propagated to a distance by *three* agents, namely, (a) the *heart* itself which often carries them to the apex; (b) the *aorta* and its great branches, a spot of special importance in this respect being the *aortic area*, at the junction of the second right costal cartilage with the sternum (here the aorta makes its first bend, and aortic murmurs are usually heard even more distinctly than over the valve itself); and (c) the *sternum*, which often conducts the sonorous vibrations of such murmurs throughout its whole length. Obstructive aortic murmurs (systolic) are carried best upwards, in the direction of the blood current, and are specially loud over the first bend of the aorta, whence they are conducted into the vessels of the neck. Regurgitant aortic murmurs, produced by a descending current, are carried best downwards; and are very often heard better at the left edge of the sternum, close above its junction with the xiphisternum, than even over the aortic valve.

2. PULMONARY MURMURS, starting like the aortic from opposite the third left costal cartilage at the sternum, are carried obliquely upwards and to the left to the pulmonary area in the second left intercostal space, for a distance of about two inches, the agent of propagation being the trunk of the pulmonary artery. They are not conducted into the vessels of the neck.

3. MITRAL MURMURS are loudest at the apex. The regurgitant (systolic) is propagated upwards and outwards toward the axilla and the angle of

the scapula. The obstructive (presystolic and diastolic) are not propagated in any special direction.

4. **TRICUSPID MURMURS** are heard best over the right ventricle, being audible over an area of some inches in diameter, whose centre is situated at the left edge of the sternum, close to its junction with the xiphisternum.

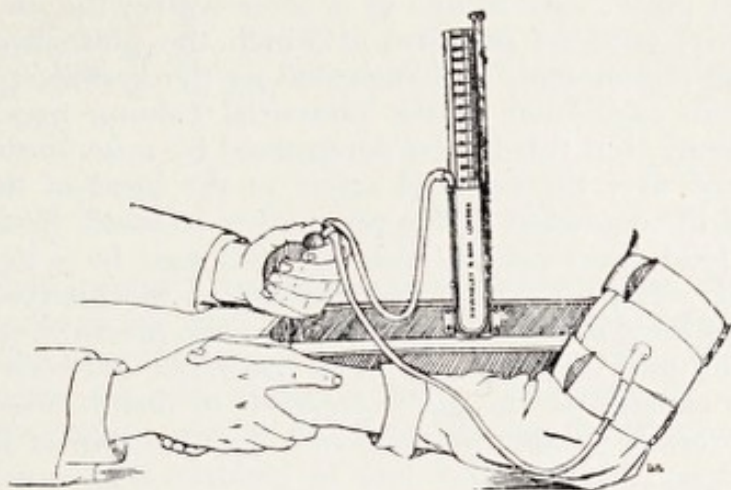


FIG. 7.—Riva-Rocci Sphygmomanometer modified (Martin).

EXAMINATION OF THE RADIAL PULSE

1. Note the *pulse rate* per minute.
2. Note its *rhythm*: regular or irregular; if intermittent, note the average proportion of the intermissions to the pulse-beats.

3. Note the size, force, and character of the *blood-wave*: large, moderate, or small; deliberate or sudden; strong or weak; a double wave (dicrotism).

NOTE.—In *weak heart* the radial pulse may be almost or wholly imperceptible; or only a proportion of the heart's contractions may produce blood-waves sufficiently strong to be propagated perceptibly to the radial artery, and thus the radial pulse may appear to be much slower than the rate of the heart's contractions; or the weak pulse may be affected by the patient's respiration, its beat being weakened by inspiration and strengthened by expiration.

4. Between the beats of the pulse, test particularly the *resistance* of the artery to *pressure*. Marked resistance may be due either to rigidity of the artery's coats or to high blood-pressure. Press the artery firmly against the bone, and examine the coats by rolling it beneath the finger. The pressure may be more accurately estimated by the sphygmomanometer.

5. Compare the two radial pulses, and note any *difference in strength*, or *want of synchronism*, in their beats.

6. In special cases take a sphygmographic tracing. While the trained finger is the most convenient instrument for the examination of the pulse, and the best for appreciation of the characters of the arterial wall, the sphygmogram both indicates the period during which arterial pressure is sustained, and constitutes a permanent record.

The student should also be familiar with the use of the *sphygmomanometer*, by which the height of the arterial blood-pressure is estimated. The instrument most in use is that of Riva-Rocci, or one of its modifications. It consists in principle of a broad, distensible bag, which surrounds the upper arm like a cuff, and is connected with a mercurial manometer. Air is pumped into it by a rubber hand-pump until the pressure is sufficient to stop the radial pulse. By means of a screw valve, the air is allowed to escape very slowly, and the pressure at which the pulse begins to return is read off on the manometer, and regarded as the systolic pressure. The point of maximum oscillation of the mercurial column may be taken as the diastolic pressure, but this is best determined by auscultation. With the stethoscope applied over the brachial artery at the bend of the elbow, four sounds are heard in succession as the pressure is released, first a faint throb or click, next a loud short systolic murmur, followed by a loud, and lastly by a softer throb. The pressure corresponding to the interval between the third and fourth of these sounds is the mean diastolic pressure, which averages in health about 80 mm. of mercury. The difference between diastolic and systolic pressures constitutes the *pulse pressure*, in health about 40 mm. of mercury. The average systolic pressure in a healthy man of thirty is about 120 mm. of mercury. It is rather less in children and women, and rises to 140 or more with increasing years.

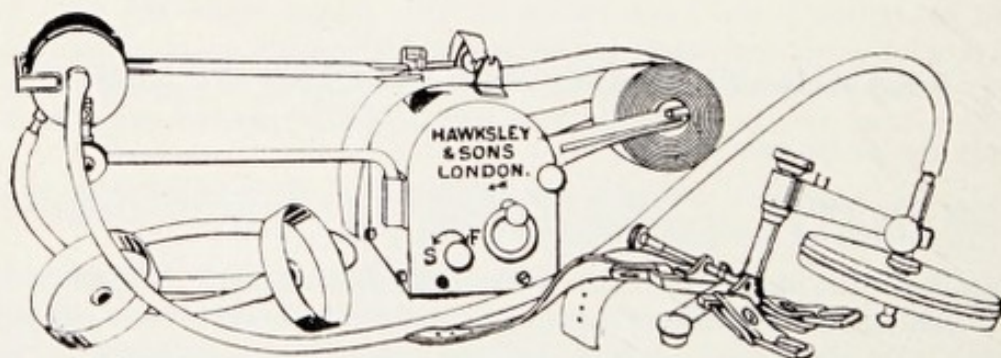


FIG. 8.—The Polygraph (Mackenzie).

THE VENOUS PULSE

By means of the *polygraph* simultaneous tracings of the pulsations of the radial artery and jugular vein may be obtained, and the events in each compared as to their time relations by a chronograph marking fifths of a second. The jugular pulse is transmitted to the recording lever by means of a tambour placed upon the jugular bulb, an inch outside and slightly above the sternal end of the clavicle. On the tracing of the venous pulse there are seen to be in each cardiac cycle three waves, due to increase of intravenous pressure. The first of these—the *a* wave—produced by the contraction of the auricle, corresponds to the beginning of auricular systole. The second, or *c* wave, corresponds to the pulse in the carotid artery, and the interval between the beginning of *a* and the beginning of *c*—the *a-c* interval—is a measure of the time of conduction of the wave of muscular contraction from auricle to ventricle. Normally the *a-c* interval lasts one-fifth of a second. In rapidly acting hearts its duration is less; if it is increased, this indicates

depressed conductivity, and probably damage to the auriculo-ventricular bundle. The third, or *v* wave, begins towards the end of ventricular systole, and its summit corresponds to the opening of the tricuspid valves. An early beginning of the *v* wave indicates engorgement of the right side of the heart.

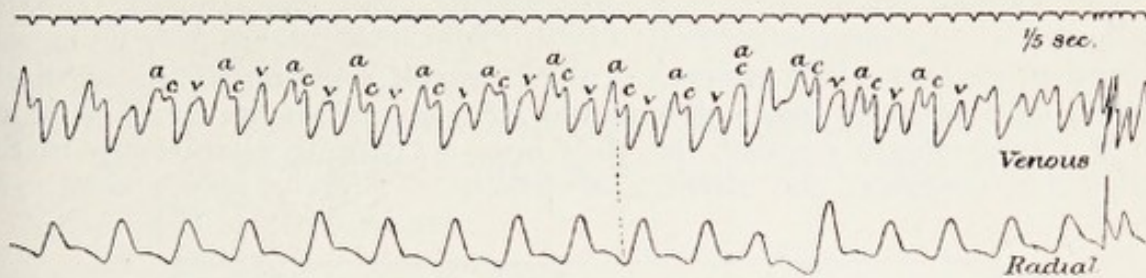


FIG. 9.—A Polygraphic Curve showing the three waves of the physiological venous pulse in the upper tracing, which was taken from the veins of the neck. The lower tracing is from the radial artery. With each systole of the ventricle are two waves, *c* and *v*. Preceding *c* in each cycle, and pre-systolic in time, a wave *a* is seen, which is the result of auricular systole (Lewis).

The above description applies to the normal or auricular type of venous pulse. In the *ventricular* type the *a* wave is absent owing to absence of the normal auricular contraction, and only *c* and *v* waves appear. This is the pulse of auricular fibrillation.

Venous pulsation is often visible in the veins of the neck. It is distinguished from arterial pulsation by its slow rise and quicker fall, and by its being more readily visible than palpable.

THE ELECTROCARDIOGRAPH

By means of this instrument we obtain a record of the changes in electric potential produced by the muscular movements of the auricles and ventricles, and can study the time relations of auricular and ventricular contraction. It consists essentially of a fine silvered quartz fibre suspended between the poles of a powerful electromagnet, the ends of the fibre being connected by various "leads" to the limbs of the patient. A current generated by cardiac muscular action, passing through the fibre, causes it to oscillate. The shadow of the oscillating fibre, highly magnified, is projected on to a photographic screen, and thus a photographic record of its movements—the electrocardiogram—is obtained. The form of the electrocardiogram varies somewhat with the leads employed. In Lead I., connection is made through the two hands, representing contact with the auricles and the base of the ventricles; in Lead II., through the right hand and left foot, representing contact with the top of the auricles and the apex; in Lead III., through the left hand and foot, representing contact with the left auricle and ventricle. The general characters of an electrocardiogram are shown in the following diagram.

The first or P wave corresponds to the contraction of the auricles, and begins very slightly before it; the following waves of depression or elevation, QRST, result from ventricular contraction, which Q immediately precedes. Q and S are slight downward deflections, and may be absent; R and T are upward deflections, the former sharply spiked, the latter broad and blunt.

The length of the P-Q or P-R interval (the latter being usually chosen because Q is frequently absent) is normally not more than one-fifth of a second, like the *a-c* interval of the venous pulse. Undue prolongation of this interval indicates depressed conductivity, with probable damage to the auriculo-ventricular bundle.

The various types of cardiac irregularity yield characteristic electrocardiograms. In incomplete heart-block, for example, there may be merely a lengthening of the P-R interval, or the P waves, while remaining regularly spaced, may be more frequent than the RST complex; in complete block the P waves remain regular, but they bear no definite relationship to the ventricular complex, the rhythm of which is entirely independent. In

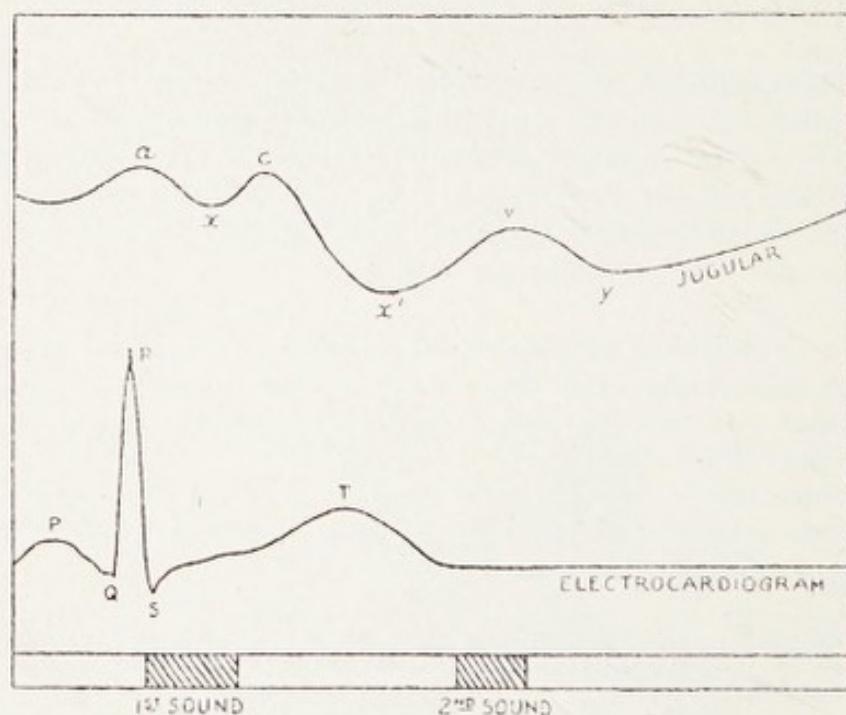


FIG. 10.—Diagram of Jugular and Electrocardiographic Tracing, and Heart Sounds corresponding with one Heart-Beat (Taylor).

auricular fibrillation the P wave is absent, and is replaced by rapid and irregular diastolic oscillations, while the ventricular complexes occur at irregular intervals and the height of the R wave is variable. In auricular flutter the P waves are regular but extremely frequent (180 to 380 per minute), while the ventricular complexes, though often irregular in rhythm, are of normal form, their rate depending upon the presence or absence of partial heart-block. In a case of 4 to 1 block, for instance, the auricle may be beating at 280 per minute, with a ventricular rate of only 70.

In certain instances inversion of one or other wave may occur, inversion of T in Leads I. and II. being suggestive of myocardial degeneration.

PERICARDITIS

Inflammation of the pericardium is never idiopathic. It may arise by direct extension of inflammation, through the

blood-stream in infective processes, or from constitutional diseases.

Exciting Causes.—

- (1) *Rheumatic fever* and chorea.
- (2) Other specific infections—*scarlet fever*, measles, septicæmia and pyæmia, pneumonia; and less commonly variola, enteric fever, and influenza.
- (3) Tuberculosis.
- (4) Malignant disease.
- (5) Chronic Bright's disease, gout, scurvy, and sometimes diabetes.
- (6) Extension of inflammation from neighbouring parts.
- (7) Injury.

The disease is rather more frequent in males than females. Rheumatic cases occur chiefly in children or early adult life, renal and gouty cases later. Apart from the rheumatic cases, the organisms most frequently present are the pyogenic cocci and the pneumococcus.

Morbid Anatomy.—In fibrinous pericarditis, the usual form, the stages are—

1. Hyperæmia, with loss of lustre.
2. Exudation of fibrin, which gives the pericardial surfaces a peculiar shaggy, or “bread-and-butter-sandwich” appearance (*cœr villosum*). The process may stop at this stage, constituting the dry or *plastic type of pericarditis*. Much oftener it goes on to the next stage.
3. Effusion of fluid, serous or sero-fibrinous.
4. Absorption, resulting in slight or extensive adhesions, which may permanently hamper the cardiac action.

Suppurative pericarditis is due to septic infection (pyæmia, local processes), and the fluid is generally purulent from the onset. In tuberculous or malignant pericarditis the effusion may be hæmorrhagic.

In almost all cases the myocardium shares in the inflammatory change, and is sometimes profoundly affected. In some the mediastinal tissues are also inflamed (*mediastino-pericarditis*).

Symptoms.—The symptoms are somewhat obscure, and may be masked by previously existing disease. Taking a typical case as it occurs in the course of rheumatic fever, we usually find—

1. Præcordial distress. Sharp pain is rare, but when present it is most marked at the lower end of the sternum. There may be tenderness on pressure, or præcordial hyperæsthesia.

2. Moderate fever, or exacerbation of already existing fever, at the onset.

3. *Dyspnœa, short cough*, and in severe cases *dusky appearance* of the face.

4. Rapid action of the heart, sometimes with feeble pulse.

5. Symptoms due to pressure by the fluid on the neighbouring organs (trachea and œsophagus, etc.).

6. Great restlessness.

These symptoms, it must be understood, are due to the presence of fluid effusion. If the pericarditis remains dry, there may be no symptoms, or at most slight præcordial pain.

It is evident that we must rely more upon physical signs than subjective symptoms for diagnostic information.

Physical Signs.—1. *Before effusion of fluid.*—On auscultation is heard the *characteristic "to-and-fro" friction rub*, variable in intensity, and not accurately synchronous with the cardiac sounds. As a rule it is a double sound, approximately systolic and diastolic; but it may have a triple or cantering rhythm. It usually begins at the base of the heart, and then extends more or less over the whole surface, but is not as a rule conducted beyond the præcordial area. The friction may sometimes be felt by the hand (friction fremitus). It becomes less pronounced as the effusion increases, but is *rarely entirely absent at the base* until complete resolution or organisation takes place.

2. *Effusion stage.*—The physical signs are—

- (1) *Marked increase of the cardiac dullness.*
- (2) Displacement of the apex beat.
- (3) Muffling of the heart sounds.
- (4) Displacement of other organs (if effusion be great).

The shape of the dullness is characteristic. It is conical, the apex of the cone being truncated, and situated at the level of the second rib, owing to the close attachment of the pericardium to the great vessels at this point. The apex beat is generally pushed *upwards* and to the left. It lies, when it is palpable at all, distinctly *within* the left border of cardiac dullness, not, as in enlargement due to valvular disease, in close relationship to it. The marked distension of the pericardial sac surrounds the heart with fluid, and causes a dullness extending much beyond the limits of the organ itself. The amount of bulging and displacement of organs will, of course, vary with the amount of fluid present. As resolution takes place the friction returns, and may be very coarse in character. Muffling of the heart sounds is not always present, and is not entirely due to the presence of fluid, for the fœtal heart is quite distinctly heard through an amount of fluid greater than is usually present in pericarditis. The muffling is therefore due mainly to weakness of the cardiac muscle from accompanying myocarditis, although where the quantity of fluid is very great, in serous and chronic pericarditis, this may in part account for it. In *children* the onset is often insidious, and may precede any obvious signs of rheumatism.

Diagnosis is sometimes difficult in fat people, but the main difficulty is to distinguish between pericarditis and dilatation of the heart. The upper limit of dullness is higher in pericarditis, and its shape is *conical*; in dilatation the sounds are not muffled. Pleuritic friction has a different rhythm, and pleuro-pericardial friction is heard at the *border* of the cardiac dullness.

Prognosis depends on the cause; that of simple sero-fibrinous pericarditis is good, and the fluid may be absorbed in a comparatively short time. Permanent damage to the heart may result from complication with endocarditis or myocarditis, or from extensive adhesions. The greater the amount of fluid, the worse is the prognosis, which becomes very grave if the fluid is purulent or hæmorrhagic. Pericarditis complicating pneumonia or renal disease is often fatal.

Adherent Pericardium.—After absorption of the fluid, the sac may be almost or quite obliterated by adhesions. Symptoms of this condition may remain latent, but in young people, in whom the parietal pericardium has become fixed to the chest-wall

and pleura by coincident mediastinitis, the following signs may be found :—

1. Great hypertrophy and dilatation of the heart.
2. Retraction of the apex during *systole*, and fixation of the apex.
3. Diastolic rebound of the chest-wall.
4. Collapse of the cervical veins during diastole (Friedreich's sign).
5. *Pulsus paradoxus*, the pulse becoming smaller at the end of inspiration.

None of these signs is by itself pathognomonic, but taken together they establish the diagnosis. The prognosis is bad.

Treatment.—1. *Absolute rest in bed.* 2. In the early stages, ice-bags or leeches to the præcordia ; warm applications or a small blister if ice fails to relieve pain. Morphia may be necessary. 3. Treat the cause—if due to rheumatism be careful in the use of salicylates. They perhaps tend, if given early, to prevent cardiac lesions ; but when these are established, their depressant action in large doses may be harmful. Believing in their specific action, Lees pushes them, as detailed under Rheumatism (p. 132), but symptoms of poisoning must be watched for if this treatment is employed. Digitalis or stimulants may be needed in cardiac failure. 4. Paracentesis should be performed if the effusion is very great, and does not tend to become less, or produces urgent cardiac symptoms.

To promote absorption after the acute symptoms have subsided—1. Blister. 2. Employ diuretics and saline laxatives. Iodide of potassium is also useful. When these fail, paracentesis may be performed. The puncture should be made through a skin incision one inch from the left sternal margin in the fourth or fifth interspace, or in the fifth or sixth space outside the nipple line, or just below the tip of the xiphoid cartilage, the needle slanting upwards close to the posterior surface of the sternum. If the fluid be purulent, incise and drain. If an organism can be isolated from the fluid, vaccine treatment may be employed.

DISORDERS OF THE CARDIAC RHYTHM

Arrhythmia.—It is now the accepted view that the action of the heart is due to an inherent property of the cardiac

musculature, and that its contractions originate independently of nervous influences in the remains of the primitive cardiac tube. This is the *myogenic theory*, which, in the words of Tawara, as translated by Brunton, "assumes that the rhythmic activity of the heart in all animals, both in their embryonic and developed condition, resides in the cells of the cardiac muscle themselves, and that the nervous element possesses merely the secondary function of regulation. It also maintains that the transmission of stimuli between the individual parts of the heart does not occur through nerve fibres, as the neurogenic theory assumes it does, but through the block fibres," *i.e.*, fibres of the auriculo-ventricular or a.v. node and bundle. Whether all the observed facts connected with the transmission of cardiac stimuli can be explained on the myogenic theory, to the complete exclusion of the neurogenic, is a matter on which entire agreement has not yet been reached, and concerning which two schools of thought may still be found; but there is a practical unanimity of opinion that the "block fibres" represent the *customary* route by which such stimuli travel. Normally the contraction begins at the *sino-auricular node* (remains of the sinus venosus) at the mouth of the superior vena cava, and is conducted thence to the auricles, from which the stimulus passes to the *auriculo-ventricular* or *a.v. node*, a small mass of nervous and muscular tissue in the wall of the right auricle, near the coronary sinus. In this node originates the *auriculo-ventricular bundle* (bundle of His, Gaskell's bridge), a special band of muscular fibres which passes through the inter-ventricular septum, and divides into right and left branches, ramifying in the walls of the right and left ventricle respectively. The stimulus spreads from the a.v. node through the a.v. bundle, and thence into the ventricular muscle. But though normally the stimulus originates in the sino-auricular node (the "pace-maker"), there are other points at which, under an abnormal stimulus, contraction can be originated; and cardiac irregularity may be the result either of stimulation of these points or of abnormal conditions originating in the sinus venosus. The points in question are (1) the a.v. node; (2) the a.v. bundle; and (3) the auricular or ventricular tissue. Different types of irregularity result from stimuli originating at these different points.

A. *Sinus arrhythmia* is a condition in which the discharge of impulses begins as usual at the sino-auricular node, but although the strength of the beats is unaffected their rate varies, generally

in accordance with the phases of respiration. It is thus a rhythmic irregularity, which may be found either in the healthy hearts of young children and young adults or in convalescence from febrile diseases. It has no unfavourable import, and does not call for treatment.

B. *Premature beats* or *extra-systoles* are due to a premature contraction originating in the auricle or ventricle, or sometimes in the a.v. node, independently of the sinus rhythm. When such a systole takes place, the subsequent normal sinus stimulus occurs during the refractory period, and hence does not cause a beat. Diastole is therefore prolonged until the succeeding sinus stimulus is due. The beat due to an extra-systole is smaller than the normal pulse, and may not be felt at the wrist, thus causing an apparent infrequency; but it can be made out by auscultation over the heart. In one form of incomplete heart-block, missed beats occasionally occur, and this may be confused with extra-systole; but in the case of heart-block no sound can be heard at the apex. Extra-systole is the commonest form of irregularity, and is often due to functional disturbances—dyspepsia, the abuse of tea or tobacco, and so on—ceasing when the cause is removed. It also occurs in myocardial diseases, but is then associated with other signs of cardiac disease. Occasional intermissions from this cause are not uncommon after middle life, and are often perceptible to the subject. If there is no other indication of cardiac disease, he should be reassured as to their unimportance.

C. *Auricular flutter*.—In this condition the normal beats of the auricle in response to the impulses from the sino-auricular node are replaced by a series of rapid and rhythmical contractions emanating from an abnormal focus in the auricular wall. It is usually associated with chronic organic disease, either myocardial or valvular, and is most common in the middle-aged and elderly. The auricles beat at a rate of between 200 and 350 per minute, but as some degree of heart-block is usually present the ventricles beat at a much lower rate, 100-150, for example. An auricular rate of 280 with a 4 to 1 block may even give a normal ventricular rate of 70. Frequently there is irregularity, although the auricular beat is regular, since the impulses transmitted to the ventricle may occur at variable intervals. Usually the pulse is *persistently* rapid (130-160) for weeks or months, regular, and its rate does not vary when the patient lies down. Treatment is by rest and digitalis in considerable doses (up to a drachm

daily). So given, the drug may either produce auricular fibrillation (*v. infra*), which may give place to a normal rhythm when it is withdrawn, or by intensifying the heart-block may cut down the number of stimuli causing ventricular contraction, thus giving the ventricle more ample diastolic rest. Diagnosis is much facilitated by the use of the electrocardiograph.

D. *Auricular fibrillation*.—This condition, into which auricular flutter may merge, is most commonly found in the stage of failure of compensation in rheumatic valvular disease, and particularly mitral stenosis; but it also occurs in the late stages of cardiac failure of the arterio-sclerotic or myocardial type. Clinically it is characterised by perpetual or total irregularity of the pulse, of which no two beats are alike in force or rhythm, by increased gravity of the general condition, and by disappearance of the evidences of auricular systole, *i.e.*, in mitral stenosis the pre-systolic murmur and thrill disappear, although diastolic murmurs may persist. Exercise augments the irregularity, while it decreases or abolishes that of extra-systolic and sinus arrhythmia. The condition is due to a shower of stimuli emanating irregularly from different foci in the degenerate auricular wall, and causing the replacement of an orderly systole by an irregular and ineffective fibrillary twitching. Once established, it is usually persistent, but treatment by rest and digitalis protects the ventricle by blocking the disorderly impulses, and leads in many cases to a striking improvement. It is indeed in auricular fibrillation that the beneficial effects of digitalis are most manifest.

E. *Irregularities due to failure of conductivity*: Heart-block (see p. 303).

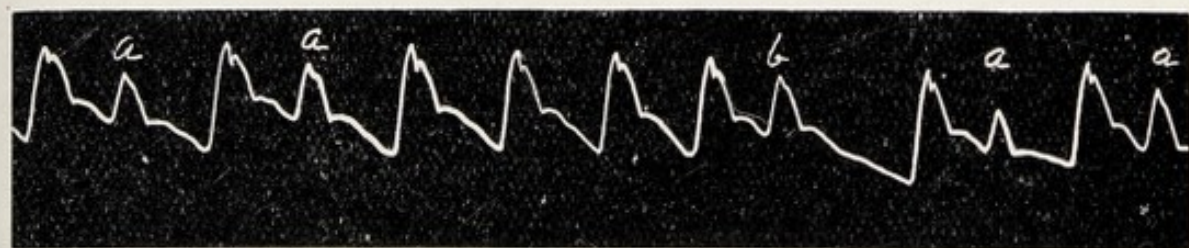


FIG. 11.—Pulsus alternans. At *a a a a*, feeble pulsations preceded by a stronger beat: diastolic intervals equal. At *b* premature contraction (extra-systole) followed by prolonged diastole.

F. *Irregularities due to depression of contractility*: *Pulsus alternans*.—This condition, due to defective contractility of the

ventricle, is one in which, while the rhythm remains regular, every alternate beat is weaker and smaller than that which precedes it. The weak beat due to an extra-systole is *premature*, and is followed by a long diastolic pause. Pulsus alternans may be continuous, or may be present only for a few beats at a time. In the former case the condition is grave, and even in the latter it is a serious warning of cardiac failure.

Tachycardia, as the term is loosely used, implies merely increased rapidity of the heart's action, and this may be due to such conditions as anæmia, dyspepsia, neurosis, or the abuse of tea, coffee, or tobacco, to exophthalmic goitre, to disease of the medulla oblongata, or to paralysis of the vagus in peripheral neuritis. *Paroxysmal tachycardia*, however, is a definite cardiac affection, of which the attacks have an abrupt beginning and ending, are accompanied by restlessness and exhaustion, and last from a few minutes to a few days or even weeks. During the attack the pulse-rate may rise to 150 or 200 beats per minute. Violent pulsation is present in the jugular veins during the paroxysm. Some of the cases end in death from dilatation and cardiac failure. In these cases irregularity is frequent. The condition is due to the temporary replacement of the normal impulses from the sino-auricular node by a sudden rhythmic stimulation of an abnormal focus in the auricle, a.v. bundle, or sometimes in the a.v. node. When the stimulus arises in the node, the so-called *nodal rhythm* (simultaneous contraction of the auricles and ventricles) is established. Paroxysmal tachycardia is commonest in young adults, and often follows an infective process such as rheumatism, scarlet fever, or syphilis. An attack may be excited by exertion, emotion, or flatulence. Little beyond rest in bed can be done in the way of treatment of the paroxysm; in the intervals the habits should be regulated, a quiet life enjoined, and any obvious disturbance of digestion corrected. Digitalis is sometimes of benefit.

Bradycardia is a term employed to denote infrequency of the heart. It is met with in a permanent form in cases of heart-block and Stokes-Adams disease, in which it is associated with organic cardiac mischief. Apart from these, infrequency may be normal, or due to organic or functional nervous diseases, to diseases of the digestive system, to uræmia, or to poisoning by digitalis, alcohol, *lead*, or *bile*, as in jaundice. It also occurs in

convalescence from acute diseases and after parturition. The *treatment* is that of the cause.

Palpitation, though a symptom not specifically cardiac, is apt to arouse in the patient's mind the suspicion that he suffers from heart disease. It is unduly forcible and sometimes irregular cardiac action, *perceived by the subject*. It may indeed occur in organic disease of the heart, but is much more frequently functional and of neurotic origin. Hence it is oftener met with in women than men, and in them is associated with anæmia, uterine affections, worry or emotion, and gastric disorders. Neurasthenia and allied nervous conditions predispose to it. In males it is often due to over-smoking or to alcohol, and sometimes to sexual excess or physical overstrain. It was very frequent during the recent war among the victims of "shell-shock" or war neurosis, and it has persisted, in many instances, long after the original cause of disturbance has been removed. In patients who have been once or oftener subject to attacks, a further attack can be induced by comparatively trivial causes—slight emotional disturbance or a sudden, even if slight, exertion. The attacks vary in frequency and in duration; they may come on at long or short intervals, and they may last from a few minutes to some hours. When severe, they are accompanied by a sense of faintness, with some degree of præcordial pain, usually about the apex of the heart, and not anginoid in type; by sensations of vertigo and noises in the ears; and by feelings of flushing, especially about the face, with, in some instances, free perspiration. In such attacks there may be a sensation of great cardiac distress. The pulse-rate is increased by exertion, which is not the case in paroxysmal tachycardia. The milder attacks are characterised merely by a transitory sense of fluttering or thudding in the region of the apex, passing off in a few seconds or minutes, and sometimes occurring in particular positions, as when the subject lies on his left side during sleep, from which he may be momentarily awakened by their onset. The attacks are often paroxysmal, and may come on during rest. On examination, the heart's action is found to be forcible, frequently accelerated, and sometimes irregular, but the organ is otherwise normal. *Treatment* consists in removing the cause, allaying the anxiety, and regulating the diet and habits. Tea, coffee, alcohol, and tobacco should be forbidden; and sedatives, such as bromides, or, in other cases, nervine tonics, such as nuxvomica, may be required.

AFFECTIONS OF THE MYOCARDIUM

HYPERTROPHY OF THE HEART

This term implies an increase in the thickness of the walls of one or more of the cardiac chambers, brought about by an increase in the size and possibly in the number of the muscular fibres. It may be, as in the usual form, *excentric*, when the cavities are increased in size along with the increase of muscular substance, or *concentric*, when owing to a pure hypertrophy there is diminution in the size of the cavities. The latter is regarded by many as a *post-mortem* change. Hypertrophy of the heart is the natural sequence of increased vascular or cardiac strain, however brought about, *provided the heart muscle itself receives a sufficient blood-supply to keep up its nutrition.*

Etiology.—

1. Valvular lesions.
2. Adherent pericardium.
3. Chronic diseases of the lungs.
4. Increased peripheral resistance, the result of atheromatous or arterio-sclerotic changes in the arteries, as seen in Bright's disease, gout, etc.
5. Habitual excess in food, drink, or tobacco.
6. Aneurysm of the aorta.
7. Long-continued functional excitement (tachycardia).

It is doubtful whether over-exertion, as in athletics, can produce hypertrophy of a healthy heart.

Hypertrophy is a compensatory change, and the heart meets increased work by increase of power. But, whilst it is useful in itself, it must also be regarded as a source of future weakness; for the normal reserve force is used for the ordinary work of the heart, and there is less to meet emergencies. Thus a time comes when the nutrition becomes inadequate, or the reserve is exhausted. Dilatation then overcomes hypertrophy,

signs of cardiac failure appear, and compensation fails. The man with a hypertrophied heart may be compared to a country threatened by an enemy, in which, in order to prevent actual war, the reserve forces should be called out to supplement the standing army, leaving no second line to replace the losses of the actual conflict.

Hypertrophy of the Left Ventricle presents the following *physical signs* :—

1. Bulging of the præcordia, if the disease has begun in early life ; if after complete ossification, bulging is uncommon.
2. Alterations in the apex beat.
 - (1) Its *visible* area is largely increased.
 - (2) It is slow and heaving.
 - (3) The apex beat may be *felt* in the sixth, seventh, or even eighth interspace *outside* the nipple.
 - (4) The area of cardiac dullness is increased downwards and to the left.
 - (5) The first sound at the apex is prolonged and of low pitch.

Hypertrophy of the Right Ventricle is usually due to lung disease, mitral obstruction, mitral regurgitation, or congenital heart disease. For years the effects of mitral regurgitation *per se* may be counterbalanced by perfect hypertrophy.

Physical Signs :—

1. Bulging of the lower part of the sternum (occasional).
2. Epigastric pulsation, and forcible impact of the right ventricle in the epigastric region.
3. Moderate increase in the cardiac dullness transversely and towards the *right*.
4. Accentuation of the second sound in the pulmonary area, due to increased tension in the pulmonary artery.

The degree of hypertrophy of which any section of the heart is capable is largely determined by the age of the patient. If one submits to the same course of gymnastic exercises a lad of

eighteen and a man of fifty, the increase in volume of the muscles is much more apparent in the former. So with the heart; suppose (*ceteris paribus*) two cases of aortic regurgitation, the one commencing at eighteen, the other at fifty. In the former the hypertrophy of the left ventricle will be very great and long maintained; in the latter the ventricle is no longer capable of great hypertrophy, and relative mitral insufficiency is likely to be sooner established.

Cardiac hypertrophy may be completely masked by emphysema, or simulated, as far as extension of the area of dullness is concerned, by retraction of the lung.

DILATATION OF THE HEART

This condition may be primary or secondary. It is *primary* when it is due to causes directly affecting the myocardium, such as bacterial toxins or chemical poisons, of which alcohol and tobacco are the chief examples, and when it follows emotion, shock, or physical overstrain. *Secondary* dilatation is the result of valvular lesions, adherent pericardium, increased peripheral resistance (arterio-sclerosis, Bright's disease), disease of the coronary arteries, and persistent tachycardia. Fatty and fibroid degenerations of the cardiac muscle predispose to it, and so does inadequate nutrition of the muscle, such as is met with in anæmia. Dilatation resulting from prolonged pyrexia has already been mentioned (p. 4). The causes of secondary dilatation, then, are much the same as those of hypertrophy, and, indeed, in all cases of valvular lesions, a moderate degree of dilatation of the chamber behind the damaged valve precedes and accompanies the hypertrophy. In aortic valvular lesions and in renal disease, the left ventricle is the first to suffer; in mitral lesions and diseases of the lungs, the right.

Morbid Anatomy.—The heart is more globular in shape. In pure dilatation the walls of the affected ventricle are much thinned, especially towards the apex; where hypertrophy and dilatation coexist, the walls may be thickened. The auriculo-ventricular valves are usually relatively or absolutely incompetent.

Physical Signs—*I. Dilatation of the Left Ventricle.*

1. Apex beat, when visible, displaced downwards and to the left, feeble and diffuse.
2. Dullness increased downwards and to the left.
3. First sound at the apex short, sharp, and loud ; interval between the sounds either much shortened, or lengthened, so that the sounds are equidistant (tick-tack rhythm); first sound may be replaced or accompanied by murmur.
4. Pulse rapid and irregular.

II. Dilatation of the Right Ventricle.

1. Diffuse pulsation over præcordia ; apex beat often absent ; right ventricular impulse feeble.
2. Præcordial dullness greatly increased to the right, and to a less degree to the left.
3. First sound in the tricuspid area short and sharp, or replaced by murmur ; second pulmonic sound *weak*.
4. Pulse rapid and irregular.
5. Venous pulsation.

Symptoms are those of Cardiac Failure (p. 313).

MYOCARDITIS AND MYOCARDIAL DEGENERATIONS

Acute Myocarditis is most commonly met with in acute rheumatism along with endocarditis or pericarditis, but it also occurs in connection with certain specific fevers, particularly *diphtheria*, influenza, and enteric fever. In all of these rapid fatty degeneration of the muscular fibres is liable to occur, and may lead to acute dilatation, with such symptoms as enlarged area of dullness, marked irregularity, feeble impulse, and tick-tack rhythm. Death may be sudden. But in most cases the attack is mild, and the chief danger is that of syncope during convalescence. The septic diseases may also cause acute myocardial symptoms, attended with minute abscesses at the base of the ventricles.

Chronic Myocardial Affections.—Of these, hypertrophy and dilatation have already been discussed. Fatty and fibroid degenerations and syphilitic disease are the remaining conditions which require attention. The *causes* of fatty and fibroid degeneration are (1) previous acute myocarditis; (2) *disease of the coronary arteries*; (3) *alcoholism*, or the prolonged administration of other chemical poisons; (4) anæmia; (5) emphysema; (6) cardiac overstrain and increased peripheral resistance. Of these, disease of the coronary arteries is the most important. It may be *secondary* to chronic aortitis or atheroma of the aorta; or it may be *primary*, when it takes the form of coronary arteritis, acute or chronic, or, in syphilitic cases, of endarteritis obliterans, from either of which affections thrombosis of a coronary vessel may result. Such thrombosis affecting a large branch causes an anæmic infarct, which may lead to aneurysm or rupture of the heart. *Embolism* of a coronary artery results in sudden death.

Fatty Heart.—Any of these coronary affections, or the other causes mentioned above, may lead to fatty heart. The anatomical changes are sometimes only visible under the microscope, which shows that some of the fibres are completely destroyed, while others have lost their transverse striation and are filled with fat droplets. But in many cases the muscle is visibly pale and of a streaky yellowish colour, soft, friable, and greasy to the touch. Except in chronic diseases of the lungs and in mitral affections, the left ventricle is usually most affected; and the heart may or may not be dilated. The disease is one of elderly people.

Symptoms are often obscure, but there may be coldness of the feet, drowsiness after meals, dyspnœa on exertion, and syncopal or epileptiform attacks. Angina pectoris may also occur. In some instances *sudden death* takes place before any symptoms have declared themselves. The heart may be moderately enlarged, the apex beat feeble or absent, and the sounds short and clear. In late stages the first sound may be almost absent at the apex. The pulse is often strikingly slow, and sometimes irregular, especially after exertion.

Fibroid Degeneration generally follows gradual obstruction of a large branch of the coronary artery, but it may also be caused by gummatous deposits, and by chronic venous congestion,

the result of emphysema. Dyspnœa on exertion, slight cyanosis, puffiness of the ankles, all of gradual onset, are accompanied by enlargement of the heart, and a muffled and prolonged first sound. Death may be sudden or due to gradual cardiac failure.

Syphilis of the Heart frequently attacks the aortic valve, giving rise to incompetence, but still more commonly it affects the myocardium and causes either gummata or a diffuse fibrosis. The heart is not usually enlarged, but the pulse is rapid and irregular; anginoid attacks may be present, and also palpitation and dyspnœa. These symptoms in a young adult with no rheumatic history, but with a history or other evidences of syphilis, should excite suspicion.

Heart-block is a condition usually due to lesions of the auriculo-ventricular bundle, though it may occur upon stimulation of the vagus or as a result of the action of digitalis. Lesions of the bundle, through which the impulse of contraction is conducted from auricle to ventricle, interfere to a greater or less extent with conduction, and thus give rise to partial or complete heart-block. In partial block the conduction may be merely delayed, the interval between the auricular and ventricular contractions being increased, or some of the impulses may altogether fail to pass the barrier, when the auricle and ventricle beat at different rates. Thus, with an auricle beating at 80, every second impulse may fail to pass, and the ventricular rate will be only 40 ("2 to 1 block"). Other variations, such as 3 to 1 block, may occur; or the block may be sometimes of one ratio, sometimes of another, when the ventricular action will be not only slow but irregular. In complete heart-block the conduction is altogether interrupted, and the ventricle beats independently of the auricle at its own rate, which varies from 24 to 36. Being due to a myocardial lesion, heart-block is produced by those causes which excite myocardial change, *i.e.*, the infective and degenerative processes which have been already mentioned. It is not necessarily incompatible with fair health, but many cases of complete block are associated with a group of symptoms known as Adams-Stokes disease.

Adams-Stokes Disease (paroxysmal bradycardia) is characterised by paroxysmal infrequency of the pulse associated with syncopal or epileptiform attacks. It is commonest in males over fifty years old, and is generally associated with

lesions of the coronary arteries leading to fibroid degeneration, or with myocardial gummata affecting the a.v. bundle.

Symptoms.—There may be evidence of valvular lesions, especially of the aortic valve; or there may be merely evidence of dilatation and cardiac failure. The arteries are often tortuous and rigid. The patient is usually pallid, but the nose and finger-tips may be cyanosed. Dyspnœa is common, and may amount to cardiac asthma. The pulse is persistently infrequent, but in the paroxysms falls to a very low rate (twenty per minute or less). Examination by means of the polygraph or electrocardiograph shows the independent rhythm of the auricles and ventricles.

The paroxysms vary in frequency and in character. There may be a rapid succession of them, or they may occur only at long intervals. They take the form of *nervous disturbances*, varying from mere giddiness or transient loss of memory to unconsciousness (syncope) or even epileptiform attacks. *Cheyne-Stokes breathing* may be present. Pain is not a constant feature, but there may be anginoid attacks. The seizures are due to cerebral anæmia, produced by arrest of the ventricular contraction.

Such cases end fatally, but life may be prolonged for several years. The end is usually sudden.

Treatment of Myocardial Diseases.—Exercise and diet must be regulated according to the individual case, but moderation in eating and drinking must always be enjoined, and the life should be quiet and as free as possible from worry. Iodides are the most reliable medicament in arterio-sclerotic or specific cases, and in the latter mercury may also be of service. The use of salvarsan is risky in myocardial disease. The iodides may be combined with nitrites if there is much arterial spasm. Digitalis and strophanthus must be used with caution, if at all, especially in fatty heart, where any increase of peripheral tension may dangerously overstrain the friable cardiac muscle. In fatty heart the diet should be more nitrogenous than usual, and fats and carbohydrates should be restricted. Fluids should not be given with meals, but either before or some time after them. During the syncopal attacks of Adams-Stokes disease diffusible stimulants are necessary. If there be marked dyspnœa or Cheyne-Stokes breathing, oxygen, or hypodermic injections of strychnine in large doses, may tide over the crisis.

ACUTE ENDOCARDITIS

By endocarditis is meant inflammation of the lining membrane of the interior of the heart, the valves being most commonly affected. It may be acute or chronic. The *acute* form has been divided into the simple or benign and malignant or ulcerative forms, but between these there exists a subacute condition, to be referred to later as subacute bacterial endocarditis.

Etiology.—Endocarditis is rarely a primary disease, but like pericarditis, it is secondary to other affections. Its causes are similar to those of pericarditis. The simple form is closely associated with rheumatism and chorea; it occurs in scarlet fever, but is uncommon in the other infections of childhood; it is often met with in pneumonia, sometimes in enteric fever and in phthisis; and it may occur in Bright's disease, diabetes, or gout.

Malignant endocarditis may be primary, or at least the source of infection may not be discoverable, but it is much more frequently the result of some septic or infective condition, such as diphtheria, scarlet fever, puerperal sepsis, gonococcal infection, pneumonia, septicæmia, or pyæmia. It very often attacks valves already the seat of chronic endocarditis. It is also associated with rheumatism and chorea, but not nearly so often as simple endocarditis.

The distinction between simple and malignant endocarditis is by no means absolute. The same organisms may be found to exist in either form, and even clinically a case may commence as simple, and end as malignant endocarditis, or *vice versa*. In the majority of cases, however, the distinction is sufficiently marked to warrant a differentiation between the two types.

Morbid Anatomy.—*Simple Form*—

1. Cloudiness, followed by œdematous thickening of the valvular endocardium.
2. Superficial erosions, and formation of small granulations.
3. Deposit of layers of fibrin and corpuscles from the blood, the whole process resulting in the formation of small warty "vegetations." These vegetations are most marked at a slight distance from the free borders of the valves—*i.e.*, *those parts which come into apposition during closure*. In the course of time they are transformed into fibrous tissue, but while soft they

may become detached from the affected valve, and cause *emboli* in distant organs.

Malignant Form (Ulcerative Endocarditis).—The initial changes are presumably similar, but the later changes differ from those of simple endocarditis in this, that they tend to an ulcerative rather than a vegetative type. In typical cases of the two forms, the appearances in favour of ulcerative endocarditis are as follows :—

1. The vegetations when present are larger and fungating.
2. The underlying tissues are necrotic, and show loss of substance and round-celled infiltration.
3. They contain masses of micrococci, while in simple endocarditis the organisms are scanty. The two forms cannot be distinguished by the organisms producing them ; either simple or malignant endocarditis may arise from a pyogenic infection.
4. When the vegetations become detached they form *septic emboli*, giving rise to metastatic abscesses.
5. The ulcerative process causes great destruction of the valves, and may even lead to perforation of the curtains.
6. The subsequent or permanent changes in the valves, if the patient survive, are much more marked.

As regards the side of the heart most affected, it may be roughly stated that congenital endocarditis attacks the right side of the heart, the majority of congenital cardiac lesions being due, however, to developmental faults rather than inflammatory changes ; that simple or benign endocarditis attacks the left side only ; and that malignant endocarditis may affect the valves of both sides, but principally the left.

The vegetations are upon that side of the valve opposed to the blood-stream—viz., at the aortic valve the vegetations project into the ventricle, at the mitral valve into the auricle.

As in pericarditis, the myocardium almost always shares in the inflammatory affection, and may be either slightly or extensively involved. The auriculo-ventricular node or the bundle of His may be affected. Pericarditis is a common complication.

Symptoms.—*Simple Endocarditis.*—The signs are often extremely ill-marked ; possibly increased rapidity of pulse, slight

dyspnœa or præcordial distress, etc., may attract attention to the heart. More commonly the condition is discovered during the daily routine examination, when some dilatation of the heart, from the accompanying myocarditis, may be found, and a *recently developed murmur* of a soft blowing or bellows-like character may be heard in the mitral or aortic areas. The commonest murmur is that of mitral regurgitation (systolic); aortic murmurs are much less frequent.

It should be remembered, however, that in most fevers the heart is somewhat dilated, and a murmur, *not due to endocarditis*, may be present, particularly in rheumatism, where marked anæmia is so common. We must therefore be cautious in coming to a too rapid conclusion that a suddenly developed murmur is indicative of endocarditis. An important distinction is that the onset of endocarditis is often accompanied by a smart rise in temperature above the previous level, while in hæmic murmurs, or those due to simple dilatation, this is absent. In other cases fever may persist after the pain and swelling of the joints are gone. A diastolic murmur in the aortic area is likely to be organic (aortic regurgitation). In many instances a rise in the pulse-rate, or irregularity of the pulse, is the first sign of endocarditis.

Malignant Form.—Three types may be distinguished—

1. *The Septic Type* is characterised by the symptoms of septic infection—viz., rigors, sweats, oscillating temperature, emaciation, and metastatic abscesses. The symptoms may continue for months.
2. *The Typhoid Type* is characterised by irregular or intermittent fever, looseness of the bowels, petechial rashes, and a rapid assumption of the typhoid state. Great difficulty may be experienced in distinguishing this form from typhoid fever or meningitis. The Widal reaction, on the one hand, or the results of lumbar puncture on the other, may help in the distinction.
3. *The Cardiac Type* is that in which symptoms of acute endocarditis, with fever of a septic type, appear in the course of a chronic valvular lesion. In some of these cases death is rapid; others may recover after a protracted illness.

Perhaps the most common type is the so-called *subacute bacterial endocarditis*, in which the onset is insidious, and there may be a history of general debility of some years' duration. The first symptoms are those of anæmia and lassitude, often with slight irregular fever. The condition is progressive; there may or may not be evidence of old valvular disease, or a history of rheumatism; but murmurs, with signs of dilatation and cardiac failure, appear before the end, which usually occurs within a year.

Along with the general symptoms there are usually definite cardiac signs—development of murmur, dilatation of the heart, cardiac irregularity, and so on. But the cardiac symptoms may be altogether latent, causing difficulty in diagnosis. Enteric fever and miliary tuberculosis are the chief sources of confusion. In malignant endocarditis there is leucocytosis, in enteric leucopenia; in endocarditis the murmur may change its character, or fresh murmurs may appear. In enteric the Widal reaction is present; in endocarditis blood-culture may show the presence of an organism. In miliary tuberculosis tubercle may be present in other regions of the body, and pulmonary signs are often marked.

In both simple and malignant endocarditis vegetations may be detached from the affected valve, and plug the smaller arteries. In the simple form these *emboli* are of importance when they implicate end-arteries (brain, lungs, kidneys, spleen), and they then result in hemiplegia, hæmorrhagic infarction of the lungs, hæmaturia, and so on. In the malignant form the same results are produced when end-arteries are affected, but an abscess subsequently forms at the seat of the embolus, while in the case of other arteries metastatic abscesses ensue. Obviously the risk of detachment is greater in the ulcerative type.

It should be remembered that patients with chronic valvular disease may have frequent attacks of subacute endocarditis.

We must also remember that endocarditis is never a solitary process. To some extent the myocardium always shares in the inflammatory changes; and the prognosis, in cases of chronic endocarditis following upon the acute form, depends as much upon the condition of the cardiac musculature as upon the actual valvular lesion.

Treatment.—All forms of endocarditis require absolute rest which should be prolonged for weeks or even months. The

primary disease should be treated, and what has been said under pericarditis of the use of salicylates applies also to endocarditis. *Over-stimulation* of the heart must be avoided, and it is in acute endocarditis that most harm is likely to be done by the indiscriminate use of digitalis, though it may be called for if the heart is failing. Rest, light diet—milk while fever is present—attention to the bowels and to sleep, form the best treatment of simple endocarditis. The malignant form should be treated like septicæmia. If the organism can be isolated from the blood, anti-streptococcic serum or a vaccine may be tried, but under any treatment most cases have a fatal ending.

CHRONIC ENDOCARDITIS AND VALVULAR DEGENERATION

The main causes of chronic valvular disease of the heart are chronic endocarditis and degenerative changes in the curtains of the valves. Somewhat similar changes—namely, sclerosis and thickening of the cusps and of the base of the valves—are to be found in both conditions; but the sclerosis may be inferred to be due to chronic endocarditis when there is a history of a previous acute attack due to rheumatic fever, or even when there is a clear history of rheumatism without acute endocarditis. It will be remembered that other infections may also, though less commonly, cause the acute disease, and therefore the chronic form.

The conditions which may cause degenerative changes are syphilis, alcoholism, chronic Bright's disease, gout, and vascular overstrain, however produced. Most of these favour the development of high blood-pressure, and consequently of arterio-sclerosis and atheroma, the valvular lesion being often consecutive to degenerative changes in the arch of the aorta, and therefore usually affecting the aortic valve. Such lesions arise at a later period of life than those which follow rheumatism, and are most common about middle age. Syphilitic disease of the valves, on the other hand, may arise either in early or in later adult life. Like the degenerative lesions, it affects the aortic oftener than the mitral valve, but may also implicate the latter. Rheumatic endocarditis most frequently attacks the mitral valve, although it may involve the aortic also, or attack it singly. Aortic lesions, then, often originate in middle life, mitral lesions as a rule in early adult life.

Morbid Anatomy.—The principal changes to be found in chronic valvular lesions are as follows :—

1. Thickening and stiffening of the cusps, often with warty vegetations, firmer than those of the acute disease, at their margins. The thickening may affect the whole valve or the marginal portion only.

2. Shortening of the cusps, which thus become incompetent ; or adhesion between their margins, causing stenosis of the orifice. Incompetence and stenosis may coexist.

3. In the aortic valve, the cusps are usually curled inwards towards the wall of the vessel, and the coronary arteries are often implicated ; in the mitral valve, the cusps are often adherent along the whole length of their margins, leaving a slit-shaped orifice at the bottom of a funnel (mitral stenosis), and the fusion may extend to the chordæ tendineæ and musculi papillares.

4. Calcification or atheromatous change in the fibrotic cusps.

5. The changes may extend to the mural endocardium ; and the auriculo-ventricular node or bundle may be affected.

EFFECTS OF CHRONIC VALVULAR DISEASE

We have seen that as a result of inflammatory or degenerative affections serious structural changes occur in the valves of the heart. We must now consider in detail the effects of such morbid changes.

In order that the heart should carry out its function of supplying the organs and tissues with the necessary amount of oxygenated blood, it must be perfect in its structure and properly nourished. Interference with this function may be brought about by—

- (1) Disorders of the cardiac innervation.
- (2) Defective cardiac nutrition.
- (3) Valvular or myocardial defects.

It is with the last of these causes that we are here concerned.

In studying the mechanism of chronic valvular lesions, it is well to bear in mind three important points :—

1. The normal cardiac mechanism is adapted to meet a certain amount of sudden strain, working under ordinary circumstances with a large reserve of power.

2. This reserve power is developed, and *actually increased under increased strain, provided the heart is adequately supplied with blood*, and the strain *gradually* applied.

3. Notwithstanding the existence of this reserve, a time comes when reserve force must fail, and symptoms of heart failure develop. In other words, hypertrophy keeps up the balance for a time; but ultimately dilatation becomes disproportionate to the hypertrophy, and an enfeeblement of the heart begins, which ends in complete failure.

Let us take for an example, although it seldom exists as an isolated lesion, the condition of aortic stenosis, a narrowing of the aortic orifice which leads to an obstruction to the outflow of blood. The first effect will be an extra strain upon the valve and chamber behind (left ventricle). Under the extra strain the chamber at first dilates *slightly*, as the ventricle has no previous preparation for the sudden establishment of a lesion in front of it. But the reserve energy of the myocardium is soon called into play, the ventricle contracts more forcibly to overcome the obstruction, and its walls begin to hypertrophy. If the narrowing is slight, a moderate degree of hypertrophy will be enough to overcome the obstacle without exhausting the cardiac reserve, and this condition may remain unaltered for a very long time. But the lesion may be progressive, and as the narrowing increases, so must the hypertrophy increase to overcome it, until in course of time it may come to be very great. The obstruction to the onflow of blood is thus met by more forcible and more prolonged contractions, the arterial system remains well supplied, and for a time no bad symptom may develop. This is known as the "stage of compensation" of the valvular lesion. Finally, however, the reserve energy of the ventricle becomes exhausted, owing to prolonged overwork, aided perhaps by external causes, such as faulty regulation of habits, diet, or exercise, or mental worry and anxiety. Then the exhausted muscle yields to the strain, and dilatation becomes more prominent than hypertrophy. The walls of the ventricle are carried apart, and in consequence the curtains of the mitral valve, though healthy, are no longer able to close the orifice ("*relative insufficiency*"). Regurgitation of blood into the auricle (mitral regurgitation) follows, and upon that engorgement of the pulmonary circulation.

The right ventricle is now called upon to force the blood

through the engorged lungs to the left side of the heart, and it must obviously pass through changes similar to those that affected the left ventricle. But, as it is a less muscular structure, these changes are completed sooner. Relative tricuspid insufficiency is established, and with it the last stage, known as "cardiac failure," or "failure of compensation," which will be subsequently discussed.

The aortic symptoms first developed may thus *become masked by mitral symptoms*, although death may ensue before these appear.

It is evident that in cases of disease of the mitral valve, causing either back-flow of blood into the left auricle or obstruction to the passage of blood from the auricle into the left ventricle, the right ventricle is the main compensatory force, the capacity for hypertrophy of the left auricle being only limited. Dilatation of the left auricle is therefore followed by moderate dilatation, and then by hypertrophy, of the right ventricle, while the left ventricle is either not hypertrophied or only moderately so. The effects of "back-pressure" may therefore show themselves earlier in a mitral than in an aortic lesion.

It must be clearly understood that the foregoing statements are given as an example of the way in which failure of the heart may gradually arise as the result of a purely *mechanical* defect in either the mitral or aortic valve. They are insisted upon, because the present tendency appears to be to neglect the mechanism, and to stress only the vital capacity of the cardiac musculature. But it should be clear that of two equally competent or incompetent muscles, that muscle will fail sooner which has the greatest resistance to overcome. Although the duration of compensatory hypertrophy, in each individual instance, depends *mainly* upon the extent to which the myocardium is involved, the degree and type of the valvular lesion are far from unimportant, and must be considered in the prognosis of any case of chronic valvular disease.

Other things being equal, a serious valvular lesion, with a sound cardiac muscle, may be longer compensated than a slight one with definite myocardial defect. The age of origin of the lesion also counts for much, young muscle being capable of much greater hypertrophy than that of the elderly. Lesions which involve the coronary arteries, as in many cases of aortic disease, interfere with the blood-supply of the cardiac wall, and in these

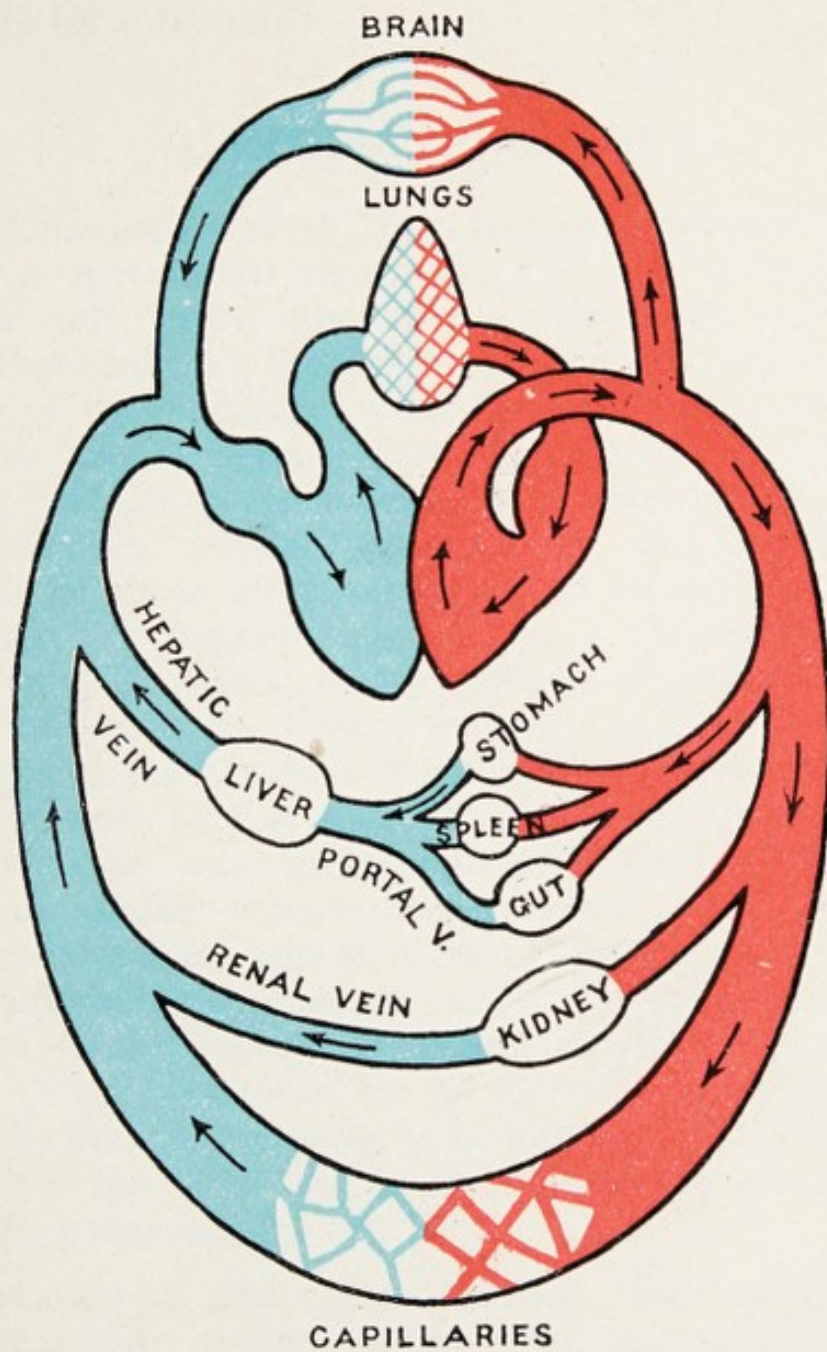


Diagram for studying the results of backward pressure. Note the areas in blue will become the seat of changes consequent on venous congestion.



cases also the period of compensation is likely to be brief. Apart from its share in the causative endocarditis, the myocardium may be weakened as the result of the patient's habits (alcoholism), or of the degenerative changes of later life, when early cardiac failure may be anticipated.

CARDIAC FAILURE

As a consequence of the late stages of valvular disease, or following a myocardial defect—in the one instance possibly mechanical only, in the other due in most cases to degenerative change—there ensues a breakdown of the heart, either as a whole or in one of its chambers, which is known as *cardiac failure*. The causes are numerous, the effect the same. It happens frequently that the heart may fail as a whole, when its arterial supply (coronary vessels) has been for long defective. The results will be those already referred to under Diseases of the Myocardium. It happens also that as a consequence of long-standing valvular defect, the over-taxed musculature may fail, even when there is no distinct evidence of myocardial disease. And it happens, further, that even the left ventricle may suddenly give way, in cases such as those of aortic valvular disease, where it appears to be very soundly hypertrophied. These are all instances of cardiac failure, some sudden, some gradual, the precise mechanism in cases of sudden failure being still doubtful, but being attributed by many to ventricular fibrillation.

Sudden cardiac failure leaves one but little time for a consideration of its symptoms, but in the more gradual and more familiar process, the sequence is as follows. We may assume a breakdown of the right side, as well as of the left side, of the heart. The consequences will be :—

1. Dilatation of the right ventricle, with enlargement of the area of cardiac dullness to the right, and possibly a systolic murmur over the lower end of the sternum, indicating tricuspid regurgitation. The presence or absence of the murmur will depend upon the strength of the cardiac contractions.

2. Marked irregularity of the pulse, of the type seen in auricular fibrillation (*see* p. 295).

3. Venous pulsation, evident in the veins of the neck.

In consequence of the weakness of the right heart, and of

the resulting impediment to the return of venous blood to the right auricle, there will be signs of failure of the systemic circulation ("passive congestion"), indicated by:—

1. Œdema, beginning where the circulation is normally at the greatest disadvantage, *i.e.*, in the feet and ankles, and extending gradually upwards till the trunk and arms may be affected.

2. In grave cases, ascites, hydrothorax, hydropericardium.

3. Congestion of internal organs—

(a) Liver. Enlargement, tenderness, slight icteric tinge of the skin.

(b) Kidneys. Scanty, high-coloured urine, abundant urates, albumin in varying amount, a few hyaline casts, and isolated red blood-corpuscles. Urea not diminished.

(c) Stomach. Dyspepsia, catarrh, often hæmatemesis.

(d) Lungs. Signs of congestion and œdema; fine moist râles and dullness at the bases.

The earliest symptoms of failure in a case, for example, of mitral stenosis, are very often those of pulmonary engorgement, and a patient may thus complain of cough, hæmoptysis, etc., without suspicion that a valvular lesion is the cause. In any instance in which cardiac inefficiency is suspected, the main test is that of the capacity of the heart for work. If a man should get materially out of breath on climbing the stairs of his own house, it would be wise to suspect him of cardiac defect, and to make a careful examination of the state of his heart. The later and more obvious signs above referred to indicate a condition in which little can be done beyond symptomatic treatment. The end may be sudden or gradual, disease of the aortic valves or of the coronary arteries being more commonly responsible for the former, while in mitral valvular disease the warnings of danger may extend over a long time.

VALVULAR LESIONS

In consequence of endocarditic or degenerative changes, any of the cardiac valves may be affected in one of three ways, viz. :—

1. Its orifice may be narrowed, impeding the flow of blood—obstruction or stenosis.

2. It may be incompetent—regurgitation or insufficiency.

3. It may be both incompetent and obstructed.

These conditions are diagnosed by—

(1) The position, rhythm, and direction of propagation of the murmurs which accompany them.

(2) The general symptoms which they produce.

Murmurs are propagated in the direction of the blood-stream, and are best heard in the situations already defined (p. 282), a little way from the valvular orifice where they are produced.

In studying a murmur, attention should always be given to—

1. Its point of maximum intensity.

2. Its rhythm and character.

3. The direction of propagation.

4. Any modification of the sounds which it induces.

5. Its accompaniments, if any (thrill, etc.).

It must also be remembered that the mere occurrence of a murmur does not necessarily indicate organic disease of the heart. Systolic murmurs may arise from many causes—anæmia or the temporary disturbance of an acute infection—and may disappear as the patient recovers from the causative disease. A presystolic or diastolic murmur is a more definite indication of valvular mischief, and usually points to a progressive lesion of either the mitral or the aortic valve. Along with the murmur, symptoms and clinical history must always be taken into account. Given these precautionary considerations, the following are the characteristics of the murmurs of the chief valvular lesions :—

Characters of Valvular Murmurs—

Aortic Stenosis.—A loud, rough murmur heard in the aortic area, systolic in time; propagated up the sternum into the carotids, and often *accompanied* by a systolic thrill at the base of the heart. This lesion must never be diagnosed from the characters of the murmur alone.

Aortic Regurgitation.—A soft, blowing murmur heard in the

aortic area, *diastolic* in time ; propagated *down* the sternum and towards the apex, and modifying or replacing the second sound.

In both conditions there are hypertrophy of the left ventricle, greater in regurgitation ; anæmia of the systemic circulation and tendency to syncope, greater in regurgitation ; and very often cardiac pain of an anginoid type, or true angina pectoris.

Mitral Stenosis.—A rough, vibratory murmur heard in the mitral area, *pre-systolic* in time, and running up to the first sound, in which it abruptly ends. It is not widely propagated, but is limited to a small area at and internal to the apex beat. The first sound is short and sharp, and the murmur is often accompanied by a marked presystolic thrill (purring tremor). This is the most variable of the valvular murmurs. In later stages of the lesion, when the narrowing of the orifice is considerable, a mid-diastolic murmur, or a murmur occupying the entire diastole, may take its place, and the second sound disappears. When compensation has failed, the murmur may also disappear, nothing being audible at the apex but the slapping first sound.

Mitral Regurgitation.—A blowing murmur heard in the mitral area, *systolic* in time ; propagated to the axilla, *and modifying or replacing* the first sound. If the murmur be loud, it may be heard at the back, close to the left side of the spine.

In both these mitral conditions the symptoms, before compensation has failed, are mainly pulmonary—increased liability to bronchial affections, dyspnœa, cyanosis, hæmorrhage, œdema of the lungs. Pain is not usually severe, though there may be a sense of emptiness or cardiac distress. In both conditions, before compensation has failed, there is accentuation and sometimes reduplication of the second pulmonic sound—accentuation because the impediment to the pulmonary circulation is met by more forcible contraction of the right ventricle, and reduplication because the pulmonary engorgement causes the right ventricle to contract more slowly than the left.

Tricuspid Regurgitation.—A murmur heard over the fourth right costal cartilage and lower part of the sternum ; propagated to the right and slightly to the left ; *systolic* in time.

Pulmonic Stenosis (the commonest of the congenital lesions).—A murmur heard in the second left interspace, close to the sternum ; *systolic* in time : propagated upwards. The murmur

is often very loud, the right heart is enlarged, and cyanosis is marked.

Pulmonic Regurgitation is indicated by a soft blowing diastolic murmur in the second and third left interspaces close to the sternum, and conducted towards the xiphoid cartilage. It is most commonly due to dilatation of the artery produced by the increased pressure following mitral stenosis.

Tricuspid Stenosis is rare.—The murmur is presystolic, rough, and localised to the lower end of the sternum. Other valvular lesions are often present at the same time.

Too much importance may easily be attached to the mere localisation of murmurs, if *little* notice is taken of the state of the cardiac nutrition, which is indicated *by the character and rhythm of the sounds*. Post-diastolic and mid-diastolic murmurs are often diagnosed with accuracy by the student, who, at the same time, fails to note whether compensation is established or beginning to fail, whether the sounds are weak, accentuated, or reduplicated. Reduplication of sounds indicates a want of synchronism between the two sides of the heart. Remember, the second sound is produced by the closure and stretching of the aortic and pulmonary valves; the first sound, by closure and stretching of the auriculo-ventricular valves, *plus the contraction of the ventricular muscle*. The loudness and abruptness of the first sound in dilatation is thus an indication of weakening of its muscular element.

General Symptoms.—Do not forget that the loudness of a murmur is but a poor index of the gravity of the lesion. A murmur indicates at best only the existence of a particular valvular defect; how long the heart will be able to compensate it depends upon the condition of the myocardium. When compensation has failed, and the circulation through the heart is much embarrassed, the force of the cardiac beat may be insufficient to generate a murmur, the return of which, or the increasing loudness of a murmur previously feeble, may be an actual sign of improvement. Consideration of the general state of the heart and *general symptoms* is of far greater importance than mere attention to any murmurs that exist. For any estimation of the general state of the heart, careful note must be taken of the character of the *sounds*, as has been already indicated, and also of the *rhythm* of the heart (*see Arrhythmia*),

and of the degree of exertion which is necessary to induce symptoms. Aortic lesions tend to produce in the first instance a poorly filled arterial system, while mitral lesions tend to cause venous congestion. The symptoms of the two conditions consequently differ; but remember that the final tendency of all organic valvular lesions is to produce *both arterial emptiness and venous congestion*. The following table will show the more important differences between the symptoms of aortic and those of mitral affections:—

AORTIC DISEASE

Symptoms are mainly due to defective arterial supply, viz.—

1. Pallor.
2. Visible pulsation of the arteries (carotids, radials, etc.).
3. Præcordial pain, often of an anginoid type (malnutrition of the cardiac wall, involvement of coronary arteries).
4. Dyspnœa frequent.
5. Gastric symptoms uncommon.
6. Œdema late and slight.
7. Emboli uncommon.
8. Cerebral symptoms (headache, vertigo, etc.) common, also syncopal attacks from cerebral anæmia.
9. The left ventricle is usually much hypertrophied.

MITRAL DISEASE

Symptoms are mainly due to venous congestion, viz.—

1. Cyanosis.
2. Pulsation in the veins of the neck in the later stages.
3. Acute pain uncommon; palpitation and cardiac uneasiness frequent.
4. Dyspnœa frequent.
5. Gastric symptoms frequent.
6. Œdema frequent and considerable.
7. Emboli common.
8. Pulmonary symptoms most common, *e.g.*, bronchitis, hæmoptysis, infarction, pleural effusion. The bronchitis contributes to the strain upon and consequent dilatation of the right heart.
9. The left auricle and ventricle may be somewhat hypertrophied, but the main hypertrophy is that of the right ventricle.

Tricuspid Disease.—This usually takes the form of incompetence of the valve, and as a rule tricuspid regurgitation is due to a relative insufficiency following mitral disease or pulmonary affections, such as emphysema. When primary it is generally a congenital lesion. The general symptoms of failure of the right side of the heart are due to imperfect aeration of blood and congestion of the systemic veins. They have already been summarised under Cardiac Failure. The local signs are epigastric pulsation, replacement of the apex beat by a diffuse and feeble præcordial pulsation due to the dilated right ventricle, permanent irregularity of the cardiac action, great increase of

the area of cardiac dullness to the right, systolic murmur in the tricuspid area, and pulsation in the veins of the neck and sometimes in the liver. The jugular vein, if obstructed by the finger, *fills up from below during systole*.

Combinations of Valvular Lesions are very common. Probably the most frequent is a combination of stenosis and regurgitation affecting the same valve. It is quite rare to meet with aortic stenosis without some degree of aortic regurgitation, and even in mitral stenosis there is usually a regurgitant element, though it may be only slight. Single lesions, proved so *post mortem*, are generally regurgitant. There may be combined lesions of different valves, as aortic regurgitation and mitral stenosis, and so on.

THE PULSE IN CARDIAC LESIONS

Aortic Stenosis (see Fig. 12).—Here the blood is obstructed in its flow into the aorta. The pulse is thus small, and the sphygmographic line of ascent is slow, and often interrupted (anacrotic).

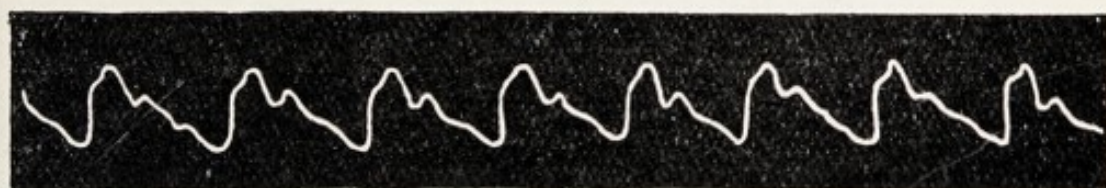


FIG. 12.—Pulse of Aortic Stenosis.

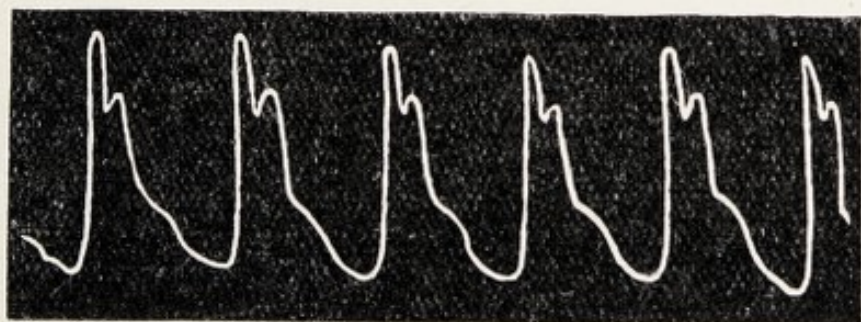


FIG. 13.—Pulse of Aortic Regurgitation.

The tension will depend on the amount of obstruction, and the degree of hypertrophy. The lesion is seldom solitary, but is usually accompanied by some degree of regurgitation, which modifies the characters of the pulse.

Aortic Regurgitation (see Fig. 13).—The ventricle in this condition is filled during diastole by *two* streams—one the regurgitant aortic stream, and the other in the usual direction from the auricle. The chamber is thus filled more quickly, and the pulse becomes more rapid in its rise and fall (*pulsus celer*). The sudden rise and the sudden fall of the pulse give it a peculiar kicking or water-hammer character. This is due to the collapsed state of the arteries between pulsations, owing to regurgitation into the ventricle, and their sudden filling with each forcible systole. The throbbing of the carotids often prevents sleep. *Capillary pulsation is often well marked.*

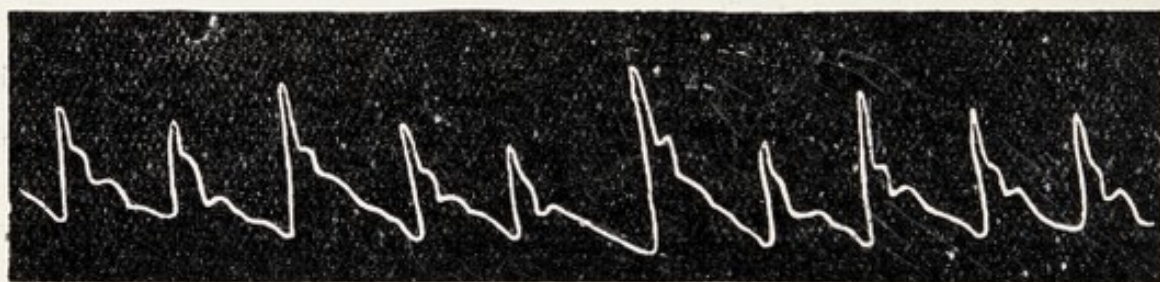


FIG. 14.—Irregular Pulse of Mitral Regurgitation.

In *Mitral Disease* (see Fig. 14) the pulse is often small and of low tension. After failure of compensation has set in, irregularity in force and rhythm is its chief feature, but in mitral stenosis it may be temporarily irregular even before compensation is permanently disturbed.

Prognosis.—*Aortic Stenosis.*—Prognosis is comparatively favourable when the lesion originates in the elderly, as its development is slow, and the left ventricle may maintain compensation for a considerable time. In younger patients the outlook is not so satisfactory. When stenosis is the only valvular lesion the vessels are often atheromatous, and their undue fragility may lead to cerebral hæmorrhage.

Aortic Regurgitation, on the other hand, is a much more dangerous lesion; sudden syncope through anæmia of the brain is often fatal. Angina pectoris is common in this lesion, and may cause speedy death. Many cases are now known to be due to syphilis, and in these the prognosis is grave on account of the coincident damage to the myocardium. In rheumatic cases the myocardium is not as a rule so severely affected, and

compensation lasts longer. The recent war has given us also a class of cases, occurring in young men, and apparently due to persistent overstrain, in which no evidence either of syphilis or of rheumatism can be found. Some of these are of the type of subacute bacterial endocarditis (*see* p. 308), in others there is no evidence of acute infection. The prognosis in any given case depends largely upon the extent to which hypertrophy is possible, and therefore upon the age.

Either lesion may go on to dilatation of the left ventricle and implication of the right side of the heart, thus ending like mitral disease, or the exhausted ventricle may cease to beat before the right side is materially affected (death by asystole:—ventricular fibrillation?).

When both lesions exist in the same case, the stenotic lesion may be regarded as in a sense protective. Evidently, when the aortic orifice is narrowed, less blood must flow back into the ventricle during diastole, and hence the arteries are not so completely emptied.

Mitral regurgitation is as often due to relative insufficiency as to disease of the valve. In such cases it must be regarded as a symptom, and the prognosis depends upon its cause. Even in cases due to endocarditis the lesion is in many instances compatible with long life if the myocardium is little affected. *Mitral stenosis* is a graver lesion, since it is usually progressive, and tends to an earlier failure of compensation. In women it is especially apt to be fatal during pregnancy and the puerperal period.

Tricuspid disease is always grave, since the only compensatory force is the right auricle, of which the capacity for hypertrophy is soon exhausted. The prognosis depends less upon the existence of the murmur than upon the degree of venous stasis in a given case.

In all lesions of the left side of the heart the possibility of embolism must be kept in mind, the most serious being, of course, embolism of the brain, with its resultant hemiplegia.

Treatment of Valvular Diseases.—It cannot be too clearly understood that there is no *routine* treatment for valvular diseases of the heart. Although digitalis is to be looked upon as the typical cardiac tonic, and must be used at some stage in the majority of cardiac lesions, yet its indiscriminate use may

be productive of much harm, by causing excessive stimulation of the muscle. Similarly, in the same case, much benefit may be obtained at one time from rest, at another from carefully graduated exercise. Certain general indications, however, point towards the selection of a particular line of treatment.

1. Hypertrophy is Nature's cure ; and, in order—

2. To get hypertrophy there must be a wholesome supply of blood to the heart tissue.

3. Remember the golden rule—"Avoid putting excessive strain on a diseased tissue."

4. Do not look upon the heart as an isolated structure, but as a *component and essential part* of a complex machine ; and consequently sharing in the anabolic and catabolic changes of the body generally. In other words, if the system generally be lowered, then the heart must also suffer ; if the general tone be raised, the cardiac tone must share in the improvement. But in special circumstances it is also necessary to use those drugs which have a distinct and particular action upon the heart. Our treatment must be then both general and medicinal.

General Treatment.—1. *Diet.*—Avoid excesses, especially of nitrogenous food, which tend to increase *peripheral resistance*. It is often advisable to limit the amount of food taken at any one meal, and to give small meals often, rather than large meals seldom. Heavy meals before bed-time are to be avoided. An over-distended stomach is a constant source of cardiac embarrassment, and to avert flatulence little or no fluid should be taken at meals. Alcohol must be taken in great moderation, if at all.

Where compensation has failed, the diet should at first be fluid, milk being the staple food.

2. *Exercise.*—Provided the *assimilative powers are good, and plenty of food can be taken to provide* for the *increased* expenditure of energy, then graduated exercise is useful, as it imitates or helps the natural way of producing hypertrophy of the chambers behind the lesion. Such exercise must not be pushed to the point of fatigue, or to the production of dyspnœa ; and sudden strains must be avoided.

3. *Absolute rest is the treatment* on the other hand, when the assimilative powers are weak, or compensation once established is failing.

Medicinal Treatment.—*Drugs* include (1) general tonics, and (2) those having a special action on the heart. In many instances of established compensation, treatment by drugs is almost unnecessary, careful regulation of the patient's diet and habits sufficing to maintain him in relative health. In most instances it is well to inform him of his condition, at the same time reassuring him and pointing out the need for caution. In this stage, if drugs are needed, they are general tonics, such as iron, arsenic, or strychnine.

Where compensation has failed, cardiac tonics are required, and of these digitalis stands first. It acts beneficially by slowing the action of the heart and prolonging its diastole, thus increasing the natural rest. It also increases the force of the cardiac beat. In addition, it has a diuretic action, and thus tends to relieve dropsy. Its disadvantages are that in toxic doses it may produce contraction of the peripheral arteries and so raise the general blood-pressure, and that in aortic regurgitation the prolonged diastole permits of a longer back-flow. Consequently it should not be given in aortic regurgitation unless there are mitral symptoms. Its action is most satisfactory in cases of mitral regurgitation or obstruction, in which it tends to restore the tone of the dilated and weakened right ventricle. In mitral stenosis the prolongation of diastole counteracts the effect of the obstruction by giving longer time for the blood to pass the narrowed orifice; and digitalis is particularly indicated in cases of stenosis associated with *auricular fibrillation* (see p. 295), a condition recognisable clinically by the patient's sensations of fluttering and thumping within the chest, by the disorderly irregularity of the pulse, and by disappearance of the *presystolic* murmur, though a diastolic murmur may persist. The drug acts in such cases through its production of a partial heart-block, by which many of the disorderly auricular stimuli are cut off, and the ventricle is free to resume a more regular rhythm. Do not give digitalis, though there be cardiac disease, if compensation is well established; and, secondly, do not continue giving digitalis if the urine decreases in quantity after its administration, or if the pulse tends to become more irregular. To avoid its cumulative effect, it should not be given for more than three weeks to a month at a time. It may be resumed after an interval of a week or ten days, during which other cardiac tonics may be used if necessary.

In cases of auricular fibrillation, quinidine has been extensively

tried in recent years, but its action seems to be more uncertain, and relapses more probable, than with the older drug. Strychnine would appear, from recent experimental observations, to have little or no value in cardiac failure, but it is a drug with which few clinicians would be willing to part.

Of other cardiac tonics strophanthus holds the second place, and may be used where digitalis disagrees, or in combination with it. Sparteine, convallarin, or the tincture of convallaria majalis, casca, etc., are less frequently employed.

Sudden breakdowns of compensation call for *complete rest* and stimulation of the heart by ammonia or ammonium carbonate, digitalin, or camphor, much used but without material benefit in these conditions. Where the right heart is over-distended, strychnine hypodermically, along with a mercurial purge, and, if necessary, removal of blood by leeches over the liver or by bleeding from the arm, are required.

Cardiac pain is best relieved by morphia, or in cases of the degenerative type, by a course of iodide of potassium. If there be arterial constriction, nitrite of amyl is the best remedy.

Where there is much œdema and congestion of internal organs, diuretics may be used in conjunction with digitalis. Absolute rest in bed and milk diet will also help to relieve the condition. Purgatives are not indicated, although saline laxatives may be useful. The subcutaneous tissues may be drained by acupuncture or by Southey's tubes. If failure of the circulation has gone so far as to cause ascites or hydrothorax, the abdomen or the pleura may be tapped, but in such cases little is to be hoped for beyond a temporary relief of symptoms.

ANGINA PECTORIS

("Breast Pang." Stenocardia)

A condition not easily classified under either myocardial or valvular disease, but characterised by sudden attacks of severe pain in the cardiac region, with a sense of impending death.

Etiology.—It occurs most frequently amongst men above the middle age. Predisposing causes are *all conditions which interfere with the nutrition of the walls of the heart*; such as extensive fatty disease, arterio-sclerosis or atheroma, obstruction of the coronary arteries, lesions of the aortic valve, sometimes

adherent pericardium, and also affections of the cardiac ganglia or cardiac plexus. It may be associated with gout, diabetes, or syphilis, and occasionally with influenza. It is sometimes hereditary. The exciting causes are—

Sudden strain, an over-distended stomach, powerful emotional disturbances, and chill. John Hunter said of himself: "My life is in the hands of any rascal who chooses to annoy me." He died in an attack induced by a fit of anger.

Morbid Anatomy.—Obstructive lesions of the coronary arteries or of the first part of the aorta are the most constant changes. Fatty or fibroid degeneration of the myocardium is often present, and sometimes tumours, aneurysms, or adherent pericardium lead to involvement of the cardiac nerves. In a few cases no lesion of the heart or vessels has been found.

Pathology.—Various theories have been advanced to explain the occurrence of angina. That of *intermittent claudication* is based upon the analogous attacks of pain which sometimes occur in the legs when their arteries are partially obstructed. In such a case the circulation suffices for rest or restful movement, but prolonged exertion causes cramp-like pain and temporary lameness (claudication). Similarly in a heart poorly supplied with blood (ischæmia), or in which the driving power is defective, exertion may cause a temporary exhaustion of the muscle. This condition would be favoured by increased peripheral tension, which is sometimes permanently present, and sometimes exists during an attack. It may also be produced by chill (contraction of the peripheral arterioles). But in some cases the tension is permanently low, and then we may suppose that a slight increase of work which would be no obstacle to a healthy heart, is sufficient to cause exhaustion of a damaged one. It is in cases of hindrance to the work of the *left ventricle* that angina occurs.

Other theories are that the pain is a neuralgia of the cardiac nerves, or that it is due to tension of the ventricular walls, induced by acute dilatation. Allbutt considers that it is not truly cardiac, but originates in the first part of the aorta. Mackenzie, adopting generally the claudication theory, compares the pain to that produced by the obstructed evacuation of other hollow viscera (*e.g.*, biliary colic), and regards it as a protective reflex.

Symptoms.—The patient is suddenly seized with an acute pain and sense of constriction across the chest. If he is walking, he stops rigid and motionless; if he is sitting or in bed, he leans forward, fixing the shoulder girdle by grasping any convenient support. The terrible feeling of anxiety is reflected in his expression. The pain is most marked at the lower end of the sternum and generally radiates down the *left* arm, but it may also affect the left side of the neck, and sometimes the right arm. The patient feels as if an iron band were fixed around the chest, and experiences a sensation of impending death. The feeling of suffocation is intense, but the usual cyanosis of dyspnoea is absent, the face often being extremely pale. Respirations are very shallow and difficult, though there is no obstruction to the entrance of air. A sphygmographic tracing of the pulse taken during an attack may show increased arterial tension. An attack may last from a few seconds to many minutes; may kill the first time, or recur at various intervals.

A first attack may be mild. Those that follow increase in severity, and are brought on by slighter causes. In some instances (*angina sine dolore*) there is no pain, although the other symptoms are present; and in others, associated with coldness and pallor of the extremities (*angina pectoris vasomotoria*) the pain is comparatively slight.

Angina abdominis is a condition in which sudden and brief attacks of intense pain in the epigastric or umbilical region are brought on by causes similar to those of angina pectoris. Brunton regards it as due to disease of the gastro-intestinal blood-vessels, others consider it as a referred pain of cardiac origin, and the probability is that both explanations are necessary to cover all the cases. The treatment is that of angina pectoris.

Diagnosis.—True angina pectoris must be carefully distinguished from the neurotic or pseudo-angina which may simulate it. The differences are set forth in the following table (from Huchard):—

| TRUE ANGINA | PSEUDO-ANGINA |
|---|--|
| Most common past middle life. | At every age from six years. |
| Most common in men. Attacks brought on by exertion. | Most common in women. Attacks spontaneous. |
| Attacks rarely nocturnal or periodical. | Often periodical and nocturnal. |

TRUE ANGINA

Not associated with other symptoms.

Agonising pain and sense of constriction.

Pain of short duration. Attitude—silence, immobility.

Lesions of arterial sclerosis.

Prognosis grave; often fatal.

PSEUDO-ANGINA

Associated with *nervous* symptoms.

Pain less severe—distension more than constriction.

Pain lasts one or two hours.

Agitation and activity.

Neuralgic affection.

Never fatal.

Treatment.—During the attack administer nitrite of amyl by inhalation; chloroform may be used as a substitute, or, if nitrite of amyl fails, morphine. Warmth should also be applied to the limbs. During the interval, careful attention to the bowels, diet, and avoidance of severe mental or muscular exercise, and above all of sudden strain, considerably lessen the chance of another attack. In the choice of diet all articles of food tending to produce flatulence should be particularly avoided; and if flatulence is present, carminatives such as spirits of chloroform and the compound tincture of cardamoms should be prescribed. When the cause is known, it should be attacked, and the most reliable drug in the treatment of arterio-sclerosis or syphilitic endarteritis is iodide of potassium in doses of gr. x-xx (grm. 0.6-1.3) thrice daily. If the blood-pressure is persistently high, nitroglycerin, given in doses of \mathfrak{m} j of the 1 per cent. solution thrice daily, and gradually increased if necessary, is often of great benefit. Other nitrites such as sodium nitrite in doses of $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 grains (grm. 0.03-0.12) may be used in its place, or erythrol tetra-nitrate in $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 grain doses. In pseudo-angina, the treatment must be directed to the nervous system.

II. THE ARTERIES

ARTERIO-SCLEROSIS

(Arterio-capillary Fibrosis. Atheroma)

A CONDITION of increased rigidity of the arteries, due to a thickening of their walls, beginning in the intima and extending to the media and adventitia. The term covers a number of conditions, pathologically different, but clinically undifferentiable. Pathologically it is accurate to distinguish between acute and chronic arteritis, medial and intimal degeneration; clinically the distinction is not yet begun. The following is an attempt to summarise the main features of arterial degeneration.

Etiology.—In old age arterio-sclerosis is a physiological condition, the result of wear and tear. To some extent it may be present even in middle life, but the age of onset varies greatly. Hereditary predisposition accounts in many cases for its early appearance, and another important cause is *high arterial tension*, whether this be primary, as Allbutt holds that in a certain group of cases it is, or secondary to other morbid states. Of these the most common are Bright's disease, chronic intoxications (lead, gout), over-eating, and overstrain. Syphilis and alcoholism have been hitherto regarded as very prominent causes; but Ruffer's recent observations on mummies of the eighteenth to twenty-seventh dynasties show that arterial disease was as common 3000 years ago, when syphilis was unknown, as it is to-day, while he also finds it common and of early occurrence in abstaining Mohammedans. Recent work upon cholesterol has shown that rabbits fed with it develop in the intima changes almost identical with those of human arterio-sclerosis, and in the human subject there is a marked increase of cholesterol in the blood-serum both in arterio-sclerosis and in chronic Bright's disease. Such observations would seem to increase the probability that a too richly animal diet may be of importance in the etiology of the disease. It should be added that arterial degeneration may also follow the acute infections.

Morbid Anatomy.—The disease may be diffuse or nodose. In the *diffuse* form, besides implicating the arteries, it may extend to the capillaries and veins. The subendothelial connective tissue of the intima is conspicuously thickened, and the media, especially in the smaller arteries, undergoes hyaline or fatty degeneration. Where high tension exists, the muscular coat may be hypertrophied, but otherwise the fibres are atrophied. The capillaries are also thickened. In the *nodose* form the larger arteries are principally affected, and especially the aorta, but the smaller vessels may also suffer. Flat, raised, yellowish-white patches stud the surface of the intima. They are secondary to degenerative changes in the media and adventitia, which cause a weakening of the wall which the intimal thickening tends to compensate. At a later stage the patches may become infiltrated with lime salts, forming nodules or large plates, according to the size of the artery. They may also soften, forming an atheromatous abscess, and this may rupture through the intima, leaving an atheromatous ulcer; or the calcareous plates may crack, and lacerate the intima. A localised affection of the aortic arch is well known, and leads either to general or to saccular dilation, while the peripheral arteries are relatively unaffected. In any such case the question of syphilis arises, but it should not be too hastily assumed, for closely similar changes may be found as the result of non-syphilitic degeneration. Ultimately the muscular coat atrophies or becomes fibrosed.

Symptoms of arterio-sclerosis are a pulse of high tension, high blood-pressure, a hypertrophied left ventricle, with accentuation of the second aortic sound, and thickening of the peripheral arteries. The signs of atheroma are rigidity, visibility, and tortuosity of the peripheral arteries—radial, brachial, carotid, temporal, etc. The wall of the vessel can be felt after obliteration of the pulse. Irregular thickenings are to be felt in the wall, and the edges of the calcareous plates are often clearly palpable. The pulse is visible.

Atheroma may be far advanced in the great vessels (especially the aortic arch) when there is little sign of it elsewhere.

Results.—Cerebral arteries—aneurysm, rupture, or thrombosis; coronary arteries—narrowing, thrombosis, angina pectoris; arteries of the limbs—thrombosis, senile gangrene; arch of the aorta—aneurysmal dilatation or sacculated aneurysm,

also extension to the cusps of the valve, with aortic stenosis or regurgitation, or both. The prolonged strain upon the left ventricle due to high blood-pressure may lead in the later stages to dilatation and relative insufficiency, with signs of cardiac failure.

Treatment.—A careful, quiet life, plain food, avoiding excess of meat, abstinence, gentle exercise, and regular evacuation form the general treatment. A prolonged course of iodide of potassium is the best medicinal treatment. Periodic administration of a mercurial purge is the most effective means of lowering a high blood-pressure. Nitroglycerin or the nitrites should be used only if it is dangerously high.

ANEURYSM

Before discussing the essential features of thoracic aneurysm we must recall a few facts relative to *aneurysms in general*. An aneurysm may be defined as “a localised and persistent dilatation of a blood-vessel.”

Aneurysms may be classified as follows :—

1. Fusiform, or spindle-shaped, where the dilatation of the vessel is more or less uniform. All the arterial coats are present in the wall of the sac.
2. Sacculated—where a limited part of the vessel only is dilated. The inner and middle coats are ruptured, and the sac is formed by the outer coat.
3. Dissecting. The inner coats being ruptured, the blood forces its way between their layers, and breaks back into the vessel lower down.

Etiology.—The two main factors are—

1. Damage to the vessel walls.
 2. Increased vascular strain.
1. Damage to the vessel wall is due mainly to arterio-sclerosis, especially when of *syphilitic* origin, and occasionally to causes acting from without, as pulmonary tubercle.
 2. Increased vascular strain is the result of laborious occupations (hammermen, riveters, soldiers subjected to forced marches with heavy kit, etc.).

It is possible that even a single very violent overstrain may rupture the coats of a previously healthy artery. At least a history of "something giving way" within the chest, as a result of such strain, is not uncommon.

Morbid Anatomy.—In a fusiform aneurysm the *inner coat* may be much thickened by atheromatous changes; in a saccular it may be traced for a varying distance into the sac, and is then lost.

The muscular coat.—The muscular fibres become stretched and dissociated, and ultimately disappear.

The outer coat becomes much fibrosed, and adherent to the surrounding tissues by an inflammatory process; thus the "sac" of an aneurysm is most frequently composed of dense fibrous tissue.

Course.—A sacculated aneurysm once started tends to increase, and, if not arrested, finally ruptures. But it may cure itself by becoming so large that the sac, by pressing on the artery, checks or even obliterates the blood supply. Again, when the orifice is small in a sacculated aneurysm the circulation in the sac may be so impeded that thrombi form, producing ultimately a large, pale, laminated clot, which may become organised, transforming the aneurysm into a fibrous nodule. This occurs, however, only in the smaller aneurysms. This natural cure, if one may speak of cure in such conditions, is the most that can be hoped for in aortic aneurysm.

Symptoms.—The cardinal symptoms of an aneurysm are—
(1) Tumour. (2) Pulsation. (3) Systolic murmurs. (4) Pain.
(5) Other pressure effects.

The extent of these symptoms depends upon the site of the tumour and the nature of the adjacent structures. In many cases pressure symptoms are but few; in others the diagnosis may rest almost exclusively upon them. Absence of direct physical signs does not necessarily imply the absence of aneurysm.

ANEURYSM OF THE THORACIC AORTA

The aorta is the most frequent seat of aneurysm in the body, both the fusiform and saccular varieties being common in

this situation. The distinction, however, is of little clinical importance. There are many reasons why aneurysms should be so common in the arch of the aorta—

1. It is much curved.
2. The first part of the arch has very little support.
3. The blood-stream ejected during systole of the heart tends to bulge the aorta locally.
4. This part is much more affected by the variation of the cardiac pressure than the distal arteries.
5. Aortitis and atheroma are very common in this situation.

Aortic aneurysm occurs most frequently amongst men who are either prematurely old through intemperance, syphilis, etc.; or in those engaged in occupations which tend to increase the normal aortic strain, such as hammermen, brewers, young soldiers, etc. Of all its possible causes, *syphilis* is the most constantly present, and atheroma is also of very frequent occurrence. Septic emboli lodging in the inner coat account for some cases of small localised aneurysms, but death occurs from the sepsis before these are clinically recognisable. Traumatism may act as a determining cause. The disease is much more frequent in men than women.

Symptoms depend on the portion of the arch affected, and on the size and shape of the aneurysm.

Briefly they are—

1. *Symptoms in connection with the Circulation.*—Palpitation, anginoid pains, imperfect filling of the arteries, and sometimes difference in the two radial pulses.

2. *Symptoms due to Pressure*—

(1) *Œsophagus.*—There is difficulty in swallowing, especially solids.

(2) *Respiratory System.*—Less air enters the lung the bronchus of which is pressed upon, and the breath sounds are consequently weak. There is much dyspnœa, attacks of the so-called aneurysmal asthma, or a peculiar alteration of the voice and cough (leopard growl and gander cough). Hæmoptysis may occur later, due to “weeping” of the aneurysm.

- (3) *Implication of Nerves*.—The symptoms will depend on the amount of pressure exerted on the nerves. Thus if *slight*, we get symptoms due to *irritation*; if *severe*, symptoms due to *paralysis*. The nerves most likely to be involved are—

| | IRRITATION. | PARALYSIS. |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| <i>Left Recurrent Laryngeal</i> | Alteration of voice ; and stridor, due to spasm. | Aphonia. Paralysis of left vocal cord. |
| <i>Phrenic</i> - - - - | Painful and persistent hiccough. | Intercostal breathing. Death. |
| <i>Sympathetic</i> - - - | Dilatation of the pupil. Pallor from constriction of the vessels on the one side. Rapid action of the heart. | Contraction of the pupil and flushing of that side of the face. |
| <i>Vagus</i> - - - - | Depressed action of the heart. Vomiting and nausea. | Irregular action of the heart. Pneumonia. Death. |

- (4) *Veins*.—Œdema of the superior extremities, one side of the head, etc.

- (5) *Bones*.—Erosion and absorption; the process being accompanied usually with intense boring pain. When the spine is involved the pain is intense, due to irritation of the intercostal nerves and meninges; there may be much deformity, and even paraplegia through implication of the spinal marrow; and a murmur may very occasionally be heard over the spine.

All the above statements with regard to pain depend upon the patient's attitude to pain; what may to one be agony is to another custom. But there are certain grades of pain which express themselves in physical contortions, and to these the pain of erosion of bone belongs.

- (6) *Thoracic Duct*.—Rapid emaciation, and fatty stools. Pressure on the thoracic duct is very rare.

Physical Signs.—*Inspection* may reveal a pulsatile swelling,

usually to the right of the sternum ; or there may be merely a diffuse heaving impulse above the third right costal cartilage, or visible pulsation in the suprasternal notch. If the descending part of the arch is affected, there may be bulging to the left of the spine.

Palpation often detects the expansile character of the pulsation. There may be a *systolic* thrill and *diastolic shock*.

Percussion.—The note is dull or flat, and the resistance is increased.

Auscultation may reveal, over the dull area, a ringing accentuated second sound and a soft or harsh systolic murmur.

The X-rays may show the presence of a pulsating shadow in the mediastinum.

Difference in the two radial pulses has already been mentioned. The pulse may also be *retarded* in the arteries beyond the aneurysm, and Osler calls attention to a possible obliteration of the pulse in the abdominal aorta or the femorals, without impediment to the circulation, in the case of a large thoracic aneurysm. *Tracheal tugging* may be found when the aneurysm presses downwards upon the trachea or left bronchus. The patient standing or sitting erect with elevated chin, the examining fingers are placed below the cricoid cartilage and draw it upwards, when a downward tug is felt at each systole.

Aneurysm of the *intrapericardial part of the aorta* (sinuses of Valsalva) may present no symptoms or physical signs ; but sometimes anginoid pain is complained of, and there may be pressure on the superior cava. Death is usually due to rupture into the pericardium.

The physical signs and pressure symptoms vary according to the part of the arch involved. The following table shows the chief differences :—

| PART INVOLVED. | ASCENDING. | TRANSVERSE. | DESCENDING. |
|---|---|--|--|
| <i>Physical Signs.</i> | <p>Pulsation often expansile, in second and third interspaces.</p> <p>On palpation, systolic thrill and diastolic shock to right of sternum.</p> <p>Dullness to right of sternum, above cardiac area.</p> <p>Rough systolic murmur, loud clanging second sound. May have diastolic murmur from implication of aortic valve.</p> | <p>Pulsation in episternal notch.</p> <p>Systolic thrill in episternal notch.</p> <p>Dullness over manubrium sterni.</p> <p>Murmur more distinct over manubrium. Diastolic murmur rare.</p> | <p>Pulsation, if any, to left of spine.</p> <p>Absent.</p> <p>No dullness anteriorly, sometimes dull to left of spine.</p> <p>Murmur may be absent; when present systolic, to left of spine.</p> |
| <i>Parts liable to Pressure and Results of Pressure</i> | <p>Vena cava superior; dilated superficial veins, œdema of head and neck.</p> <p>Innominate artery; weakness of right radial pulse.</p> <p>Heart; downward displacement of apex.</p> <p>Ribs to right of sternum; pain.</p> <p>Right bronchus; defective respiration on right side.</p> <p>Right recurrent laryngeal (rarely); paralysis of right vocal cord.</p> | <p>Left innominate vein; œdema of left side of head and neck.</p> <p>Any branch of the arch; weakness of right or left radial pulse.</p> <p>Manubrium sterni; pain.</p> <p>Trachea or left bronchus; paroxysmal dyspnoea, altered cough, defective respiration on left side.</p> <p>Left recurrent laryngeal; paralysis of left vocal cord.</p> <p>Sympathetic; dilatation or contraction of pupil, usually left.</p> <p>Œsophagus; dysphagia.</p> | <p>Spinal column and ultimately cord; dorsal pain, afterwards paraplegia.</p> <p>Left bronchus; defective respiration on left side.</p> <p>Left recurrent laryngeal; paralysis of left vocal cord.</p> <p>Left sympathetic (often); dilatation or contraction of left pupil.</p> <p>Œsophagus; dysphagia.</p> <p>Thoracic duct; rapid emaciation, sometimes chylous ascites.</p> |
| <i>Rupture may occur</i> | <p>Externally.</p> <p>Into pericardium.</p> <p>Into right pleura.</p> <p>Into right bronchus.</p> <p>Into superior cava.</p> | <p>Into trachea.</p> <p>Into one or other pleura.</p> <p>Into left innominate.</p> | <p>Into left bronchus.</p> <p>Into left pleura.</p> <p>Into œsophagus.</p> |

It will be seen that in aneurysm of the descending part the physical signs may be very few, or even entirely absent, and the diagnosis must then be made from pressure symptoms alone, with the help, when it can be obtained, of an X-ray examination. In some cases symptoms may be latent till death occurs from internal rupture.

Aneurysm of the descending thoracic aorta beyond the arch is very often latent. Pain in the back, from erosion of the vertebræ, is the most prominent symptom. There may be dysphagia, and occasionally there is a pulsatile swelling to the left of the spine.

Treatment.—*General.*—Everything must be done to quiet the circulation, by the observance of absolute rest and abstinence from all alcoholic drinks, etc. The diet should be nourishing, but limited, and *the quantity of liquid taken reduced to a minimum*. The rigid dietetic treatment of Tufnell is only suitable for early cases, and is often badly borne. After some weeks or months of absolute rest, the patient may be allowed to resume a very carefully guarded life.

Medicinal.—Anodynes and sedatives are called for, but iodide of potassium in considerable doses daily is the most efficacious among drugs. It is difficult to say how the iodide acts; it certainly does not lower the blood-pressure to the same extent as many other drugs which are *less* efficacious in benefiting the aneurysmal condition. It has some value in all cases, but is most effective in those which are definitely of syphilitic origin. It should be given in considerable doses, *e.g.*, gr. x-xx (grm. 0.6-1.3) three or four times daily. Salvarsan is contra-indicated.

Local treatment is highly unsatisfactory. All methods aim at starting coagulation. Briefly they are—

1. Introducing needles, and scratching the walls of the sac to form a rough surface, and so bring about coagulation.
2. Introduction of fine steel wire or horse-hair.
3. Electrolysis.
4. Large injections, 6 to 8 oz. (180-240 cc.), of a sterilised 2 per cent. solution of gelatine in normal salt solution have also been used. The injection is made into

the buttock, and repeated weekly till coagulation is induced ; but it is by no means free from danger, and several fatal cases have been recorded. It may be more safely introduced by the rectum, and, it is said, with as much effect.

Considering the hopeless character of this affection, morphia may in the last stages be given with some freedom if it is called for by severe pain.

ANEURYSM OF THE ABDOMINAL AORTA

Site.—Most commonly near the cœliac axis. The aneurysm may grow upwards, and push the diaphragm before it, or forwards and project anteriorly, or backwards and erode the spine.

Diagnosis.—Palpation reveals a definite tumour with the characteristics of aneurysm already described.

Especial care must be taken in diagnosing this condition in pregnant or hysterical females ; also in cases of tumours lying *over* the aorta, which are best distinguishable from aneurysm in the knee-elbow position. The expansile character of the pulsation is especially valuable, but neurotic pulsation of the aorta must not be mistaken for aneurysm. forcible and expansile pulsation is present in both, but in neurotic pulsation there is no tumour, and pain is absent, while in aneurysm lumbar pain is not uncommon. The pulsation of aneurysm is of gradual onset, and is persistent ; nervous pulsation may arise suddenly, to disappear and recur without obvious cause.

Treatment.—As in thoracic aneurysm.

Prognosis.—Bad. Death may take place from—

1. Compression paraplegia.
2. Embolism of the superior mesenteric artery.
3. Complete obliteration of the lumen by clots.
4. Rupture (oftenest into the duodenum).

DISEASES OF THE BLOOD

EXAMINATION OF THE BLOOD

IN cases where anæmia or other altered conditions of the blood may be suspected, the precise diagnosis rests upon an examination of the blood itself. In such an examination several points must be considered. They are as follows :—

1. Estimation of the number of corpuscles, red and white.
2. Estimation of the percentage of hæmoglobin.
3. Observation of the changes in form, size, or staining reaction of the red corpuscles.
4. In cases where the leucocytes are increased in number, determination of the relative proportion of the different *kinds* of leucocyte.
5. Presence of micro-organisms or other parasites in the blood (less important from the point of view of blood diseases, but often confirmatory of the diagnosis of acute infections, such as anthrax, enteric, tubercle, etc.).
6. Presence of other abnormal constituents, as pigment (*melanæmia*) free in the blood plasma (severe malarial cachexia, melanotic sarcoma, etc.), or fat (*lipæmia*) in cases of diabetes mellitus.

1 and 2. The number of corpuscles and the percentage of hæmoglobin may be estimated, for the first, by the hæmocytometer of Gower or Thoma-Zeiss, and for the second by the hæmoglobinometer of Gower, Haldane, or Oliver. The normal number of red corpuscles per cubic millimetre of blood is in the male 5,000,000, in the female, 4,500,000. The average number of leucocytes is from 6000 to 8000 per cmm. For details of the estimation, consult a recent manual of clinical methods.

The blood should be taken from the finger-tip, or the lobe of the ear, after careful cleansing of the part. The finger or ear should not be compressed.

It will be found upon examination that the various anæmias differ in the relative proportion of hæmoglobin and red blood-corpuscles. In secondary anæmia, for example (following phthisis, cancer, syphilis, etc.), these two constituents may be diminished in much the same proportion, or the anæmia may be of the chlorotic type. In chlorosis the red cells are slightly defective, the hæmoglobin much more so. In pernicious anæmia there is an enormous destruction of red corpuscles, while the percentage of hæmoglobin is usually somewhat higher.

The proportion between the percentage of hæmoglobin and the percentage of corpuscles (*i.e.*, the figure obtained by dividing the former by the latter) constitutes the *colour index*. In normal blood the resulting quotient is 1.0, in chlorosis it is less, and in pernicious anæmia greater than 1.0. In secondary anæmias it is 1.0 or somewhat less.

3. The red corpuscles may be altered in shape, size, or staining reaction. Alterations in shape (*poikilocytosis*) are common to all forms of anæmia, but most profound in the graver forms. Alterations in size may result in the presence of corpuscles smaller than normal (*microcytosis*), or larger (*macrocytosis*). The more frequent are such alterations, the more likely is the condition to be that of pernicious anæmia. And, especially though not exclusively in pernicious anæmia, one may find *nucleated* red corpuscles, either of ordinary size (*normoblasts*), or much larger than the normal (*megaloblasts*). Microblasts and poikiloblasts have less diagnostic importance.

In many of the anæmias some of the red corpuscles do not stain pink, like normal corpuscles, with hæmatoxylin and eosin, but take on a greyish-purple tint, *i.e.*, they react to basic as well as acid stains, and are coloured by both constituents (*polychromatophilia* or *polychromasia*).

4. Increase in the number of white corpuscles (*leucocytosis*) may be—

- (1) Physiological, as after meals.
- (2) The accompaniment of inflammatory diseases and specific fevers; *but not enteric*, unless complications have arisen.

- (3) Leucocytosis is an essential feature of leukæmia, and it is possible to determine the form of leukæmia which is present by observation of the kind of leucocyte principally increased. In lymphatic leukæmia the lymphocytes are present in enormous numbers, in myelogenous or splenomedullary leukæmia the polymorphonuclear and eosinophil leucocytes.

Decrease in the number of leucocytes (*leucopenia*) is less frequent than leucocytosis, but is met with in pernicious anæmia, malaria, enteric, tuberculosis, and other conditions.

There are several varieties of leucocyte distinguishable by their staining reactions and the characters of their nuclei. They are as follows :—

- (a) Lymphocytes : small non-granular cells with a round nucleus—22-25 per cent.
- (b) Large mononuclear cells (large lymphocytes). The nucleus is oval, and the protoplasm non-granular—1-2 per cent.
- (c) Transitional cells : like the last, but with a notched or indented nucleus—1 per cent.
- (d) Polymorphonuclear cells : nucleus convoluted or lobed, fine neutrophil granulation—70 per cent.
- (e) Eosinophil cells : rounded or branched nucleus, coarse oxyphil granulation—2-4 per cent.
- (f) “Mast” cells : lobulated nucleus, basophil granulation— $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Besides these cells, all of which are present in normal blood, bone-marrow cells (*myelocytes*) may be found in disease. These are large cells, with a single, large, faintly staining nucleus. Some of them have a neutrophil, others an eosinophil granulation.

The alterations referred to under 5 and 6 do not require separate discussion here.

ANÆMIA

In the strict sense of the word, anæmia means want of blood, the term including such subsidiary varieties as—

1. Oligæmia—deficiency of blood.
2. Hydræmia—thinness or wateriness of the blood.
3. Oligocythæmia—a diminution of the number of corpuscles.

4. Poikilocythæmia—irregularity in the shape of the corpuscles.

5. Oligochromæmia—deficiency of blood-colouring matter.

Classification.—Anæmias are classed as (1) *secondary* or symptomatic, and (2) *primary* or essential. Of the latter there are two varieties, (1) chlorosis, and (2) pernicious anæmia.

General Pathology.—It will save much recapitulation if we start with a clear idea of the general effects of anæmia upon the body. In consequence of imperfect oxygenation and deficient nutrition, there follow impairment of function, shrinkage of the tissues, softening of the blood-vessels, and, in long-standing cases, fatty degeneration of various organs. Thus begins a vicious cycle of retrograde changes, each new failure on the part of an organ increasing the original defect. In the early stages excitability of the nervous system is shown by emotional manifestations; or there may be diminished sensibility, as seen in the dilated pupils, which show the depressed condition of the retina. Œdema is common in unsupported tissues. Owing to muscular weakness dilatation of the heart is not infrequent. Hæmorrhages from any of the mucous surfaces, and especially retinal hæmorrhages, are frequent in the graver anæmias.

SECONDARY OR SYMPTOMATIC ANÆMIA

Causes.—*Deficiency of food*, either through actual want, or from inability to take food, as in cancer of the œsophagus.

Excessive discharges—i.e., pyæmic abscesses, diarrhœa, albuminuria.

Cachectic and toxic conditions—phthisis, cancer, malaria, syphilis; poisoning by *lead*, mercury, or arsenic.

Hæmorrhages.—After a severe hæmorrhage the deficiency of red corpuscles and hæmoglobin is only slowly replaced, though the fluid part of the blood is soon restored. The red corpuscles show some poikilocytosis, and normoblasts may be found. There is also a moderate leucocytosis.

Certain parasitic affections—ankylostomiasis, bothriocephalic anæmia. In this class the symptoms may closely resemble those of pernicious anæmia.

In these cases, with the exception of those last mentioned, the anæmia is of the chlorotic type, *i.e.*, hæmoglobin is somewhat more deficient than the corpuscles, and the colour index is less than unity. Removal of the cause, when that is possible, and placing the patient under favourable hygienic conditions, effect a cure.

CHLOROSIS

A peculiar anæmia, attended with a greenish, transparent, wax-like condition of the skin, common in females between the ages of fifteen and twenty-one, and characterised by a deficiency of hæmoglobin.

Etiology.—The cause of chlorosis is unknown, though there are many theoretical explanations, of which the following are the chief :—

1. The disease is due to constipation and toxic absorption from the bowel (Sir Andrew Clark).

2. The demands of puberty reveal a congenital narrowness of the arterial system, which prevents a proper supply of blood to the various tissues (Virchow).

3. The organic iron compounds of the food are broken up by excessive decomposition in the alimentary canal, and the iron thus liberated cannot be absorbed into the blood (Bunge).

4. Chlorosis is due to excessive loss of blood at the period of puberty (menorrhagia), which leads to dyspeptic conditions, anorexia, and defective absorption of iron (Stockman).

5. The disease is due not to an absolute diminution of hæmoglobin, but to an excess of plasma (Haldane and Lorrain Smith).

None of these theories covers all the cases. Constipated subjects are not always chlorotic, there may be no congenital arterial defect or excessive loss of blood, and reduction of the plasma does not cure without administration of iron. At present we can only assume that in women the adolescent period causes an increased demand upon the blood-forming organs, which in some cases they are unable to meet. Predisposing causes are defective nourishment and want of fresh air and exercise. The disease was common in girls coming from the country to domestic service or to factory life ; but it is met

with in all classes. One thing may be stated with some certainty, that the disease, which was common not so long ago, is now rapidly disappearing, both in this country and America, and both in the leisured and labouring classes, to such an extent that the presumption, in an anæmic girl, is rather that she suffers from early tuberculosis than from a chlorotic anæmia. This points to defective sanitation and want of exercise as among its chief causes.

Symptoms.—Languor, dyspnœa, palpitation on exertion, headache, noises in the ears, and dyspeptic symptoms, as in symptomatic anæmia. The greenish waxy pallor of the complexion is conspicuous, but may be masked by flushing of the cheeks. The mucous membranes are pale. The more characteristic symptoms in addition are plumpness; systolic murmurs at the base of the heart; "*bruit de diable*" at the lower end of the jugular vein; constipation and irregular, profuse, or scanty menstruation. A systolic murmur in the mitral area is sometimes present—the result of relative insufficiency of the valve, following upon dilatation. Thrombosis of the femoral vein, or even of the cerebral sinuses, is an occasional complication, and gastric ulcer is not uncommon.

The blood is pale, and the corpuscles are poorly coloured. Poikilocytosis is sometimes present, and normoblasts may be found in severe cases. The number of red corpuscles is not greatly diminished (60-80 per cent.), but the percentage of hæmoglobin is much below normal (30-50 per cent.). The colour index is thus fractional. Leucocytes are not increased.

Treatment is highly satisfactory. Fresh air, gentle exercise, nitrogenous food, laxatives, and iron will cure the worst cases. Rest in bed is necessary at the outset.

An excellent combination is iron, aloes, and carbonate of potassium; but Blaud's pill, especially in the bipalatinoid form, or reduced iron, gr. ij-ijj (grm. 0.12-0.2) thrice daily after food, is the most generally useful. If there be dyspepsia, ferric salts should never be given, but the non-irritating ferrous salts should be used instead. Iron should always be given after meals. The organic preparations have little advantage over the inorganic. The iron is sometimes advantageously combined with arsenic. Manganese, often recommended, is useless. The iron acts in two ways—

1. It combines, according to Bunge, with the intestinal sulphides, and thus prevents the decomposition of the organic iron of the food, which is therefore absorbed.

2. A small amount of the iron itself may be absorbed and assimilated.

A daily evacuation must be secured by means of aloes, cascara sagrada, or saline laxatives. Excess of carbohydrates as a rule is harmful, but in the presence of gastric ulcer the diet must be suited to the complication. Chlorotic girls should be released from all studies, at least during the first weeks of their illness.

In accordance with Lorrain Smith's view of the etiology, eliminative treatment by means of diuretics, diaphoretics, and laxatives has been tried, but has little success without the addition of iron.

PERNICIOUS ANÆMIA

A progressive and profound anæmia developing without any evident cause, characterised by great diminution in the number of the red corpuscles, and terminating fatally.

Etiology.—The disease affects males somewhat oftener than females, and is rare under twenty-five years of age. Some cases have originated during pregnancy or after child-birth. The disease, according to William Hunter, is a chronic febrile infection, due to auto-intoxication from the gastro-intestinal tract, and produced by an organism the toxins of which give rise to hæmolysis. It must, however, be remembered that cases presenting all the clinical appearances have been found, *post mortem*, to be due to cancer of the stomach or bones, bothriocephalus, etc. Gulland considers the essence of the disease to be a toxic affection of the bone-marrow, a mere hæmolysis being insufficient to produce the various phenomena of the disease unless the bone-marrow has undergone megalo-blastic degeneration. The source of the toxin, he holds, is as yet undetermined.

Morbid Anatomy.—*The blood* shows a remarkable diminution of red corpuscles; they may sink to less than half a million per cubic millimetre. The total amount of hæmoglobin is also

diminished, but the amount in each corpuscle, far from being diminished, is often relatively increased, so that the colour index is above unity. The corpuscles exhibit a great variety of shapes; some are tailed, others crenated or kidney-shaped, poikilocytosis being exceedingly pronounced. They vary also very greatly in size (*anisocytosis*), and nucleated red cells are generally present. Microcytes, macrocytes, normoblasts, and megaloblasts may all be found. Polychromatophilia is frequent. There is no leucocytosis, but some degree of leucopenia is usually found. The blood when shed is pale, and coagulates with difficulty.

The liver is rich in iron, the pigment (hæmosiderin) occupying the outer and middle zones of the lobules; and the organ is generally fatty, and may be enlarged. The *spleen* and *kidney* also show excess of iron pigment; the spleen is often congested, and the kidney may be the seat of a toxic nephritis.

The heart is the seat of advanced fatty degeneration, which may extend to the large vessels. Hæmorrhages are common.

The bone-marrow is red, and contains large numbers of megaloblasts and normoblasts, while there is also an increase in myelocytes and lymphocytes; but in a few cases (*aplastic anæmia*) it shows no such reaction, but rather atrophy.

The presence of large quantities of hæmosiderin in the liver, and of pathological urobilin in the urine are indications of the hæmolysis which is so marked a feature of the disease. Conditions of oral or gastric sepsis are frequently, though not constantly, associated with it, and, in such conditions, Hunter holds that there exists a permanent nidus for the manufacture of the microbic poison.

Symptoms.—The early symptoms are: “(1) glossitic, gastric, and intestinal; accompanied by (2) hæmolytic symptoms—lemon colour, biliousness, with or without jaundice; (3) febrile and nervous disturbances; (4) a remarkable degree of anæmia, out of all proportion to the severity of any symptoms present” (Hunter). Hunter has lately stressed these symptoms so far as to propose the name of “glossitic anæmia” for the disease. The onset is extremely insidious, but as the case progresses the symptoms recur with greater severity, but with periodic remissions at intervals of three or four weeks. In acute

cases relapses are frequent and remissions brief; in chronic cases there may be long periods of apparent improvement both in the condition of the blood and the general symptoms. Muscular weakness is marked; vomiting and diarrhoea are common, and with these symptoms is associated a persistent achylia gastrica. Attacks of remittent fever (100° - 103° F.) may last for a few weeks at a time, disappearing and recurring without apparent cause. Besides its lemon-yellow tint, the skin often has a peculiar velvety feeling to the touch. Hæmorrhages are frequent, especially retinal hæmorrhages and hæmoglobinuria or hæmaturia. Epistaxis or melæna may also occur. Cardiac dilatation and systolic murmurs are common. In many cases there is some enlargement of the spleen. In some cases degenerative lesions of the posterior and lateral columns of the cord are present, and cause symptoms of ataxic or spastic paraplegia.

Blood crises, in which large numbers of nucleated red cells appear in the blood, and persist for a few days, are occasionally met with.

There may be some muscular wasting, but it is not considerable, and the subcutaneous fat is often increased; hence wasting is not apparent, and the patient may present a fairly well-nourished appearance.

Prognosis is highly unfavourable, most cases dying in from six to fifteen months, though chronic cases may survive for several years.

Treatment.—Tonics of all kinds may be used to meet the symptoms of the individual case. Prolonged rest in bed and nourishing food are essential. The only hæmatinic of any value is *arsenic*, which must be given persistently, and gradually pushed to large doses. As much as 10 to 15 minims of Fowler's solution may be given thrice daily in some cases. The drug is pushed till the limit of tolerance is reached, the dose being then reduced to two-thirds of the amount taken when arsenical symptoms appeared. Salvarsan has been tried with little better results; splenectomy and blood transfusion may be of temporary benefit. Oral sepsis must be treated, and all carious teeth removed. For gastric antiseptics, after lavage of the stomach, salol or salicylic acid should be given, and for intestinal antiseptics, small doses of mercurial preparations.

In cases where, on Hunter's theory, the infection is "firmly rooted in the mucosa," the poison may be attacked in the blood. For this purpose Hunter uses injections of antistreptococcic serum, beginning with small doses (5 cc.) repeated after a few days' interval. By these means he has been able to prolong life and to maintain health for over seven years. Treatment must be resumed on the earliest appearance of a relapse.

LEUKÆMIA

An affection characterised by persistent increase of white corpuscles, hæmorrhages, and changes in the marrow, spleen, and lymphatic glands.

There are two types of the disease, myelocytic leukæmia (myelocythæmia), in which the changes principally affect the spleen and bone-marrow, and lymphocytic leukæmia (lymphæmia) in which they fall upon the lymphatic glands. Intermediate types are described, but at the present time they serve rather to confusion than to clearness.

Etiology.—The disease may develop at any age, but by far the greater number of cases occurs in adult life. Men are more often attacked than women. The lymphatic type is more common in the young. Leukæmia is sometimes hereditary, and it has been observed to follow injuries, malaria, and pregnancy, but its origin is entirely unknown. Its essential feature is a hyperplasia of the leucocyte-forming tissues, of the cause of which we are completely ignorant.

Morbid Anatomy.—*The blood* shows very characteristic changes. (1) In *myelocytic leukæmia* the leucocytes are enormously increased in number (300,000 or more per cmm.), and their proportion to the red cells may be as high as 1 to 6, 1 to 3, or even 1 to 1, instead of 1 to 500 or 600 as in normal blood. There is a great increase of eosinophil cells, which may also be relatively increased; while the polymorphonuclear neutrophils show a total, but not a relative, increase. The most characteristic feature is the presence of large numbers of myelocytes, which are not normally present in the blood. The red cells are considerably diminished, and also the hæmoglobin. Normoblasts and even occasional megaloblasts are present. (2) In *lymphocytic leukæmia* only the lymphocytes are increased,

and they may constitute more than 90 per cent. of the leucocytes. The type of lymphocyte varies; in some cases the large lymphocyte (large mononuclear cell) is predominant, in others the small lymphocyte. The total increase of leucocytes is less than in splenomedullary leukæmia, and there are rarely as many as 1 to 10 red cells. Myelocytes are almost absent, and nucleated red corpuscles are few.

The spleen is usually firm and much enlarged. In the myelocytic form it may weigh as much as 15 or even 18 lbs., but in the lymphocytic form the enlargement is less notable, and sometimes is quite slight. The organ is often bound by adhesions to the abdominal wall, the diaphragm, or the stomach. The capsule is much thickened. On section the spleen presents a pinkish appearance, and appears fatty. The pulp is dark, and the Malpighian tufts are usually inconspicuous. The sinuses are often distended with leucocytes. Hæmorrhagic infarctions, old and recent, are very common.

The lymphatic glands may be somewhat enlarged, even in the myelocytic form, from infiltration of leucocytes. In the lymphocytic form all the lymphatic glands are much enlarged and crowded with leucocytes, but they remain soft and movable.

The marrow.—The marrow may be dark brown in colour, or present a peculiar yellowish-red appearance. In the myelocytic form large numbers of nucleated red corpuscles, polynuclear leucocytes, and myelocytes are present; and in the lymphocytic form lymphocytes. The hyperplasia of the marrow may cause atrophy and tenderness of the bones.

The *liver* is often somewhat enlarged, and it is infiltrated with masses of leucocytes extending along the portal tracts. Its capillaries may also contain numbers of leucocytes, and there is often fatty change in the hepatic cells. The *kidneys* show similar leucocytic infiltration.

Symptoms.—The onset is usually insidious, although in acute lymphocytic leukæmia the symptoms may be severe from the outset, bleeding from the gums or nose with rapidly advancing anæmia being the earliest indications. In the more ordinary form, the patient generally applies for medical advice on account of breathlessness, palpitation, dyspepsia, or other evidences of anæmia, or a "lump in the side" may be the first thing noticed.

Hæmorrhages of various kinds, among which are epistaxis and hæmatemesis, may be the first symptoms. When the disease has advanced, the condition of the patient is suggestive of its nature. The abdomen is prominent from splenic enlargement; the countenance white or sallow; the sclerotic of a pearly lustre, the pupils dilated, and the mucous membranes blanched. The pulse is soft and compressible, but may be full. Hæmorrhages are common under the skin, in mucous membranes, into serous sacs, and into the retina. Retinal changes are often marked, the veins being tortuous, broad, and pale, and retinitis is sometimes present. The enlargement of the spleen, or of the accessible lymphatic glands, is a striking feature of the disease. Towards the end grave changes set in, and intermittent diarrhœa, *attacks of fever*, and œdema or general dropsy usher in a fatal issue. The urine is usually of high specific gravity, containing excess of uric acid and urea. The pallor, usually well marked, is sometimes wanting. The special points to note are the condition of the blood and of the spleen or lymphatic glands, the marked exhaustion, the pyrexial attacks, and the tendency to hæmorrhages, and to dropsy associated with highly coloured urine. These, however, refer to the later stages, and for many months the early symptoms of leukæmia may suggest no more than what is often called "debility."

Characters of the enlarged spleen.—It enlarges in the axis of the tenth rib, and therefore tends to go forward towards the right iliac fossa. If much enlarged, it is found to be present as a firm, hard tumour, having a distinct notch in its anterior border; it may reach from the flank down to or below the umbilicus. Note in contrast to enlargements of the kidney that the colon never lies in front of an enlarged spleen.

Prognosis is always bad, death occurring in from one to three years. *Acute* leukæmia, which is usually of the lymphatic type, may end fatally within two months.

Treatment.—Rest, fresh air, and a nutritious diet are of importance, and the general hygiene must be as perfect as possible. Improvement has been recorded under the use of the X-rays. Arsenic is the only drug on which reliance can be placed, and it should be used in large doses, as in pernicious anæmia. Benzol has been administered in capsules containing 5 minims of the drug along with 5 minims of olive oil. One is

given thrice daily, and the dose may be gradually increased to 20 minims. It has a considerable effect in reducing the number of leucocytes, but the improvement is only temporary. Other drugs, such as naphthalene tetrachloride, have also been used, on the theory of a toxæmic origin of the disease, but without material effect.

LYMPHADENOMA (HODGKIN'S DISEASE)

An affection characterised by progressive enlargement of the lymphatic glands, destruction of red corpuscles, and secondary lymphoid growths in the various organs.

Etiology.—Hodgkin's disease may occur at any age, but is most common in children and young adults, and in the male sex. The etiology is unknown, though possibly syphilis and tubercle tend to predispose to the disease. It has been looked upon as an infection, bearing a doubtful relation to tuberculous adenitis on the one hand, and to leukæmia and lymphosarcoma on the other.

Morbid Anatomy.—The affected glands are usually much enlarged, single, painless, and non-adherent to the skin. Though they may feel to the touch hard and solid, they are far more frequently somewhat soft and elastic. As a rule *they show no tendency to suppurate or to caseate*, and though in later stages they may become adherent, caseation occurs even then only in exceptional instances. Histologically, the chief change in the glands is a general hyperplasia, with thickening and increased firmness of the capsule, proliferation of the connective tissue and of the endothelial cells, from some of which large multinuclear giant cells (lymphadenoma cells) are developed, and formation of lymphoid and also eosinophil cells. The amount of new fibrous tissue formed governs the degree of hardness; if the lymphoid cells are abundant, the glands are soft; but when the fibrous tissue element is in excess, they are hard.

The spleen is generally enlarged, but not nearly to the same extent as in leukæmia. In consistence it is firm, and purple patches from venous congestion often appear on the surface. On section can be seen golden-yellowish masses, consisting of lymphoid cells and pigment enclosed in a fibrous reticulum.

The Malpighian bodies appear as translucent yellowish suet-like masses. The general fibrous stroma is much increased, as in the lymphatic glands.

Lymphoid tissue is sometimes found in the bone-marrow, and there may be lymphoid nodules in the liver and kidneys.

Symptoms.—1. Enlargement of the lymphatic glands.

2. Anæmia of a secondary type, with considerable decrease of red corpuscles, which may fall to 2,000,000 or less, and of hæmoglobin, and a normal or *slightly* increased number of leucocytes.

3. Symptoms pointing to the virulent nature of the disease—*i.e.*, marked emaciation, cachexia, hæmorrhages. Pruritus and skin eruptions may also occur.

4. Attacks of pyrexia, either continuous or remittent, and sometimes fever lasting for a week or more, with a similar interval before the next attack.

5. Symptoms due to pressure from the lymphoid growths.

The glandular enlargement most frequently begins in the anterior chain of glands at the posterior border of the sterno-mastoid, and may long remain unilateral; then the axillary and inguinal groups, and finally all the glands of the body may show extensive changes. Often both sides of the neck become involved, and the growths meeting anteriorly in the middle line may compress the trachea to a dangerous extent. Osler points out that when the abdominal glands are affected, the sympathetic system is often profoundly disturbed, and pigmentation of the skin may occur. The enlarged mediastinal glands may cause severe dyspnœa, inequality of the pupils, pleurisy, etc. Very varied symptoms may result from the pressure of the enlarged glands upon nerves or veins. *The periodical elevations of temperature may be so marked as to simulate ague*, but in other cases the fever may be continuous or irregular. Lastly, note that in some cases anæmia is not prominent until marked cachexia has set in.

Treatment.—In a disease which appears to begin locally, excision of the set of glands first affected has naturally been practised, but it is doubtful if operation has ever retarded the course of the affection. Where a group of glands produces dangerous pressure, operation may be necessary for its relief.

We may hope for benefit from the persistent use of arsenic in large doses, along with attention to the general health. Salvarsan often produces striking temporary benefit. The X-rays may be tried; but the disease is usually fatal in from two to four years.

STATUS LYMPHATICUS (LYMPHATISM)

An unusual condition, occurring chiefly in children, in which there is hyperplasia of the lymphatic glands and lymphoid tissues throughout the body.

The internal lymphatic glands are more enlarged than the superficial, which are often of normal size. The thymus is much enlarged and soft, and there is moderate enlargement of the spleen. The bone-marrow is hyperplastic, and in the shafts of long bones it is red instead of yellow. The thyroid is often enlarged. The heart and aorta are poorly developed, and there may be evidence of rickets.

The subjects of the condition are often fat and flabby, with a pasty complexion. The tonsils are enlarged, and the superficial lymphatic glands may also be slightly affected. Dullness over the manubrium indicates the position of the enlarged thymus, and the spleen may be palpable. The left ventricle is sometimes dilated, and the blood-pressure is low. Anæmia of the chlorotic type is present.

Sudden death from syncope is liable to occur from trifling causes, small operations, administration of anæsthetics, etc., or even without apparent cause. The reason is not well understood, but toxæmia from the secretion of the enlarged thymus, and also pressure on the trachea from the same cause, have been suggested.

Individuals suspected of this condition should not be operated upon unless for urgent reasons.

HÆMOPHILIA

A constitutional and usually hereditary tendency to uncontrollable bleeding, sometimes associated with effusion into the joints.

Many varieties have been described, such as—

1. Those in which a slight traumatism is followed by excessive hæmorrhage.
2. Those which exhibit the condition after injuries of certain regions only.

3. Those in which hæmorrhages take the form of attacks of apparently spontaneous bleeding from the nose, uterus, mucous membranes, etc.

Pathology.—The blood is much less easily coagulated than in normal individuals; leucocytes and blood platelets are often diminished in number. The walls of the capillary vessels have been shown not to be at fault; and it has recently been demonstrated by Addis that the essential cause is a congenital deficiency of prothrombin. The diathesis is marked by being hereditary, and is transmitted through the female line, although the male is most liable to the *disease*.

Symptoms are sufficiently obvious, and need no detailed description. It must be remembered that in these cases death has followed the extraction of a tooth, cutting a corn too deeply, snipping a wart off, and other usually trifling operations. Often the first severe attack of bleeding occurs in infancy, or, on the other hand, it may first appear after adult age. In some instances there are hæmorrhagic effusions into the large joints, which are swollen and painful. Such attacks may be attended with fever.

Treatment.—The patient must be protected from injury, and is not a fit subject for operations. On the slightest appearance of hæmorrhage, energetic treatment with styptics must be at once employed. For hæmorrhages from the mouth or nose adrenalin may be used, and for external wounds compression. It may be necessary to plug the nostrils. Calcium lactate should be given in doses of gr. xv (grm. 1·0) every four hours, or a single large dose of ʒi (grm. 4·0) for an adult or gr. xv for a child may be given in solution at once. Horse serum may be injected, and in desperate cases transfusion of human blood has saved life. Obviously, the bleeder must live on a non-stimulating diet, lead as placid a life as possible, and avoid all excess, especially the ingestion of liquids which tend to raise the blood-pressure. Theoretically, no female of the stock should marry, but such advice is not likely to be taken.

ACHOLURIC JAUNDICE

A condition characterised by jaundice and enlargement of the spleen, and occurring either congenitally or in later life.

Etiology is unknown. The disease occurs in families or in successive generations and may appear at an early age. In some instances it appears for the first time after adult age has been reached.

Pathology.—Of this also little is known. The most evident feature is an undue “fragility” of the red blood cells, which become laked in a sodium chloride solution of higher specific gravity than that which lakes the cells of normal blood. The consequent hæmolysis leads to liberation of hæmoglobin, from the presence of which in the blood and tissues the bile pigment is presumably formed. The results of splenectomy indicate that the hæmolysis may arise in the Kupffer cells of the spleen, and that the jaundice is not of hepatic origin.

Symptoms.—There are two types of the disease, congenital and acquired. *In the former* the jaundice develops shortly after birth, and persists with intermissions for many years. There is a considerable anæmia, with a colour index rather below unity, and with, as a rule, a distinct leucopenia. The spleen is definitely enlarged and firm; there is little, if any, enlargement of the liver. The general health is not materially affected, and the most important feature of the blood examination is the fragility of the corpuscles mentioned above. Bile is absent from the urine though bile-pigment may be found in the blood, and the fæces retain their normal colour. *In the acquired type*, occurring in adult life, the onset is insidious, and transitory attacks of jaundice may recur for many years. The anæmia may become severe, and the colour index may rise above unity. Jaundice may be slight or absent, but a progressive enlargement of the spleen will be noted on repeated examination. In both forms evidence of a family tendency is likely to be found on careful inquiry.

Prognosis is favourable, as the disease does not tend to shorten life, though it may interfere with comfort.

Diagnosis rests mainly upon the exclusion of other forms of splenic enlargement, the results of blood examination and of the van den Bergh reaction, and upon a study of the family history. In such cases the van den Bergh reaction indicates a hæmolytic jaundice.

Treatment is unnecessary and useless, except in the severer forms with progressive anæmia. In these splenectomy may cure the disease.

PAROXYSMAL HÆMOGLOBINURIA

A condition manifested by the occasional passage of blood pigment in the urine.

Etiology.—The affection is most common in the male, and in young subjects. It is very frequently, if not always associated with syphilis, and the attacks are determined by chill. It is found in a limited proportion of cases of Raynaud's disease. The work of Eason and others has shown that it is due to a toxin circulating in the blood, and becoming linked as an immune-body to the red cells when the blood is cooled below the normal temperature, as it is in the vessels of the skin when exposed to cold. Hæmolysis follows when the corpuscle-immune-body combination returns in the circulating blood-stream to the warmer and deeper part, where it becomes linked with normal complement.

Symptoms.—The attack may come on after the morning bath, muscular exertion, or exposure to cold, and is usually associated with pain in the lumbar region. Vomiting, anorexia, and jaundice are sometimes present, and fever often. The liver and spleen may be enlarged and tender. The urine is smoky, blood-coloured, or porter-coloured; it responds to the guaiacum and spectroscopic tests for blood; but on microscopic examination blood corpuscles are absent. During the paroxysm the red cell count is low, and the colour index high. An attack may last from a few hours to a few days, and may be frequently or very seldom repeated.

Treatment.—Preventive treatment consists in the avoidance of chill, treatment during the attack in rest, warmth, and hot drinks. Salvarsan, mercury, or the iodides should be used in all cases in which the Wassermann reaction is positive.

PURPURA

Purpura is not a disease, but an indication of an altered state of either the blood or blood-vessels, causing extravasations of blood into the subcutaneous tissues, and purplish blotches

on the skin which do not disappear on pressure. In some instances the cause of the hæmorrhages is known, and these are referred to as *symptomatic purpura*, of which the following are the chief varieties :—

1. *Infective purpura*, a form associated with the malignant fevers—*i.e.*, those fevers in which the “rashes” become hæmorrhagic, as already described under typhus, measles, etc.

2. *Cachectic purpura*, a form associated with grave constitutional changes—*i.e.*, syphilis, chronic Bright’s disease, cardiac diseases, scurvy, etc.

3. *Toxic purpura*, a form associated with the circulation of certain poisons, such as snake poison, quinine, antipyrin, copaiba, mercury, etc.

4. *Neurotic purpura*, a form which is met with in cases of myelitis, locomotor ataxia, severe neuralgia, purpura urticans, etc.

There are forms on the other hand of which the etiology is entirely unknown, although the condition is very probably due to the circulation of a toxin. Such are—

1. Purpura simplex, most often seen in children, unattended by fever or constitutional symptoms, and disappearing in a fortnight or less.

2. Purpura hæmorrhagica (*morbis maculosus Werlhofii*), a form which occurs without any apparent reason, and not associated with any particular condition. It is seen in two varieties :—

(a) Non-infective purpura hæmorrhagica (*Henoch’s purpura*). It attacks young subjects chiefly. The eruption is severe, the mucous membranes are also affected, there is intense abdominal pain at the onset of the attack, and there may be renal or retinal hæmorrhages. Recovery may be speedy, or increasing anæmia may lead to death.

(b) Febrile or septic purpura hæmorrhagica, associated with intense septicæmic infection, high fever, and a septic state of the mouth. Petechiæ, ecchymoses, and bullæ are seen, also hæmorrhages from the nose and gums. The issue is fatal.

3. Arthritic purpura (purpura rheumatica) is probably not of rheumatic origin, although acute rheumatism may sometimes be complicated by purpuric rashes. To these the term

peliosis rheumatica should be restricted. Arthritic purpura is accompanied by slight fever and pains in the larger joints, around which, upon the extensor surfaces, a rash appears. This is partly urticarial, and the purpuric lesions are seated upon the urticarial wheals. There may be œdema of the shins or even of the face.

Symptoms.—The presence of petechiæ in the skin, etc., is sufficiently obvious to demonstrate the condition. When not associated with any apparent cause, the more common symptoms are—marked anæmia, sallow complexion, local œdema or general anasarca, and more or less severe muscular pains. Death may occur from progressive exhaustion, or from internal hæmorrhages.

Severe forms of the disease may be confused with scurvy, but the gums are not swollen, and there is no history of want of fresh air or vegetables.

Treatment of symptomatic purpura is the treatment of the cause. In idiopathic purpura we must aim at removing any apparent cause of ill health, and restoring the tone of the blood-vessels. Ergot, iron, turpentine, strychnine, gallic acid, opium, etc., may be tried. Arsenic is useful in purpura simplex, but should not be given if there is diarrhœa. Adrenalin internally, or calcium lactate gr. xv-xx (grm. 1·0-1·3) every four hours are often useful. Rest in bed should be insisted on. In febrile purpura hæmorrhagica treatment is for the most part palliative, but intravenous injections of horse serum or of human serum have met with some success.

DISEASES OF THE ENDOCRINE GLANDS

THE endocrine, or as they were formerly called, the ductless glands, are characterised by the fact that they possess an internal secretion, elaborated from the blood, and transformed in their substance into a new constituent, which from them again passes directly into the blood, and exercises a marked influence upon metabolism. Defect, upon the one hand, or excess upon the other, of this secretion, leads to interference with the bodily functions, of which the effect depends upon the age at which the abnormality has arisen. Disease of any one of them causes its own train of symptoms, disease of several at the same time a series of symptoms often referred to as a *pluriglandular syndrome*. All are to some extent under the dominion of the sympathetic nervous system. Only the most typical of these diseases will be here described.

I. DISEASES OF THE THYROID GLAND

MYXŒDEMA

A disease associated with atrophy of the thyroid gland, a mucinoid infiltration of the subcutaneous tissue, dryness and harshness of the skin, and mental hebetude.

Etiology.—Myxœdema is most common in women between thirty and fifty-five years of age; hereditary factors appear to be occasionally present; and the poorer classes are said to furnish the larger number of cases. It is due to atrophy of the cellular elements of the thyroid gland, associated with fibrosis. The cause of these changes is unknown, although an extreme variety of predisposing causes has been tabulated. Its onset has sometimes been preceded by goitre or exophthalmic goitre. Women are affected five times as often as men.

Varieties.—Loss of the thyroid function may occur—

1. In adults as the result of disease—myxœdema.
2. Congenitally or before puberty—cretinism.
3. As the result of operation—cachexia strumipriva.

Morbid Anatomy.—The changes are most marked in the subcutaneous tissues and thyroid gland. The *subcutaneous tissues* show—

1. Nuclear proliferation or formation of connective tissue around the hair follicles and sweat glands, accounting for the loss of hair and dryness of the skin.
2. Increased deposit of subcutaneous fat.
3. Presence in the subcutaneous connective tissue of a gelatinous substance allied to mucin.
4. Formation of elastic œdematous swellings above the clavicles.

The *thyroid gland* is atrophied, often indurated, and shows scattered groups of cells, the remains of the normal vesicles.

The increase of connective tissue may also affect other glandular organs, such as the kidney, leading to interstitial nephritis, or the outer coat of arteries, or the ganglia of the central nervous system.

Symptoms.—The disease is of slow onset. When it is fully developed the patient presents a heavy, stolid countenance. The face is broadened, the lips and tongue thick, and there is a diffuse red flush upon the cheeks, contrasting with the yellowish pallor of the rest of the face. The hair is scanty, coarse, and brittle. The teeth become carious, and the speech is heavy, slow, and thick (leathery voice). There is great intolerance of cold. The skin is enormously thickened, *dry*, and often scaly, but does not pit on pressure. The hands and feet are broad and “spade-like,” and the gait is clumsy. The temperature is always subnormal, and the pulse slow. Arterio-sclerosis is common. The menses are irregular, and there is often a tendency to hæmorrhages. The bowels are constipated. The mind is slow and dull, and later the mental condition may become very grave; hallucinations or delusions leading to dementia or suicidal tendencies may appear. It must not be forgotten that often towards the end albuminuria may occur, and the skin may pit on pressure. Glycosuria is an occasional symptom.

Treatment.—The patient must be carefully guarded against cold, and should if possible winter in a warm climate. Warm bathing is also useful. Specific treatment consists in the administration of thyroid extract, either as the *Liq. Thyroidei* (B.P.), or dry, in the form of tabellæ. Small doses should be given at first, and gradually increased up to ℥ x of the liquor twice daily, or gr. v (grm. 0.3) of the extract thrice daily. As the condition improves, the dose may be gradually lessened, but the patient must be told that she will have to continue treatment all her life.

Cretinism is the infantile or juvenile form of myxœdema, and is due either to the congenital absence of the thyroid body, or an absence of its functions. It is *endemic* in certain parts of Central Europe, particularly in Switzerland, where it is very common, along with goitre, in deep valleys shut off from air and sunlight. Cretins are often the children of goitrous parents, and may themselves have goitre. *Sporadic* cretinism occurs all over the continent of Europe, in Great Britain, and occasionally in America. Intemperance and insanity in the parents are believed to predispose to it. The *juvenile* form may be the result of atrophy of the thyroid after a fever.

Symptoms and Signs.—As regards the subcutaneous infiltration, supraclavicular swellings, and mental defects, the condition resembles an exaggerated form of myxœdema. No disease presents more strikingly characteristic features. The child is dwarfed or stunted in growth; the face is very ugly, moon-shaped, and the cheeks hang in pendulous folds; the tongue is too large for the mouth; and the voice is peculiarly harsh or squeaky, like that of Punch in the show. The hair is coarse, except over the fatty swellings between the scapulæ, which are covered by a soft down-like hair. The belly is very prominent and pendulous; umbilical and inguinal herniæ are common. The gait is clumsy, and of the waddling type. The sexual organs are rarely developed, though in female children the menses may appear once or twice; but sexual desire is never excited, even in those cases that live to adult age. Cretins are usually incapable of being taught reading or writing, and their vocabulary is always limited. They are sometimes peevish and cross, but the majority are placid and affectionate. In untreated cases death usually occurs during childhood, but a

few cases reach adult life, without, however, advancing at all in intelligence.

Treatment.—The child should be removed from the place where the disease appeared to a more favourable climate, and should have a nutritious diet, with frequent baths and systematic exercise of the muscles. In very young children Liq. Thyroidei ℥ ij, or gr. i (grm. 0·065) of the extract may be given once daily, and in older children 5 grains (grm. 0·32) of the extract in tabloid form once daily. The younger the child, the greater is the improvement. Treatment must be continued throughout life.

Cachexia strumipriva is a condition which sometimes follows operative removal of the thyroid gland in man, and was experimentally produced by Horsley in the monkey. It sometimes arises after even partial removal of the gland, but much more frequently when the operation is complete. There are, however, cases of complete removal which are not followed by the cachexia, and this is to be explained by the presence of accessory thyroids (parathyroids). The symptoms and treatment are similar to those of myxœdema.

GOITRE

A persistent enlargement of the thyroid gland, due to hypertrophy and not including new growths. The disease may be sporadic or endemic, the endemic form being prevalent in many parts of Europe, especially in deep mountain valleys, and in certain parts of England ("Derbyshire neck"), but rare in America. It affects women oftener than men, and begins most frequently in late childhood or about the age of puberty. The drinking water of the district has been almost unanimously regarded as the cause of the disease, and in an infected district those who drink from certain wells may become goitrous, while those who drink from other wells remain free. There was until recently no certainty as to the element in the water to which the goitre is due; but it has now been demonstrated by the researches of M'Carrison that it is not the water which causes the disease, but micro-organisms contained in it; that these organisms are found in the soil, and enter the water from it; that they produce goitre-forming toxins in the alimentary tract; and that many cases can be relieved by the use of vaccines

prepared from cultures of the organisms. The disease may apparently be produced by the effects of different organisms in different countries.

The changes in the gland may be (1) parenchymatous—a general hypertrophy; (2) cystic—enlargement of the vesicles; (3) vascular—dilatation of the blood-vessels, causing a pulsatile swelling.

Symptoms.—Fullness in the neck; thyroïdal tumour moving with deglutition, the enlargement being either uniform or irregular as the whole thyroid or only a part of it is affected; and evidence of pressure on the trachea, œsophagus, sympathetic, or recurrent laryngeal nerve. Sometimes there may be paroxysmal dyspnoea, which may prove fatal.

Treatment.—On the microbic theory, the internal use of thymol gr. x (grm. 0·6) night and morning may be tried. In some cases thyroid extract gr. ij (grm. 0·13) thrice daily has proved useful, and in others iodide of potassium and the external application of iodine. The drinking water should be boiled. M'Carrison has successfully used vaccines obtained from cultures of the intestinal flora.

If endemic goitre is due to a soil infection, good sanitation and the use of an uncontaminated water supply should be the best prophylaxis; and in infected districts the use of such measures has already proved of value.

EXOPHTHALMIC GOITRE

A disease characterised by enlargement of the thyroid gland, exophthalmos or protrusion of the eyeballs, increased frequency of the heart, and muscular tremors.

Etiology.—The disease is much more frequent in women, in whom it most commonly begins between the ages of fifteen and thirty, while it attacks men between thirty and forty-five. The patients are usually of a nervous temperament, and nervous heredity is sometimes apparent. Sudden fright, grief, or shock, are the common exciting causes; depressing diseases or prolonged overstrain may predispose to it.

Pathology.—The pathology of exophthalmic goitre is still unsettled, but the prevailing tendency is to regard it as due

to excessive activity of the thyroid gland (*hyperthyrea*). Administration of the gland to animals is followed by many of its symptoms, and in myxœdema overdoses of thyroid extract may produce a somewhat similar condition; removal of a part of the enlarged thyroid causes subsidence of the symptoms, and if they recur it is because the remaining portion of the gland undergoes further hypertrophy; histologically, the cellular elements of the gland are found to be in a state of active proliferation; and chemically there is increase of its nucleoproteids and of its iodine content (*thyroxin*). M'Carrison looks upon the changes in the thyroid gland as not primary, but due to a condition of chronic toxic irritation, the most frequent source of which is to be found in the gastro-intestinal tract. And there are some who still regard the disease as a disturbance of the central nervous system, due to continued irritation of the sympathetic nerve supply to the gland. Such irritation may be caused either by increased activity of the suprarenals or by alimentary toxæmia.

Morbid Anatomy.—The thyroid is found to be moderately enlarged and exceptionally vascular, the arteries being dilated and tortuous. The epithelium of its vesicles is proliferated, and columnar instead of cubical; the colloid matter is diminished and more mucinoid, and new tubular spaces are formed. Fibroid changes may occur at a later stage. The thymus is often enlarged, the lymphatic tissues may be hyperplastic, and the liver may be fatty. Changes in the cervical sympathetic ganglia and minute hæmorrhages in the brain have been noted.

Symptoms.—The cardinal symptoms are exophthalmos, thyroid hypertrophy, tachycardia, and muscular tremor. *Tachycardia* and cardiac disturbance appear early and very constantly. The pulse-rate varies from 100 to 150 or more per minute. There is anæmia, and from this and the rapid, violent action of the heart, dilatation and hypertrophy may follow. Hæmic murmurs and murmurs of relative insufficiency are therefore common. Palpitation is frequent and distressing; the carotids pulsate visibly. *Exophthalmos*, or protrusion of the eyeballs, may be but slight, or so marked that the lids cannot be completely closed. It imparts a staring look of fear or horror to the face. It is sometimes unilateral. It may be caused by (1) venous congestion, or dilatation of the retro-bulbar arteries;

(2) overgrowth of the orbital fat ; (3) contraction of Müller's muscle. It is attended by certain classical signs—

1. Retraction of the upper lid, so that the sclerotic is seen all round the cornea. *Stellwag's sign*.
2. When the patient looks down, the upper lid follows the movement of the eye slowly and imperfectly, so that a larger area of sclerotic is seen above the cornea. *Von Graefe's sign*.

Other ocular phenomena may occur. There may be ptosis (paresis or paralysis of the branch to the levator palpebræ) ; imperfect convergence on near vision (*Mobius' sign*) ; failure of wrinkling of the forehead on looking upwards (*Joffroy's sign*) ; or temporary paresis or paralysis of the third, fourth, or sixth nerve causing strabismus. The fundus is usually normal. *Thyroid enlargement* is moderate in degree, the right side being usually the larger. It may occur early or late. The gland is soft and elastic at first, later firmer and nodular. Systolic thrill may be felt over it, and a systolic murmur heard. *Tremor* may affect the limbs only, or the whole body. It is most notable on holding out the hands, palms downwards, and consists of rapid, fine, rhythmic movements of the whole hand, but not the fingers separately. Any one of these symptoms may be absent at a given stage of the disease ; of them all, tachycardia is the most constant.

Other symptoms that may occur are digestive disturbances—variable appetite, sometimes vomiting, often diarrhœa ; wasting ; polyuria, glycosuria, albuminuria ; flushing of the head and face, free sweating, occasional pyrexia ; cutaneous eruptions ; mental alterations—depression, melancholia, or even mania.

The basal metabolic rate, determined by an estimation of the ratio between the amount of oxygen taken in and of carbon dioxide given out per unit of time, is always greatly increased. Proteid and carbohydrate metabolism are especially affected, the former accounting for the wasting, the latter for the glycosuria.

Prognosis.—A considerable number of cases recover, more are much benefited by treatment but may relapse, and about 20 per cent. ultimately die of complications, diarrhœa, cardiac failure, or acute mania. The duration of a fatal case is from several months to several years.

Treatment.—Physical and mental rest, in severe cases rest in bed, fresh air, light nutritious diet, and avoidance of stimulants are the general measures. Belladonna and bromides are useful sedatives, and the continuous application of an ice-bag may reduce the cardiac frequency. Digitalis and strophanthus are seldom useful. Sodium phosphate gr. xv-xxx (grm. 1·0-2·0) thrice daily, sodium iodide, and arsenic have all at times been beneficial, and electricity to the thyroid is often useful. Quinine hydrobromide (gr. v thrice daily in capsule) is strongly recommended by M'Carrison. Application of X-rays to the gland has of late given good results, and is the most hopeful method of treatment, though there is some risk of subsequent thyroid insufficiency. Adrenalin and pituitrin have also been employed. In severe cases which are rapidly advancing, operation may be performed. Ligature of the thyroid arteries and partial thyroidectomy are the favourite measures. Great benefit, and sometimes cure, has followed the latter, but although improved technique has reduced the mortality, the immediate dangers of the operation are considerable. If M'Carrison's views be correct, operation is merely symptomatic treatment, and more is to be looked for from medical and hygienic means of cure.

Specific therapy, as represented by antithyroidin, thyroidectin, and rodagen, has not fulfilled expectations.

The main affection attributed to disease of the *parathyroid glands* is tetany, which is described under Diseases of the Nervous System.

II. DISEASES OF THE SUPRARENAL GLANDS

ADDISON'S DISEASE

A disease characterised by muscular and vascular asthenia, pigmentation of the skin, and gastro-intestinal irritation; and usually accompanied by tuberculosis of the suprarenal bodies.

Etiology.—Addison's disease is more frequent in men than women, and most of the cases occur between twenty and forty years of age. In 80 per cent. of them the lesion of the capsules is tuberculous, and tuberculous lesions may also be present elsewhere. In some instances a blow on the back or abdomen has preceded the onset.

Morbid Anatomy.—In the great majority of cases one or both capsules (usually both) are atrophic and tuberculous, and

show interstitial fibrosis, along with caseation, which may result in calcification or softening. In some instances they are affected by other diseases, such as simple atrophy, interstitial inflammation, syphilis, or malignant growth. The semilunar ganglia are degenerated and much pigmented, and they may through cicatricial contraction become entangled in the diseased tissue of the adrenals. The nerve fibres show extensive sclerosis.

In exceptional cases the ganglia alone are diseased, and the adrenals escape.

Pathology.—There are two theories of the disease—(1) that it is due to loss of the internal secretion of the adrenals, or to the presence in the blood of poisons which they would normally destroy; (2) that it is an affection of the abdominal sympathetic system, most commonly produced by suprarenal disease. All the recent evidence goes to show that defect in adrenalin, which is secreted by the medullary or chromaffin cells of the adrenal bodies, is the essential pathogenic factor. In the exceptional cases in which the semilunar ganglia alone are affected, it is yet possible that the chromaffin cells in other parts of the sympathetic system, which also secrete adrenalin, may be involved, or, as Osler suggests, that adhesions around the semilunar ganglia may interfere with the vascular supply of the adrenal bodies.

Symptoms.—The onset is generally insidious, feelings of languor and weakness being first to develop. When the disease is established, the main symptoms are those of (1) *asthenia*, shown in extreme muscular prostration, feebleness of the heart, the pulse being weak and irregular, syncopal attacks, and lowness of the blood-pressure; (2) *gastro-intestinal irritation*—nausea, vomiting, and attacks of diarrhoea; (3) *pigmentation of the skin*. Pain in the epigastric region is not uncommon, and nervous symptoms (headache, delirium, etc.) may be present. The temperature is *subnormal* as a rule. Anæmia is often absent till the later stages, and emaciation is not marked.

The pigmentation is most marked where pigment is normally found, viz., in the areolæ, scrotum, axillæ, and on parts compressed by clothing or exposed to light. The mucous membranes are often deeply pigmented, presenting blackish patches. The marked exhaustion is altogether out of proportion to the general condition, and death may occur from a syncopal attack brought

on by the slightest untoward circumstance, such as the action of a simple purge.

Prognosis.—The disease is usually fatal within a year or two ; some cases die in a few weeks, and others may survive for several years. In some instances, after very slight symptoms and a still slighter amount of bronzing have been noticed for a few months, the patient sinks without any obvious cause into a semi-comatose state, which rapidly proves fatal.

Diagnosis.—Bronzing of the skin may occur in many other conditions, *e.g.*, pregnancy, exposure to the sun, diabetes, jaundice, and a habitual verminous condition. The diagnosis should not be made in the absence of asthenia.

Treatment.—The patient must be treated with the extremest precautions against cold, worry, or fatigue. Complete rest in bed is necessary where asthenia is marked. Adrenalin chloride (10 minims of the 1 in 1000 solution thrice daily) or extract of suprarenal gland (one tablet thrice daily, each tablet corresponding to gr. xv (grm. 1.0) of the fresh gland) may be given, but the benefit is usually temporary. Prolonged hypodermic administration of the drug has been known to cause collapse, and also tremor and insomnia. Symptoms must be treated as they arise ; iron, arsenic, strychnine, and phosphorus have all been recommended. A few cases of improvement or cure following the use of tuberculin are on record.

III. DISEASES OF THE SPLEEN

The diseases of the spleen are for the most part secondary. Thus one may meet with active congestion in acute infections ; passive congestion in cardiac disease or engorgement of the portal circulation ; infarction, usually anæmic, but sometimes hæmorrhagic, associated with perisplenitis and consequent splenic friction ; abscess in septic conditions ; amyloid disease, in which the organ is very greatly enlarged ; and tertiary syphilitic conditions. The characters of the spleen in malaria and leukæmia have been referred to under those diseases.

MOVABLE SPLEEN

A condition frequently associated with general enteroptosis. The organ is usually somewhat enlarged, and may descend into

the abdomen so as to be grasped by the hand and moved about. The splenic notch may be recognised. Slight pain in the left side of the abdomen is the chief symptom. A belt and carefully adjusted pad may serve to retain the spleen in its normal position, or no treatment may be required.

SPLENIC ANÆMIA

(Primary Splenomegaly. Banti's Disease)

A progressive enlargement of the spleen associated with anæmia, a tendency to gastric or other hæmorrhages, and in the late stages with cirrhosis of the liver.

The disease is most frequent in males. Its etiology is unknown, though it appears to follow various intoxications.

Morbid Anatomy.—The spleen is much enlarged, its fibrous tissue being increased and the endothelium of the blood sinuses proliferating, while the splenic pulp is atrophied. The sinuses may be choked by the proliferated endothelial cells. Perisplenitis and infarcts are also present. In the late stages the liver becomes cirrhotic, and jaundice or ascites may occur.

Symptoms.—The disease begins with the enlargement of the spleen, and the patient may first complain of a "lump" in the left side of the abdomen. There may be pain in the splenic region, and the tumour is found to be tender. Splenic friction may be heard. The enlargement is progressive, and may become very great, *but the lymphatic glands are not enlarged*. Anæmia usually accompanies the enlargement, but may be comparatively late. The red corpuscles may fall to 3,000,000 per cmm., the hæmoglobin being still more deficient, and the colour index therefore low. The leucocytes are reduced in number. This stage may last for several years, and is succeeded by aggravation of the anæmia, with attacks of hæmatemesis, followed by melæna. Other hæmorrhages may occur, as from the nose, gums, or kidneys. Finally the liver becomes cirrhotic, and the last stage may be marked by jaundice, ascites, and diarrhœa.

The above description applies to Banti's disease. In the allied Gaucher's disease, or primary splenomegaly, enlargement of the liver and spleen is early and great, the skin shows a greyish or brownish discoloration (not jaundice), anæmia is late, and ascites is absent. The disease may begin in childhood,

and may be present in more than one member of a family. Leucopenia and hæmorrhages are common to both forms.

Treatment.—The splenic origin of the disease is indicated by the effects of *splenectomy*, which in the early stages often results in cure, but in the later stages is of little avail. Iron and arsenic may be of use, and the X-rays have sometimes proved beneficial, but operation is the only hopeful treatment.

CHARACTERS OF A SPLENIC TUMOUR

1. The enlarged spleen extends *obliquely* downwards and forwards into the abdominal cavity from the left hypochondriac region. It may reach downwards to the iliac crest, and as far as the umbilicus, or even farther, to the right.
2. The fingers cannot be pushed under the ribs in the left hypochondrium.
3. The surface is usually firm and smooth, and the edges rounded. If the enlargement is sufficient, the splenic notch may be felt in the epigastric region, to the left of the middle line.
4. Dullness is uninterrupted over the area occupied by the tumour, and is continued upwards into the normal area of splenic dullness. In tumour of the left kidney, the dullness is broken by a band of tympanitic percussion, due to the position of the descending colon in front of the kidney.
5. Posteriorly the lower border of splenic dullness meets the dullness of the spinal muscles at an acute angle. In renal tumour the whole region of the loin is dull to percussion.

If, on percussing along a line drawn from the umbilicus to the apex of the left axilla, the note is found uniformly tympanitic over the abdomen, and uniformly clear over the lung, there can be no important enlargement of the spleen.

IV. DISEASES OF THE PITUITARY BODY

ACROMEGALY

A chronic disease characterised by an excessive growth chiefly of the bones of the face and extremities, and by changes in the pituitary body.

Etiology and Pathology.—The disease usually begins before the age of forty, and affects women rather oftener than men. The changes in the pituitary body invariably affect its anterior *glandular* portion, which influences the development in size of the body and the growth of the bones. Acromegaly arises from a specific hyper-secretion of this part, accompanied by an overgrowth of the glandular structure (adenoma or adenocarcinoma), and is not produced by other forms of pituitary disease. There is a close relationship between the pituitary body and other glands with an internal secretion; and in some instances the thyroid gland has been found enlarged and the thymus persistent.

Symptoms.—Rarely is a more characteristic clinical picture presented than by a confirmed case of acromegaly. The face is egg-shaped, with its broad end downwards; the lower jaw-bone particularly is much increased in size, and may cause the lower teeth, which are wide apart, to project in front of the upper; the tongue is considerably enlarged, and this may cause a similar leathery speech to that of myxœdema. The eyelids and nose are thickened and the ears hypertrophied. The extremities are markedly altered, the hands being huge and spade-shaped, and the nails broad and large. The feet show similar abnormal overgrowth, but the hypertrophy does not extend beyond the wrists and ankles, the long bones being but slightly affected. Later, the spine may become kyphotic, and the simultaneous prominence of the abdomen causes a characteristic "double hump." The ribs and sternum are also thickened. There is much general lassitude and weakness, and usually *marked headache* and anæmia.

In women the menses are arrested. Defects of vision are often present, the most common being bitemporal hemianopia and optic atrophy. Polyuria and glycosuria may be present in some cases. Warts are frequent upon the skin, which, in marked contrast to myxœdema, is sometimes bathed in sweat.

Treatment.—No medical treatment has so far proved successful, though thyroid extract and extract of the pituitary body have both been of temporary benefit. Resection of the hypophyseal tumour has been done of recent years, in some cases with marked improvement. If symptoms of increased intracranial pressure are prominent in the late stages, a decom-

pression operation may possibly give relief. X-ray treatment has also been tried, it is said with advantage.

DIABETES INSIPIDUS

A rare condition characterised by the passage of an excessive quantity of pale limpid urine, free from sugar or albumin, and accompanied by insatiable thirst.

Etiology.—The disease is commonest in the young, and attacks males oftener than females. It may be hereditary. Bernard produced polyuria by puncturing the fourth ventricle higher than the centre for producing saccharine urine; and it was therefore suggested that diabetes insipidus was due to some disturbance of this centre. The most recent work has shown it to be caused by disease of the pituitary body, probably affecting the posterior lobe. In many such cases there has been evidence of a lesion of the base of the brain, *e.g.*, gummatous meningitis of the middle cerebral fossa. The condition is probably due to a vasomotor paralysis of the renal blood-vessels, produced by central disturbance, particularly of the posterior lobe of the pituitary body. It has sometimes followed severe mental shock. The temporary polyuria after a hysterical fit is well known.

Morbid Anatomy.—Apart from the cerebral changes referred to, various conditions have been found, of which the most frequent are the natural results of polyuria—hypertrophy of the bladder and dilatation of the ureters and renal pelvis. None are constant.

Symptoms.—Polyuria and the consequent thirst are the chief symptoms. Primary optic atrophy is sometimes present. Only the watery constituents of the urine are increased, and as much as fifteen to forty pints of this pale urine may be voided in the twenty-four hours. The specific gravity is very low, from 1008 down to even 1001. Dyspepsia, mental irritability, and muscular weakness are frequently prominent. Though the disease is rarely fatal, the persistent thirst and frequent micturition prevent sound sleep, and may undermine the general health.

Diagnosis.—Care must be taken not to mistake this condition for the polyuria of Bright's disease or diabetes mellitus. Note

the absence of casts, and the low specific gravity. Hysterical polyuria is transitory, not permanent.

Treatment.—Valerianates, iron, strychnine, galvanism, and the bromides have all been used, but with little effect. Specific treatment should be tried when there is evidence of syphilis. The main treatment consists in the hypodermic injection of pituitary extract, ℥ xv twice daily. This results in a rapid disappearance of the polyuria, but cessation of the treatment leads to a return of symptoms, and the drug must therefore be continued in as small doses as possible. Operation may be considered if there is definite evidence of cerebral tumour. It is wrong to try to limit the amount of fluid swallowed.

DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

IN order to be able accurately to describe the situation of morbid changes within the chest, we divide its surface into a series of small areas by a number of arbitrarily chosen vertical lines. These are, in front, the median, sternal (running down either border of the sternum), mammillary (running through the nipples), and parasternal lines, the last midway between the median and mammillary; laterally, the anterior, middle, and posterior axillary lines; and posteriorly the scapular (inner border of the scapula) and vertebral lines. Horizontal landmarks are furnished by the ribs. The chest is further divided into a series of *regions*, more or less corresponding with natural landmarks. In front we have mesially the suprasternal, sternal, and xiphisternal regions, and on either side the supraclavicular, clavicular, and infraclavicular (the last extending downwards to the third rib), followed by the mammary region, and the infmammary below the sixth rib. Laterally there are the axillary region, which extends downwards to the sixth rib, and the infra-axillary below it. Posteriorly the regions are the supra-scapular, scapular, infrascapular, and interscapular—names which explain themselves.

The upper limit of the resonant percussion note over the *right lung* is found anteriorly from three-fourths to one and a half inches above the clavicle, and posteriorly at the level of the seventh cervical vertebra. The inner margin of the lung runs obliquely downwards and forwards to reach the middle line at the lower end of the manubrium, and thence vertically downwards slightly to the left of the middle line to the insertion of the sixth rib. Its lower border crosses the sixth rib in the nipple line, the eighth in the posterior axillary, and reaches the vertebral line at the level of the eleventh dorsal spinous process. The boundary between the upper and middle lobes is at the level of the fourth rib in the nipple line, and between the middle and lower at the level of the sixth. Behind, the boundary

between the upper and lower lobes is at the level of the third dorsal vertebra. The middle lobe is not represented posteriorly.

In the position of its apex and the course of its inner border as far as the fourth rib, the *left lung* corresponds to the right, except that the inner border lies a little more to the left of the middle line; but from the fourth rib this border curves outwards and downwards, and then again slightly inwards to the sixth rib, leaving uncovered a portion of the pericardium, and forming a small recurved projection (the *lingula*) before passing into the lower border, which runs a corresponding course to that of the right lower border. The left lung has but two lobes, and the boundary between them runs obliquely downwards and forwards from the third dorsal vertebra to the sixth rib in the nipple line.

The margins of the lungs move freely with respiration. The extent of their expansion is in the nipple line from three-quarters to one and a half inches, and in the mid-axillary line, where it is greatest, as much as four inches. To allow for this expansion the limits of the pleural sacs extend considerably beyond those of the lungs in quiet respiration, and hence in pleurisy the area of dullness exceeds the normal clear area of the corresponding lung, in the mammillary line by two inches, in the mid-axillary by three and a half to four inches, and in the scapular by one and a half inches.

The bifurcation of the trachea corresponds posteriorly to the fourth dorsal spine, anteriorly to the lower border of the manubrium.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

INSPECTION

The patient must be in a good light, falling evenly on either side. Attention must be given to—

I. FORM OF THE CHEST—

- (1) General alterations :—Deep, barrel-shaped chest of emphysema ; flat or alar chest of phthisis ; pigeon-breast of respiratory embarrassment in childhood ; rickety or fiddle-shaped chest (vertical groove along the junction of the ribs and costal cartilages) ; deformed chest of spinal curvature.
- (2) Local alterations :—Local flattening due to contraction of the lung, apical in phthisis, unilateral in cirrhosis of the lung and after pleurisy ; local or unilateral bulging from pleurisy, pneumothorax, tumours, aneurysm.

The *circumference* of the chest at the nipple line should also be taken (mensuration), both on expiration and on full inspiration.

II. MOVEMENTS OF THE CHEST—

- (1) Number of respirations per minute.
- (2) General type of movement (thoracico-abdominal, abdominal, thoracic).
- (3) Rhythm and volume of respirations ; and their special character (inspiratory or expiratory dyspnœa, orthopnœa, Cheyne-Stokes breathing, etc.).
- (4) Local movements (sucking in of intercostal spaces, etc.).
- (5) Deficient expansion (over one apex, over one side, etc.).

III. PARTS OUTSIDE THE CHEST—

- (1) Box of the larynx (its upward and downward movement).
- (2) Alæ nasi (their action in difficult breathing).
- (3) Bulging of the apices in the neck on coughing
- (4) Action of the scaleni and other extraordinary muscles of respiration.

PALPATION

Palpation is chiefly used in the examination of the vocal fremitus, but by its means defective movements, especially at the apex, can be made out even more accurately than by inspection. The sides should be compared by laying the finger-tips of either hand simultaneously at corresponding points. *Vocal fremitus* is the vibration imparted by the voice to a hand laid upon the chest wall. Being produced at the larynx by the vibrating cords, it is intense in those whose cords are long (deep-voiced males) and weak where they are short (women and children). Adipose tissue conducts it badly, and it is therefore weak in the obese. It is *diminished* by the interposition of air or fluid between the lung and the chest wall (pleurisy, empyema, pneumothorax) and increased by consolidation of the substance of the lung (pneumonia, phthisis). But in consolidation it may be diminished if the bronchus leading to the part is plugged by secretion. The patient should then be asked to cough, and upon expulsion of the plug the increased fremitus is restored. Corresponding points upon the two sides must be compared.

PERCUSSION

The note obtained on percussion over a normal lung is spoken of as *resonant* or *clear*, that obtained over a solid organ or over the muscles of the thigh is *dull*, and over the stomach the note is *tympanitic*. In disease, the pulmonary note may be altered in the direction of dullness by consolidation or fluid effusion, or in the direction of tympanicity under the conditions mentioned below. A hyper-resonant and a tympanitic note differ in degree, not in kind. The following are the chief alterations, with their causes :—

I. HYPER-RESONANCE—

- (1) Slight (emphysema).
- (2) Marked (relaxation of lung-substance, as in the upper lobe when the lower is compressed by fluid or solid from pneumonia).
- (3) Very marked—Tympanitic note (pneumothorax or large cavity).
 - (a) High-pitched.
 - (b) Medium-pitched.
 - (c) Low-pitched.

II. DEFICIENT RESONANCE—

- (1) Slight or *relative* dullness (small areas of consolidation surrounded by air-filled lung, thin layer of pleural fluid, thickening of the pleura).
- (2) Marked dullness (massive consolidation—pneumonia, phthisis).
- (3) Absolute dullness (large pleural effusion).

III. MIXTURE OF DULLNESS AND RESONANCE (Wooden or Boxy Note).
(One of the most important signs of cavity.)

IV. SPECIAL QUALITY—

- (1) Cracked-pot sound (another important sign of cavity).
- (2) Metallic or amphoric resonance or bell-sound, obtained by auscultating while percussion is made with the edge of a coin upon another coin laid on the chest (pneumothorax and large cavity).

The degree of *resistance* to the percussing finger should also be noted. Increased resistance is a sign of consolidation or fluid effusion.

SUCCUSSION

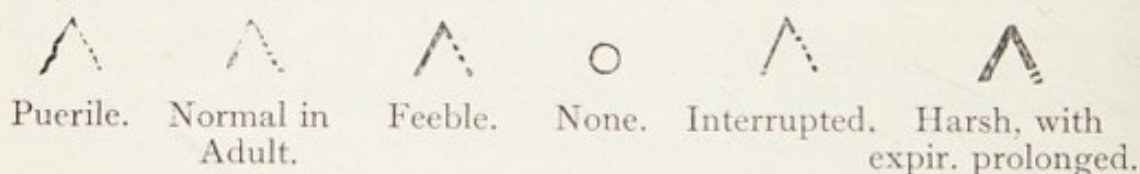
In cases of hydropneumothorax or pyopneumothorax a splashing sound (Hippocratic succussion), due to the mixture of air and fluid, can be elicited on shaking the patient.

AUSCULTATION ¹

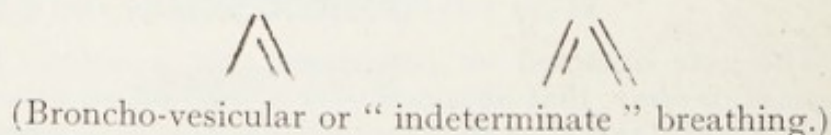
Listen for—(1) *Type of Breathing*; (2) *Accompaniments*; (3) *Vocal Resonance*.

1. TYPES OF BREATHING.

(1) VESICULAR or RUSHING—



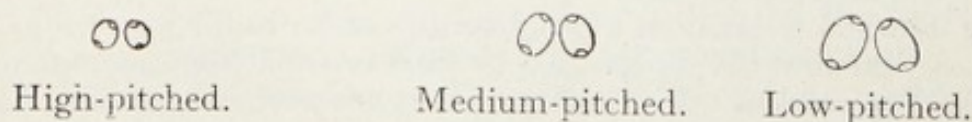
Transition Type—



(2) BRONCHIAL or BLOWING—



(3) AMPHORIC—



¹ This section is largely derived, by permission, from Dr Wyllie's *Notes on Examination of the Respiratory System*.

NOTES.—(1) *Vesicular breath-sounds*.—In the auscultation of normal vesicular breathing the *inspiratory sound*, represented in the diagrams by a single line, is a fine, continuous, rushing sound, soft in the adult and loud in the child, and audible from beginning to end of the act. The *expiratory sound*, on the other hand, is thin in quality and of short duration, being audible only during the earlier part of the expiratory act. In normal vesicular breathing the inspiratory sound generally passes, as represented in the diagram, directly into the expiratory without a break. Wyllie, however, believed that there is often, in perfectly normal vesicular breathing, a distinct break between the two sounds. When the breathing is quiet and easy, the expiratory sound is often totally inaudible, even in children; but in such cases it can usually be brought out by causing the patient to breathe deeply. The term “prolonged expiration” is used to signify not a prolongation of the *act* of expiration, but only a prolongation of the expiratory *sound*, resulting from the encroachment of the audible upon the inaudible part of the act. There is indeed one form of breathing, common to advanced emphysema and asthma, in which the act itself is really prolonged, being often much longer than the inspiration. In such “asthmatic” breathing, the type of respiration, primarily vesicular, is as a rule totally masked by the loud wheezing accompaniments of both inspiration and expiration.

(2) *Bronchial or tubular breathing*.—The auscultatory sound of bronchial breathing, indicated in the diagrams by a double line, can be imitated, as pointed out by Skoda, by holding the tongue in the position for the pronunciation of the guttural *ch* sound (as in the German word *Ach*, or the Scotch word *Loch*), and causing the air to pass inwards and outwards over it. The blowing sound thus produced can be made to represent the various pitches indicated in the diagram. There is always in bronchial breathing a distinct break between the sounds of inspiration and expiration, and the two sounds closely resemble each other. The higher-pitched varieties of bronchial breathing should be associated in the mind with conditions of consolidation of the lung substance, such as that of pneumonia, and the low-pitched or cavernous variety with excavation, as in phthisical cavity. *Bronchial breathing is never produced by bronchitis.*

(3) The *amphoric* type of breath-sound can be well imitated by putting the mouth in the position for whistling. Inspiratory and expiratory sounds can thus be produced by causing the air to pass inwards and outwards, and the pitch can be varied according to the variety of amphoric breathing that is being imitated. Amphoric breathing is best developed in pneumothorax, but is also sometimes met with in *very large* phthisical cavities.

(4) In the *healthy chest* the respiratory sounds are purely vesicular (without harshness of quality or prolongation of expiration) over the whole surface of the lungs, except (a) opposite the *roots of the lungs*, at the level of the third dorsal vertebra behind, and the lower part of the manubrium sterni in front, where the proximity of the large bronchi generally renders the breathing *broncho-vesicular*, by the addition of a blowing or bronchial element, most distinct during expiration; (b) over the *apex of the right lung*, especially above the clavicle and spine of the scapula, where, in health, from causes as yet imperfectly ascertained, the vesicular breath-sound has very generally a more or less prolonged, and often harsh or even somewhat blowing, expiration.

The only example of purely *bronchial* breathing that can be heard on auscultating the healthy subject is the “*tracheal*” breathing, to be obtained

by placing the stethoscope over the larynx or trachea. This is low in pitch, and if heard over the apex of the lung would be termed "cavernous."

[Unfortunately some of the great original authorities on auscultation applied the term "bronchial" to the type of breathing heard over the roots of the lungs, but, as this is partly of bronchial and partly of vesicular origin, the term "broncho-vesicular" or "mixed" breathing is much more appropriate.]

2. ADVENTITIOUS SOUNDS.

(1) FRICTION sound (in pleurisy) is produced by the rubbing of the two roughened pleural surfaces one on the other. It is usually superficial, of a creaking or grating character, heard both in inspiration and in expiration (though there are exceptions to this), and modifiable by pressure with the stethoscope. When very fine it may be confused with crepitus.

(2) RHONCHI or DRY RÂLES (in bronchitis) are produced by the passage of air through bronchial tubes narrowed by tough secretion. Their pitch varies with the calibre of the tube, whistling or cooing rhonchi (*sibilus*) being produced in the bronchioles, sonorous rhonchi in the larger tubes.

(3) MUCOUS or MOIST RÂLES (bronchitis, phthisis, pneumonia, œdema) are due to the passage of air through fluid in the bronchi or alveoli. They may be large and *bubbling*, crackling (clicking or *consonating* with a metallic quality), or very small (produced in the alveoli), when they may nearly resemble pneumonic crepitus.

(4) CREPITANT RÂLES or CREPITATIONS (*pneumonia*, œdema) are produced by separation of the sticky alveolar walls during inspiration. Very fine crepitus heard only towards the end of inspiration is particularly characteristic of pneumonia.

A further degree of consonating râle is the *tinkling* râle of pneumothorax.

3. VOCAL RESONANCE (Auscultation of the Voice).

(1) SIMPLE INCREASE—

- (a) Slight, comparative.
- (b) Marked (bronchophony).
- (c) Very marked and *articulate* (pectoriloquy).

The chief conditions which cause increase of vocal resonance are consolidation (bronchophony) and excavation of the lung substance (pectoriloquy).

(2) SIMPLE DECREASE—

- (a) Slight, comparative.
- (b) Marked decrease.
- (c) Total absence.

(Decrease of vocal resonance is most frequently due to thickening of the pleura or to pleuritic effusion.)

(3) QUALITATIVE ALTERATIONS—

- (a) *Ægophony* (nasal timbre).
- (b) With metallic echo (amphoric resonance or *Nachklang*).

[*Ægophony* occurs in pleurisy with effusion when the layer of fluid is thin. Metallic echo is one of the signs of pneumothorax.]

EXTRA AUSCULTATION

1. OF THE SOUNDS OF *Obstruction* IN RESPIRATORY PASSAGES.

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| (1) OBSTRUCTION TO BREATHING IN NOSE | (a) From hardened or fluid mucus. (b) From paralysis of alæ. | } Nasal bubbling and sniffing. |
| (2) OBSTRUCTION IN BACK OF THROAT | (a) Nasal snore. (b) Oral snore. | |
| (3) OBSTRUCTION IN LARYNX | (a) Swelling of cords. (b) Paralysis or spasm of glottis. | } Stridulous breathing. |
| (4) OBSTRUCTION IN TRACHEA | (a) From aneurysm (leopard-growl). (b) Death rattle. | |
| (5) OBSTRUCTION IN BRONCHI | (a) Musical sounds (wheezing, etc.). (b) Crepitant sounds. | |

2. OF THE *Cough*.

The following are some of the more common varieties of cough :—

- (1) *Cough of the ordinary type*, such as is met with in—(a) Common colds; (b) some conditions of mere nervousness; (c) irritation of certain peripheral nerves, as those of stomach, ear, etc.; (d) early phthisis, when, however, it is apt to be specially hacking and irritating; (e) later phthisis, when it may vary much in severity, from moderate, though frequent, to severely paroxysmal. Phthisical cough is often succeeded by vomiting.
- (2) *The frequent, prolonged, paroxysmal, and often wheezing cough* that is characteristic of severe bronchitis.
- (3) *The frequent, short, "suppressed" cough* of pneumonia with associated pleurisy, and of simple acute pleurisy. It is "suppressed" because it excites pain in the side.
- (4) *The husky and sometimes stridulous or "croupy" cough* that is characteristic of laryngitis.
- (5) *The peculiarly "brassy" or ringing cough* (like the cry of a gander) that is met with in many cases of aortic aneurysm or mediastinal tumour with pressure on the trachea.
- (6) *The prolonged paroxysm of fully-developed whooping-cough*, with its rapid and long-continued succession of short, sharp coughs, and its final long-drawn stridulous inspiration. A succession of these paroxysms is very often succeeded by vomiting.
- (7) *The loud barking cough* met with in some cases of hysteria.

NOTE.—The *sputum* should be carefully examined and described. Its more common types are—

- (a) Viscid, mucous, and often pigmented, in common catarrh; (b) bloody, in hæmoptysis; (c) "nummular," in advanced phthisis; (d) copious, frothy, mucous or muco-purulent, in bronchitis; (e) sticky, gelatinous, and rusty, in pneumonia; and (f) extremely foetid in gangrene of the lung and some cases of bronchiectasis.

The microscopic characters of the sputum should also be investigated. When, with cough, there is no expectoration, *its absence should be noted*.

I. DISEASES OF THE LARYNX

USE OF THE LARYNGOSCOPE

1. *Position of Patient*: sitting, body and head erect, knees together, head slightly thrown back, mouth wide open.

2. *Lamp*: in line with his ear, nine inches to the left of his head.

3. *Position of Physician*: opposite the patient with mirror properly adjusted to head and eye.

4. Reflect the light upon the fauces at the correct focal distance of the reflector.

5. Warm the laryngeal mirror over the lamp. Test it against the cheek or hand.

6. Direct the patient to protrude his tongue, and to hold it in a towel or handkerchief between the thumb and two fingers (fingers uppermost).

7. Holding the laryngeal mirror like a pen, place its back gently against the uvula, and move your hand slightly towards the patient's left side, so as to keep it out of the line of view.

8. Ask the patient to draw a deep breath, and to say "ah," "ur," "eh," or "ee." Be always quiet, gentle, and encouraging; let each examination be short, even if unsuccessful. Be careful not to burn the mouth, or to push either the uvula or the mirror against the back of the pharynx. Cocaine may be needed to lessen the sensitiveness of the fauces.

ACUTE CATARRHAL LARYNGITIS

Etiology.—Contact with irritating vapours, drinking scalding water, impaction of foreign bodies, exposure to damp and cold air, extension of inflammation from other parts, and acute specific fevers.

Morbid Anatomy.—The changes are similar to those of bronchitis.

1. Hyperæmia, causing dryness.

2. Increase of secretion, at first mucous, afterwards mucopurulent.

3. Changes in the tissues beneath, etc., especially—

(1) Œdema of the submucous coat and rarely of the glottis.

(2) Changes in the neuro-muscular apparatus of the larynx.

Symptoms.—Soreness and dryness, with a feeling of tickling about the larynx, accompanied by hoarseness or complete loss of voice. There is also a dry cough. The laryngoscope shows swelling of the laryngeal mucosa, and redness and swelling of the cords, which may fail to meet in the middle line.

In children the condition may be *spasmodic* from the first, or may become so after a few days (*false, spasmodic, or catarrhal croup, laryngitis stridulosa*). The attacks come on at night, with a barking, "croupy" cough, stridulous inspiration, and congestion or lividity of the face. They pass off abruptly, leaving behind them slight laryngeal symptoms, or none at all, but they are apt to recur on successive nights.

Treatment.—*Catarrhal Form*—Rest in bed, steam, antiseptic inhalations of eucalyptol or benzoin. A full dose of Dover's powder often cuts the attack short. Demulcent drinks and absolute rest to the voice.

Spasmodic Form.—The child should be put in a hot bath, or hot sponges should be applied to the throat. An emetic dose of ipecacuanha may be given, and for some nights small doses of bromide of potassium. The bowels should be kept free.

ŒDEMA OF THE GLOTTIS (Œdematous Laryngitis)

Etiology.—This condition may complicate acute laryngitis, but is much more often met with (1) as a result of extension of septic inflammation from adjacent parts (septic pharyngitis, erysipelas, cellulitis of the neck); (2) as an occasional complication of the acute infections; (3) in syphilis or tuberculosis of the larynx; (4) in acute or chronic Bright's disease. It is rarely primary.

There is inflammatory exudation into the submucous coat, and the mucous membrane is greatly swollen.

Symptoms.—The disease may begin as a very acute laryngitis, but dyspnœa rapidly becomes urgent, and threatens suffocation. There are dysphagia, weakness and ultimately extinction of the voice, stridulous respiration and cough, and cyanosis of the face. The paroxysms are separated by intervals of partial relief, but death may occur in any of them.

Laryngoscopically the epiglottis is seen to be enormously swollen, and may conceal the cords. The aryepiglottidean

folds may almost meet in the middle line. The mucosa is much reddened.

The swollen epiglottis can be felt with the finger.

Treatment.—Leeches or an ice-bag over the larynx, and ice to suck, may suffice in mild cases. A 1 in 1000 adrenalin spray may also be used. If these measures fail, the epiglottis should be scarified, and if that fails tracheotomy must be performed.

CHRONIC LARYNGITIS

Chronic laryngitis may be the sequel of acute laryngitis, but it is much more commonly due to *excessive use of the voice* ("dysphonia clericorum"); nasal obstruction; excessive inhalation of tobacco smoke; or chronic alcoholism.

Morbid Anatomy.—Congestion and fibrous thickening of the mucosa, with increased vascularity of the cords, are the principal changes. The mucosa may be studded with granulations (enlarged follicles) or superficial erosions.

Symptoms.—The severity of the symptoms depends on the cause. The more common are constant hawking and desire to swallow, expectoration of muco-purulent phlegm, and attacks of hoarseness or aphonia. Laryngoscopically the mucosa is reddened and may be granular, and the cords are greyish or slightly injected.

Treatment depends on the cause. Nervine tonics, such as strychnine and iron, are nearly always indicated, along with plenty of fresh air, rest to the voice, and *douching the throat with cold water*. Locally, we may use astringents, such as chloride of zinc 10 grains to $\bar{3}$ j (grm. 0.6 to cc. 30—2 per cent.), nitrate of silver (10 grains to $\bar{3}$ j), chloride of ammonium vapour, and various antiseptic sprays.

LARYNGEAL TUBERCULOSIS

This is nearly always secondary to pulmonary tuberculosis, and is due to inoculation by the sputum. It leads to infiltration and ulceration, first of the posterior part of the cords and the inter-arytenoid fold, and spreads to the epiglottis and the ventricular bands.

The **Symptoms** are those of chronic laryngitis, associated

later with dyspnœa, stridor, or pain on swallowing. Coincident enlargement of the bronchial glands may cause paralysis of the recurrent laryngeal nerve.

Treatment.—Complete silence affords the best chance of cure of the lesions. Curettage or excision of localised swellings, application of lactic acid (at first 50 per cent., increasing to full strength), and the use of the galvano-cautery are the chief means of treatment. Insufflations of morphia may be necessary for the pain. Treatment of the pulmonary condition is of the first importance.

LARYNGEAL SYPHILIS

Syphilis of the larynx is usually a tertiary lesion, although hyperæmia and superficial ulceration may occur in the secondary stage. It attacks the epiglottis first, and may spread to the cords and inter-arytenoid fold. It leads to deep ulceration and necrosis of cartilages, and is followed by cicatricial contraction, causing laryngeal deformity.

The **Symptoms** are those of chronic laryngitis. Hoarseness is prominent, but there is little cough. Stridor may occur where there is laryngeal stenosis.

The **Treatment** is that of tertiary syphilis. Tracheotomy may be required for stenosis.

TUBERCULAR ULCERATION

1. Attacks posterior wall.
2. Advances slowly.
3. Marked thickening and infiltration.
4. Pain is commonly present.
5. General condition poor.
6. Evidences of phthisis.

SYPHILITIC ULCERATION

1. Attacks epiglottis.
2. Ulceration is more rapid.
3. Little thickening.
4. Little pain.
5. General condition less affected.
6. Evidences of syphilis elsewhere.

PERICHONDritis

A suppurative inflammation of the perichondrium of one or more of the laryngeal cartilages, most commonly the result of laryngeal tuberculosis, syphilis, or tumour, and sometimes complicating enteric fever or small-pox. The collection of pus between perichondrium and cartilage leads to necrosis of the latter, and to formation of an abscess which may open externally or burrow in the tissues of the neck.

The **Symptoms** are local pain and tenderness, with a varying degree of dyspnœa and dysphagia, and with external swelling when the thyroid or cricoid is affected. There is usually some fever. After separation of the cartilaginous sequestrum, laryngeal stenosis is apt to follow.

Treatment is mainly surgical, consisting in opening the abscesses and removing the necrosed cartilage. Tracheotomy may be necessary. Pain may be relieved by aspirin or opium. Specific treatment is required in syphilitic cases.

LARYNGEAL TUMOURS

These are for the most part malignant, and epithelioma is the commonest form. At first usually limited to the vocal cords or the posterior part of the cricoid cartilage, the growth rapidly ulcerates, and the disease may spread so as to involve the whole larynx. Hæmorrhage may occur from its surface; œdema of the larynx is common; and perichondritis may lead to necrosis of the laryngeal cartilages.

The **Symptoms** are dyspnœa, dysphagia, and hoarseness, often accompanied by marked pain. In the later stages the submaxillary glands may be involved. If the disease is recognised early, operation is indicated; otherwise palliation is the only treatment.

LARYNGISMUS STRIDULUS

(Child-crowing)

A spasmodic disease of the larynx, occurring in infants and young children, and consisting of a temporary closure of the rima glottidis, which causes great dyspnœa and other symptoms dependent on temporary suffocation. There is no catarrhal affection of the larynx, the condition being a pure neurosis.

Etiology.—Predisposing causes are malnutrition brought about by imperfect feeding; syphilis, *rickets*, which is present in the majority of cases, enlarged tonsils, or enlarged bronchial glands. The exciting causes are *reflex nervous disturbances*, brought about by gastro-intestinal irritation (worms, overloaded stomach), teething (via trifacial nerve), exposure to cold (vaso-motor), or frights and “starts” (cortical).

It will thus be seen that the disease is essentially associated with a neurotic temperament and disturbances of the nerve centres. Escherich regards it as a latent form of tetany, to which the carpo-pedal spasms of severe cases present some analogy.

Symptoms.—Sometimes a slight cold precedes the attack, but often the child is apparently well on going to bed and wakes up suddenly at night with arrested respiration or dyspnœa, and the face rapidly becomes livid. The spasm is usually worse on first awaking. After a time it passes off; air rushes into the lungs, and causes as it does so a long-drawn crowing sound. If the glottis is only partially closed by the spasm, the crowing sound occurs at each inspiration. The child is none the worse for the attack, but often a series of paroxysms takes place, at night only, or both by night and day. In severe cases *carpo-pedal spasms* may occur, the thumbs being flexed into the hands, the fingers flexed over the thumbs, and the wrists flexed, while the legs are extended, the feet bent on the legs, and the soles turned inwards. The prognosis is favourable, death in the attack being very rare.

The condition is readily distinguishable from *diphtheria*, which mothers may fear, by the absence of false membrane and marked local inflammation, and by the history.

Treatment.—1. In the attack, dash cold water in the face, or give an inhalation of chloroform or amyl nitrite. Insert the finger in the child's mouth to the base of the tongue, and pull the epiglottis forward. In milder cases give a hot bath, with cold sponging to the chest and back. This may be done twice or thrice daily if the paroxysms continue.

2. In the intervals, bromide should be given in small doses. Fresh air and good food are essential.

LARYNGEAL PARALYSIS

During ordinary respiration the glottis remains partially open, being widened with every inspiration. For the production of voice, the free borders of the vocal cords must be brought almost close to each other in the middle line, only a very narrow chink being between their parallel sides. At the same time the cords must be rendered tense. The narrowing of the chink is brought about by the adductors, viz., the lateral crico-arytenoid,

assisted by the arytenoid and *external* thyro-arytenoid muscles. The tightening is due to contraction of the crico-thyroid. The nerves involved are the superior laryngeal and recurrent laryngeal branches of the vagus. It will be easily understood that aphonia or loss of voice may be brought about by local muscular causes or central nervous lesions. The paralysis producing such a condition may be partial or complete, of a functional nature or due to organic lesions.

Gowers gives the following table :—

| LESION. | SYMPTOMS. | POSITION OF CORDS. |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Total bilateral paralysis.</i> | No voice; no cough; stridor only on deep respiration. | Both cords slightly abducted and motionless. |
| <i>Total unilateral paralysis.</i> | Absence of stridor except on deep breathing; no cough; voice low and hoarse. | One cord motionless; the other moving freely, and <i>even beyond middle line in phonation.</i> |
| <i>Total abductor paralysis.</i> | The voice is little changed; cough normal; inspiration difficult and long, <i>with loud stridor.</i> | Both cords lie together, and not separated during inspiration. |
| <i>Unilateral abductor paralysis.</i> | Little affection of either <i>voice or cough.</i> | One cord not moving during inspiration. |
| <i>Adductor paralysis.</i> | No voice; perfect cough; no stridor or dyspnoea. | Cords are not brought together, but move during respiration. |

Causes of Laryngeal Paralysis—

1. From the nerve side.

(1) Central lesions. — Bulbar paralysis, disseminated sclerosis, etc.

(2) Peripheral.—Aortic aneurysm, mediastinal tumour, enlarged thyroid gland, diphtheritic paralysis, all through affecting the recurrent laryngeal nerve.

2. Local lesions.—*Ulceration*, due to syphilis, tubercle, or malignant laryngeal tumours affecting the cords.

3. Functional or hysterical paralysis (nearly always affects the *adductors*).

To sum up. If there be an inability to cough or speak, suspect a serious paralysis. If the *voice is preserved* and the *cough lost* the paralysis is unilateral. If there is normal *cough*, but *no voice* (adductor paralysis), the condition is usually functional. Loud inspiratory stridor means double abductor paralysis.

Treatment.—Hysterical aphonia usually responds to electricity ; other forms must be treated on general principles, treatment being directed to removal of the cause (syphilis, etc.) whenever possible. For details, consult a treatise on the throat.

II. DISEASES OF THE BRONCHI

ACUTE BRONCHITIS

Etiology.—Acute bronchitis occurs most frequently in winter amongst elderly people, but it is also very common amongst infants and young children, especially in connection with whooping-cough and measles ; insufficient food, scanty clothing, or, on the other hand, excessive confinement in warm rooms, and too warm wrapping up, are the great predisposing causes.

Exciting causes—

1. Exposure to cold or wet.
2. Spreading of nasal catarrh.
3. Certain infectious diseases, particularly influenza, measles, and whooping-cough.
4. Inhalation of irritant vapours.

Many organisms may be found in the sputum, and more than one of them may set up bronchitis. The most common are the pyogenic cocci, the pneumococcus, the pneumobacillus of Friedländer, the *Micrococcus catarrhalis*, and the influenza bacillus.

Morbid Anatomy.—The changes in the mucous membrane are as follows :—

1. Hyperæmia.—The membrane is injected and dry, and the secretion is scanty.
2. Increase of secretion, at first mucous, later muco-purulent.
3. Swelling of the mucosa, leading in the smaller tubes to marked narrowing of their calibre ; desquamation of the ciliated epithelium, and proliferation of the deeper layers.

There are also changes in the underlying tissues, namely, œdema and swelling of the submucous coat, with infiltration of leucocytes.

Symptoms.—Acute bronchitis is ushered in with coryza, pains or a sense of oppression about the chest, and cough. The pain is burning in character, and situated behind the sternum. The expectoration at first is frothy and scanty, but soon becomes more abundant and muco-purulent, and often is expectorated in greenish jelly-like masses; later it may be purulent. The breathing is much embarrassed, and noisy or whistling in character; the temperature is not high as a rule, though there may be some fever, and the skin is moist. The urine is of a febrile type, scanty and high coloured. After a few days the more acute symptoms subside, and convalescence becomes rather slowly established. Death is rare in uncomplicated cases, but the disease is often fatal in the aged through extension to the bronchioles (*capillary bronchitis*) or air-cells (*broncho-pneumonia*). In such cases dyspnœa is aggravated, cyanosis is marked, the lower intercostal spaces are sucked in during inspiration, small crepitations are audible at the bases, and coma precedes death. The so-called capillary bronchitis of children may in rare instances exist as an independent disease, but even when no signs of consolidation have existed during life, broncho-pneumonia is usually found to be present at the autopsy.

Physical Examination.—Rhonchi and moist râles are heard all over the chest. These vary in character with the size of the tube in which they are produced. If in the large tubes, the rhonchi are deeply pitched and sonorous, and often accompanied by bronchial fremitus. If in the smaller tubes, they are sibilant or piping, the note being higher the smaller the tube. They are heard throughout both respiratory periods. There is no alteration of the percussion note in uncomplicated bronchitis, except where there are collapsed portions of lung; then there are, of course, impaired resonance and absence of breath-sounds.

Treatment.—In the first stage employ the bronchitis kettle, containing a solution of eucalyptus or pinol; administer a brisk saline purge, and a diaphoretic mixture such as—

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|---|---|---|-------|-------------|
| R | Pot. Citratis | - | - | - | ̄iij | (grm. 12·0) |
| | Vin. Antimon. | - | - | - | ̄iij | (cc. 10·5) |
| | Spt. Æther. Nit. | - | - | - | ̄iij | (cc. 10·5) |
| | Spt. Chloroformi | - | - | - | ̄ij | (cc. 7·0) |
| | Aq. ad. | - | - | - | ̄viij | (cc. 240·0) |

Fiat mist. A tablespoonful every three hours for an adult.

The cough may be relieved by Dover's powder, or by heroin,

but opiates tend to depress the respiratory centre, and should not be used if there is much cyanosis. When expectoration has become more copious, ammonia, with senega and ipecacuan; or ammonia and iodide of potassium, with paregoric, may be given. The strength must be supported by tonics, hypophosphites, etc. Later, the mineral acids are of use in diminishing the amount of expectoration.

In the capillary form lowering measures are to be avoided. The two great dangers are—

1. Collapse of the lung.
2. Failure of the heart.

In the aged, stimulation is necessary from the outset, either by alcohol, by such drugs as the compound spirit of ether with carbonate of ammonia, or by strychnine hypodermically. In an otherwise vigorous child a brisk emetic may be of much service in clearing the bronchioles of the obstructing secretion. It should be followed at once by stimulation. *Sedatives are nearly always contra-indicated*, as they diminish the expulsive power, causing accumulation of secretion, and hence a tendency to asphyxia.

CHRONIC BRONCHITIS

Chronic bronchitis may be the result of repeated acute attacks, and is very common in the elderly, in whom it tends to recur or to be aggravated every winter. It is also apt to occur in the course of lung disease, mitral affections, diseases of the kidneys, and gout. A cold, damp climate is a predisposing cause.

The organisms found in the sputum are similar to those of acute bronchitis.

Morbid Anatomy.—(1) The mucosa may be thinned or thickened. Its epithelium is largely destroyed.

(2) The muscular and glandular tissues atrophy, and there is fibrosis of the muscular coat.

(3) Dilatation of the tubes is common.

Symptoms are paroxysmal cough and copious expectoration, the sputum varying much in character. It may be mucoid and aerated, non-aerated and muco-purulent, or even entirely

purulent. A *nummular* sputum, though most characteristically present in phthisis, may also be found in chronic bronchitis of long standing. Where there is emphysema, dyspnœa, or even orthopnœa, is also present. The physical signs are rhonchi and moist râles, associated in many cases with signs of emphysema (*q.v.*).

The following varieties are described:—(1) *Bronchorrhœa*, in which the secretion is very abundant, and may be either watery or thin and purulent; (2) *dry catarrh*, in which secretion is absent; and (3) *fœtid or putrid bronchitis*, with an abundant fluid secretion of very offensive odour.

Chronic bronchitis must not be looked upon as a *mere bronchial* affection. When it has existed for any length of time it is accompanied by grave changes, of which the nature and results are shown by the following table:—

| PATHOLOGICAL CHANGES. | PHYSICAL EXAMINATION. | CLINICAL SYMPTOMS. |
|---|---|--|
| 1. In the tubes themselves—rigidity of walls and subsequent dilatation (bronchiectasis). | 1. Abundance of râles. Indistinct signs of cavity. | 1. Copious expectoration at intervals of fœtid, pus-like secretion. |
| 2. Dilatation of the air vesicles and absorption of their walls, with loss of elastic tissue and capillary vessels (emphysema). | 2. Altered shape of chest (barrel-shape), use of auxiliary muscles of respiration, hyperresonance, decreased breath-sounds and prolonged expiration. | 2. Dyspnœa through imperfect aeration, increased on exertion. |
| 3. Hypertrophy and dilatation of the right side of the heart. | 3. Increase of cardiac dullness. Epigastric pulsation. Later, signs of tricuspid leakage— <i>i.e.</i> , general venous congestion, venous pulse, and systolic murmur in tricuspid area. | 3. Feeble pulse, œdema, perhaps anasarca; in fact all the troubles consequent on general venous congestion of the viscera. |

Treatment.—Hygienic measures rank first in the treatment; proper clothing, careful dieting, and change of air do more good than drugs. Any constitutional affection must be treated. Of drugs, the iodides with ammonia are useful, terebene and other

balsams (*e.g.*, tolu) are frequently employed, and creosote or eucalyptol may be inhaled in putrid bronchitis. Cod-liver oil is of great value. Digitalis and strychnine are extremely beneficial when the pulmonary circulation is more sluggish than usual in consequence of the strain thrown upon the right heart. When passive congestion is present, rest in bed and cardiac tonics are indicated.

Autogenous *vaccines*, prepared from the prevailing organisms of the sputum, have in many instances brought about marked improvement after failure of the ordinary medicinal treatment.

BRONCHIECTASIS

Dilatation of the bronchi has already been referred to, as a complication or result of bronchial disease. We must now consider more fully how the condition is produced.

Etiology and Morbid Anatomy.—Bronchiectasis is occasionally a congenital defect, but it is usually produced by—

1. Primary disease of the bronchial walls.
2. Contraction of lung tissue in phthisis, etc.

Two forms occur : (1) cylindrical or fusiform, and (2) saccular.

The former is more often produced by strain from within, such as violent coughing, the rigid walls yielding to the expiratory intra-pulmonary pressure. Obstruction of a large bronchus leads to dilatation of the bronchi below the seat of obstruction. Secretion accumulates and decomposes in such bronchi, and causes an inflammatory softening of their walls.

The saccular form is most often produced by—

1. Contraction of new fibrous tissue outside the tubes.
2. Breaking down of the lung substance, causing diminished support, *and yielding of the walls at that point.*

The dilated portion is usually smooth, until ulceration from retained secretion occurs. The walls are very thin, the muscular and elastic tissue being much atrophied.

Bronchiectasis is more frequent in the lower than the upper lobe. It may be a widespread process, but sometimes there is a single saccular dilatation.

Symptoms.—If the dilatation is single, physical examination may reveal all the signs of a cavity. The expectoration is

copious and foetid, and if allowed to stand, it separates into three layers, the lowest layer being almost pure pus; next, a thin mucoid zone; and a brownish frothy layer on the top of this. Microscopically it shows pus cells and epithelial debris, crystals of fatty acid, and micro-organisms. Elastic fibres, indicative of ulceration, may be present.

The horrible odour is due to valerianic and butyric acids, H_2S , etc. The mode of expectoration is characteristic, the patient usually bringing up a huge quantity in the morning, or on moving after resting in a horizontal position for some time.

In other cases, where the bronchiectasis is diffuse, the physical signs are mainly those of the causative disease.

Emaciation, accompanied by night-sweats, and sometimes by fever, is frequently present. Clubbing of the fingers and toes may be marked, and cyanosis is often seen. Slight hæmoptysis is common, and fatal hæmorrhage has occurred from rupture of an aneurysm in the walls of a cavity.

Treatment.—The general health must be supported by tonics and cod-liver oil. Antiseptic inhalations, such as creosote, help to check the foetor. Urotropine is also of value for this purpose, since it is excreted in the bronchial secretion. Terebene is warmly praised by some. Intratracheal injections of iodoform in olive oil, or inhalations of the *vapour* of creosote, the patient's eyes being suitably protected, have given good results; and incision and drainage of the cavities have sometimes proved successful.

ASTHMA

A disease characterised by sudden and paroxysmal attacks of expiratory dyspnœa, with a tendency to periodic recurrences, usually in the night.

Etiology.—The disease sometimes occurs in children, and when it does so there is usually a history of naso-pharyngeal trouble, measles, whooping-cough, or imperfect recovery after capillary bronchitis. More frequently it is a disease of adult life, in which heredity is an important factor. There may be a family tendency to gout or phthisis, or to nervous complaints, and probably most cases have a neurotic element. Asthma is much more frequent in males than in females, possibly because of their greater liability to bronchial affections generally. An

attack may be induced by a variety of circumstances—change from country to town, or from town to country, an overloaded stomach, certain odours, fright or emotion. The exciting causes are either direct irritation of the bronchial mucosa, or indirect irritation through the nervous system or the blood.

Pathology.—Asthma is now generally regarded as an anaphylactic reaction to certain foreign proteids introduced in food (*e.g.*, eggs), in animal or vegetable dust (pollen, the dandruff of a horse or cat, etc.), or by organisms. The paroxysm is due to diminution of the calibre of the smaller bronchioles, which may be caused by—

1. *Reflex spasm* of the bronchial muscles, associated with hyperæmia and turgescence of the mucous membrane lining the smaller bronchioles, and the exudation of a characteristic mucus. This is the most probable explanation.

2. *Hyperæmic swelling of the mucous membrane*, like “nettle rash” (Clark), due to vasomotor dilatation.

3. Inflammation of the smaller bronchioles—*bronchiolitis exsudativa* (Curschmann).

Symptoms.—1. *Premonitory Symptoms.*—There is usually some visceral disturbance, such as flatulence, etc., but the onset may be quite sudden.

2. *The attack* occurs most frequently during the night, the patient waking up with a feeling of great dyspnœa; he feels as if there were not sufficient air in the room, and asks for the windows and doors to be opened. The characteristic attitude of asthma is assumed—*i.e.*, the patient grasps some support to fix the shoulder girdle, in order to bring his extraordinary muscles of respiration into play. Expiration is much prolonged, and accompanied by sibilant rhonchi, which cause a peculiar, noisy piping or wheezing. Respiration is not accelerated, though in spite of the extraordinary efforts little air enters the lung. A paroxysm of coughing and expectoration gives relief, or even terminates the intense dyspnœa, and sleep may supervene, or a slight lull may be succeeded by another paroxysm.

The sputum is usually expelled with the greatest difficulty, and is distinctly peculiar in its composition. It consists of ball-like gelatinous masses, which can be unfolded, and are then found to represent casts of the small bronchioles. Curschmann describes its microscopic appearance as follows:—

At first the pellets show two forms of spiral threads (Curschmann's spirals). The one form entangles within its meshwork leucocytes, for the most part eosinophil. The other form contains a central clear filament, surrounded by a spiral network of other filaments of mucus. *Later*, the filaments disappear, and octahedral crystals of phosphates appear in the now mucopurulent expectoration (Charcot-Leyden crystals).

A paroxysm of asthma may last an hour or two, or may be prolonged for several days.

Physical Signs. — *During the Attack.* — The thorax is expanded and fixed. The diaphragm moves but slightly, inspiration is short, and expiration prolonged. On auscultation vesicular breathing is drowned by sibilant rhonchi, or later, by bubbling râles. Percussion reveals marked hyper-resonance (acute emphysema), and the cardiac and hepatic dullness is diminished. This condition disappears at the end of the attack, but after many recurrences tends to merge into permanent and chronic emphysema.

In the Intervals. — There may be the usual signs of bronchitis over the lungs, or but little departure from the normal.

The *course* of the disease depends on the immediate cause, and on the amount of bronchitis associated with it. As a rule, the asthmatic attacks tend in time to become less severe, while the bronchial affection grows more pronounced. Death seldom or never takes place from pure asthma.

Treatment. — *During the Attack.* — Remove any obvious cause of reflex irritation, such as overloading of the stomach. A brisk emetic often cuts an attack short; nitrites, especially nitrite of amyl, or chloroform may be inhaled. Belladonna, stramonium, and lobelia in combination with ammonia are useful remedies; the fumes of burnt nitre papers, etc., are also recommended. A hypodermic injection of morphia may be needed; and pilocarpin or adrenalin may also be used hypodermically.

The drug which has most claim to be regarded as specific is iodide of potassium. It should be given during the intervals and steadily persevered with. It is often successful, but as often fails, the disease being very refractory to treatment.

During the Intervals. — Change of air, careful diet, cod-liver oil, tonics, etc. A suitable climate must be found by experiment

in each case. Such sources of reflex irritation as nasal disorders, gastro-intestinal irritation, uterine or urethral disease, must be sought for and removed. The diet must be light and non-stimulating, and the general health should be kept at the highest possible level. Should there be much bronchitis, a vaccine made from the predominant organisms in the sputum may check the bronchial irritation, and so relieve the paroxysms. Should the patient show particular sensitiveness to any foreign proteid, it may be used in minute doses by injection to combat the anaphylactic condition. Intravenous injections of peptone have been used with the same object.

III. DISEASES OF THE LUNGS

EMPHYSEMA

Two conditions are included under this title :—(1) Interstitial or interlobular emphysema, in which, owing to a wound of the lung, or to rupture of air vesicles by violent expiratory effort, as in whooping-cough, air escapes into the interstitial tissues. (2) Vesicular emphysema, in which the air vesicles are over-distended. The former requires no further description.

Vesicular Emphysema takes one of three forms—

1. *Compensatory or Inspiratory Emphysema*.—A condition in which a portion of the lung expands to take the place of a collapsed portion; seen in broncho-pneumonia, pleuritic adhesions, in areas of old cicatrices (phthisis), etc.

2. *Atrophic or Small-lunged Emphysema*, due to a primary senile atrophy of the lung. The chest is of course small.

3. *Hypertrophic, Substantive, or Expiratory Emphysema*, the usual form, is characterised by—

- (1) Over-distension of the vesicles.
- (2) Atrophy of their walls, with loss of the elastic tissue contained in them.
- (3) Obliteration of blood-vessels, and a consequent diminution of the oxygenating area.
- (4) Changes in the shape of the chest.
- (5) Changes in the right heart.
- (6) General changes due to imperfect exchange of gases between the blood and the air.

Etiology.—In violent expiratory efforts with a closed glottis, there is a great increase of intra-alveolar pressure, the strain of which is felt chiefly at the unsupported portions of the lung (apices, free margins). These tend to yield, and over-distension of the air vesicles results. The general causes are therefore all those factors which keep up a more or less persistent high intra-alveolar tension.

1. Chronic cough (bronchitis, whooping-cough).
2. Playing on wind instruments, and glass-blowing.
3. Occupations involving severe strain, or the lifting of heavy weights.

The element of *heredity* in emphysema, first noticed by Jackson of Boston, is a striking feature. It probably depends upon congenital weakness of the elastic tissue of the lungs.

Morbid Anatomy.—The pleuræ are pale. The lungs pit readily on pressure, and have a peculiar soft downy feeling. The dilated vesicles are well seen on the surfaces, and also projecting from *the free margins* of the lungs. The vesicles first become dilated, then coalesce by atrophy and absorption of the septa between the neighbouring cells. The capillaries in the affected area disappear. Though the changes are principally in the air vesicles, there are always more or less marked changes in the bronchial tubes. Bronchiectasis is often present.

Symptoms.—Dyspnœa is the most prominent symptom, if bronchitis is absent. The presence of bronchitis causes cough and expectoration. At first present only on exertion, dyspnœa is afterwards a constant feature, and is often aggravated at night. The type is principally expiratory, inasmuch as the loss of elastic tissue prevents the normal expiratory collapse of the lung, which is in consequence accomplished only imperfectly by the voluntary muscles of respiration. But imperfect expiration means that the lung is not completely emptied; hence the entrance of sufficient fresh air is also difficult, and inspiration is impeded in its turn. Ultimately from constant elevation of the ribs, to increase the respiratory surface, the chest assumes permanently the characteristic rounded or “barrel-shaped” form. The important points to remember are—deficient aeration means *dyspnœa* and cyanosis; the retention of waste products within the blood means impure blood and defective

nutrition; the loss of capillary vessels is followed by increased resistance in the pulmonary circulation, leading to hypertrophy and afterwards to dilatation of the right heart. This causes general venous congestion, dropsy, and cyanosis. Patients are often ill-nourished and emaciated.

Physical Signs.—Barrel-shaped chest, prominent sternum, deep sternal fossa, prolongation of the expiratory part of the respiratory murmur, and a hyper-resonant percussion note are the more common features. The auxiliary muscles in the neck, etc., are all employed in respiration to increase the air capacity of the chest. The areas of cardiac and hepatic dullness are encroached upon, and the margin of the lung becomes fixed in the position of full inspiration, from the disappearance of the elastic tissue. A zone of dilated venules along the attachment of the diaphragm is spoken of by some writers. The epigastric pulsation and altered position of the apex beat are important signs.

Treatment.—That of chronic bronchitis. Sudden and grave attacks of dyspnoea, with dilatation of the heart, may be treated by a mercurial purge, inhalation of oxygen, venesection, strychnine, and later digitalis.

COLLAPSE OF THE LUNG

Collapse of the lung is not a disease, but a part of other diseases. It may be of four types—

1. *Congenital Atelectasis.*—A condition found in weakly new-born children, when there is not sufficient inspiratory power to inflate the alveoli. The collapsed patches are of a slate colour and sink in water.

2. The form due to pressure from without (pleural or pericardial effusion, pneumothorax). The *whole* lung may collapse.

3. Collapse due to wounds of the chest-wall, and perforation of the pleura. In this case also a massive collapse of the whole lung may occur; and the same condition may follow acute abdominal affections, possibly from a reflex nervous paralysis of the diaphragm.

4. Ordinary or lobular collapse from obstruction to the entrance of air, as seen in broncho-pneumonia. Two theories are advanced to explain this condition—

- (1) That a bronchus is plugged by a pellet of mucus which acts as a ball valve—*i.e.*, allowing air to pass *out*, but none to *enter*.
- (2) That the plug does *not move at all*, but merely prevents access of air during inspiration. The alveolar air is exhausted by absorption, and none being taken in to replace it, the lobule collapses.

Collapse may occur where there is no plug, if there be paralysis of the respiratory movements. This is due to the elastic recoil of the lung tissue, aided by absorption of air by the blood-vessels.

Morbid Anatomy.—The collapsed portion is shrunken, and lies at a lower level than the surrounding lung. It is at first congested, and its cut surface is dark red, smooth, and glistening; later it becomes firmer, and is dry and of a bluish-grey colour.

Symptoms.—If the collapsed area be extensive, any already existing dyspnœa is increased, the pulse becomes rapid, and there may be cyanosis; in slight cases the symptoms are merely those of the primary disease. The physical signs are sub-crepitant râles, weakened breath-sounds, and if the area be extensive, dullness and possibly tubular breathing. Collapse often occurs in measles, whooping-cough, and other conditions which give rise to broncho-pneumonia.

Treatment depends on the cause. Emetics or diffusible stimulants are indicated.

ŒDEMA OF THE LUNG

Definition.—An accumulation of serous fluid in the air vesicles, bronchioles, and interstitial tissue of the lungs.

Etiology.—Œdema is frequently associated with morbid conditions of the blood, such as Bright's disease, and the anæmic disorders. It is also common in conditions which give rise to passive congestion, such as—

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 1. Valvular disease of the heart. | } | Hypostatic congestion. |
| 2. Malignant fevers. | | |
| 3. Paralysis. | | |
| 4. Long-continued rest on the back. | | |
- It may occur after the use of pilocarpin.

Morbid Anatomy.—The lung is heavy and bulky. On pressure it pits, and a quantity of frothy blood-stained serum exudes.

Physical Signs.—The breath-sounds are deficient, and masked by fine râles. The percussion note may be resonant at first, but afterwards becomes dull at the bases. The explanation of the resonance is that a lung, when *partially collapsed*, gives forth a resonant sound, *due to diminished tension of the lung tissue*.

Symptoms.—Those of serious pulmonary embarrassment (already described under collapse of the lung), *plus* the abundant expectoration of frothy serum.

Treatment is that of the cause. Dry cupping is useful, and inhalations of oxygen may be tried. Ammonium carbonate and cardiac tonics are also indicated.

CONGESTION OF THE LUNGS

Active congestion is virtually a synonym for the early stage of inflammatory affections.

Passive congestion may be (1) mechanical, (2) hypostatic.

Mechanical congestion is due to disease or relative insufficiency of the mitral valve. The resulting engorgement of the pulmonary circulation leads to dilatation and tortuosity of the capillaries, interstitial fibrosis, and hæmorrhages into the alveoli and interstitial tissue. The lung is thus dense and resistant to the knife, and of a brownish-red colour from pigmentation (*brown induration*). The symptoms are dyspnœa, cough, and expectoration. Hæmoptysis is common, and the sputum contains alveolar cells pigmented by altered hæmoglobin. Fine moist râles are audible at the bases.

Hypostatic congestion results from long-continued lying on the back, *combined with weakened action of the heart*. It is thus common in the severer fevers, in exhausting diseases, and in cerebral palsies. It affects the dependent portions of the lung (bases), which are gorged with dark blood, sometimes to such an extent that they are airless, and sink in water (*hypostatic pneumonia*). Slight dullness at the bases, feeble respiration,

and fine moist râles are its chief signs; symptoms, in the adynamic state of the patient, may be very few.

Treatment in both conditions is mainly that of the cause. In mechanical congestion, if the engorgement is very severe and the heart much overloaded, bleeding may be necessary.

HÆMOPTYSIS AND PULMONARY INFARCTION

Hæmoptysis or spitting of blood is a symptom of many conditions, of which the most important are the following :—

1. *Phthisis pulmonalis*.
2. Other diseases of the lungs (pneumonia, cancer, and sometimes gangrene, abscess, and bronchiectasis).
3. Ulceration of any part of the respiratory tract (larynx).
4. *Affections of the mitral valve*, and aneurysm.
5. High blood-pressure in elderly people.

It may be due to injury, and severe coughing—as in bronchitis—may cause slight hæmoptysis. In rare cases it is the expression of vicarious menstruation, and it may occur in such blood diseases as purpura. It may be simulated by malingerers or in hysteria. The diagnosis between hæmoptysis and hæmatemesis has been considered at p. 199.

Pulmonary infarction is in most cases due to embolism of a branch of the pulmonary artery, but is not an invariable consequence, since, although the pulmonary vessels are end arteries, their capillaries are wide, and the bronchial arteries help to maintain the circulation. It may arise from detachment of a thrombus in cases of venous thrombosis, or of an intra-cardiac thrombus or vegetation from the right side of the heart. The infarct is a wedge-shaped mass underlying the pleura, dark red at first and airless, but later becoming whitish and finally undergoing fibrosis. The pleura over it is inflamed. Infarcts are usually multiple, and they are more common in the lower than the upper lobe. As a rule they are about the size of a walnut, but may be much larger.

The **Symptoms** are dyspnœa, pleuritic pain, and hæmoptysis, the blood being dark and blackish in colour. There may be pleuritic friction, and sometimes dullness and feeble breathing. Embolism of the main artery results in sudden death.

Treatment of Hæmoptysis.—Unless a large artery is opened, bleeding usually ceases spontaneously, and the patient should be reassured. Absolute rest and quiet, light food given cold, ice to suck, and injections of morphia and atropin suffice in the majority of cases. Inhalation of nitrite of amyl is a valuable measure. Ergot raises the intra-pulmonary blood-pressure, and may do harm. In protracted cases, saline purgatives and aromatic sulphuric acid are indicated. Adrenalin is useless.

LOBAR PNEUMONIA

An acute specific infection associated with consolidation of one or both lungs, and with symptoms of toxæmia, and usually due to the *Micrococcus lanceolatus* of Fränkel.

Lobar or croupous pneumonia is characterised pathologically by an inflammation of which the exudate is *rich in fibrin and contains large numbers of pneumococci*; and clinically by an abrupt onset, a definite course, and termination by crisis. It is usually basal, but may involve more than one lobe.

Etiology.—Croupous pneumonia is a most common affection, occurs frequently in winter and spring, and attacks all ages, though it is more frequent before the age of ten, and between twenty and fifty, than at other ages. Males are more often attacked than females, and there is a strong tendency to recurrence. Amongst the more common exciting causes are draughts, intemperance, exposure to inclement weather, or irritating gases. Pneumonia sometimes directly follows blows upon the chest. It frequently occurs in epidemic form, and its spread is favoured by insanitary conditions. It is most fatal in the aged, and those who are debilitated by alcohol or otherwise.

The Micrococcus lanceolatus or *Diplococcus pneumoniae* is a small capsulated diplococcus, sometimes arranged in chains. The free ends of the cocci are lancet-shaped. The organism is Gram-positive, and grows best on blood-serum or blood-agar. *At least four types occur, differing in virulence and in agglutinating reactions.* Other organisms occasionally found are *Friedländer's pneumobacillus*, a short capsulated rod, Gram-negative, and growing freely on ordinary agar, and various staphylococci and streptococci; but these are more definitely associated with lobular pneumonia. The pneumococcus is very commonly present in the blood as well as in the sputum. It exists in the mouth of healthy people, but outside the body it is killed by a brief exposure to sunlight.

Morbid Anatomy.—It is convenient to describe four stages, those, namely, of (1) hyperæmia or engorgement, (2) red hepatisation, (3) grey hepatisation, and (4) resolution.

First Stage: Engorgement or Splenisation.—The lung is injected, dark red, and heavy, and pits under the finger; on pressure, there exudes a frothy serum tinged with blood and slightly aerated. The lung still floats in water.

Second Stage: Red Hepatisation.—The part involved is solid and friable, presents a granular or red granite appearance, is airless, and sinks in water. The alveoli are filled with a coagulated exudation, which shows under the microscope fibrin, a few leucocytes, red corpuscles, proliferated alveolar epithelium, and pneumococci.

Third Stage: Grey Hepatisation.—The lobe has now the appearance of grey granite, the lung substance is softer and more friable; on pressure, a dirty purulent fluid exudes. The grey appearance is due to four factors—

1. Decolorisation of the red blood corpuscles.
2. Obliteration of the alveolar blood-vessels from pressure.
3. Fatty degeneration of the coagulated material.
4. Great infiltration of leucocytes.

A more advanced stage, in which the lung tissue is bathed in purulent fluid, is known as *purulent infiltration*. It is probably inconsistent with life.

Fourth Stage: Resolution.—Resolution of the inflammatory exudation is brought about principally by absorption (autolysis), but partly by liquefaction and expectoration.

Pneumonia may affect a lobe, most commonly the lower, or the whole of a lung, or it may attack both lungs. Double pneumonia occurs in about 10 per cent. of cases. Different parts of the same lung may at the same time show different stages. There is always some degree of pleural inflammation over the affected area, and when pleurisy is clinically prominent, the disease is sometimes called pleuro-pneumonia.

Moderate enlargement of the *spleen* is very common.

The **Physical Signs** show a rough correspondence with the stages of the morbid process. They are as follows:—

First Stage.—*Percussion* yields a slight dullness, but sometimes even a slight hyper-resonance (Skodaic resonance) may

be present. *Auscultation* reveals the characteristic fine crepitations, compared to the sound produced by the rubbing together of hair between the fingers. This fine crepitus is due to the separation of the sticky surfaces of the alveoli from each other. It is therefore heard towards the end of inspiration, and not during expiration.

Second Stage.—Gives the signs of consolidation, viz.—

Inspection shows diminished movement.

Palpation confirms this, and also demonstrates *increased* vocal fremitus.

Auscultation reveals the absence of vesicular breathing, but presence of typical tubular breathing. Crepitations may have entirely disappeared, or a coarser and more metallic crepitus may be heard over the consolidated area. *Vocal resonance* is increased to the pitch of bronchophony, or even whispering pectoriloquy.

Percussion yields a dull note (not absolutely so flat as in pleuritic effusion). In central pneumonia dullness may be absent for several days.

Third Stage.—This stage of grey hepatisation can scarcely be differentiated by physical examination from that of red hepatisation.

Fourth Stage or Resolution.—Here we have a speedy clearing up of the exudation, and a return to the normal condition. Small râles or *coarse* moist crepitation (*crepitus redux*) may be heard, and this returning crepitus is often audible both on inspiration and expiration. The dullness becomes less marked, and the movement of the side is increased.

Symptoms.—The incubation period is probably short. Croupous pneumonia is usually ushered in with one or more rigors, *rapid* rise of temperature, and pain localised to the affected side, plus the ordinary accompaniments of the febrile state. The pain may be at first referred to the abdominal region. The fever is continued, and its average height in the adult is about 103° or 104° F. In old people it may be comparatively slight; in very acute cases it may reach 105° or even 106°. As the disease progresses, several characteristic features develop. The pain becomes less marked, but there is greater dyspnœa, and a marked disproportion *between respiration and pulse*. The

former may be from thirty to seventy per minute, and the pulse perhaps only 110. The pulse is full but soft, easily compressible, and often dicrotic or in severe cases hyperdicrotic. The cough becomes either hacking or paroxysmal in character, and there is expectoration of the *rusty, viscid phlegm, almost pathognomonic of this condition*. The pneumonic countenance develops—*i.e.*, flushed face, malar lividity, dilated pupils, and crops of herpes around the mouth. The urine is highly febrile, *chlorides are markedly diminished*, urates increased, and albuminuria is generally present. The spleen is sometimes definitely enlarged. Between the fifth and eighth day the symptoms may *abate quite suddenly*, rapid recovery taking place; but often, instead of this happy termination, the temperature increases, or perhaps falls to subnormal, the *pulse becomes more rapid*, the tongue dry and brown, the sputum less viscid and prune-coloured, the patient falls into the typhoid state, and death takes place, most frequently from heart failure. Sometimes prolonged exhaustion, or œdema of the sound lung, brings about a fatal issue. A *pseudo-crisis* is common about the fourth or fifth day, the temperature falling rapidly to normal, but *the pulse does not fall with it*. In twenty-four hours the temperature may be as high as ever. At the true crisis, pulse and temperature fall together, usually about the eighth to the tenth day, but some cases may abort earlier. Along with the fall of temperature there is often profuse sweating, or there may be diarrhœa. In many cases lysis takes the place of crisis, and the fall of temperature is prolonged over several days.

In favourable cases there is a marked *leucocytosis*. Its absence makes the prognosis less favourable.

Special Points to Note—

1. The *viscid rusty sputum* (if it becomes prune-coloured, this is a bad sign, as suggesting the breaking down of lung tissue).
2. Marked disproportion between pulse and respiration.
3. Diminished chlorides in the urine.
4. The degree of leucocytosis.

As failure of right side of the heart is a common cause of death, special attention should be paid to the state of the pulse, and to the condition of the second sound of the heart in the pulmonary area.

Varieties.—*Double* pneumonia much increases the gravity of the prognosis. In *wandering* pneumonia, as one lobe recovers another is involved, and the disease may cross to the other side. In the alcoholic, delirium tremens is frequent, and in these cases and in the aged the onset is insidious. In *central* pneumonia physical signs may be late in appearing, but the symptoms are characteristic. In *asthenic* or *typhoid* cases toxic symptoms are prominent from the outset. *Delayed resolution* is not uncommon, even in otherwise healthy patients.

Complications.—

1. Bronchitis, pleural effusion, *empyema*, rarely gangrene of the lung.
2. Endocarditis or pericarditis ; cardiac failure is common.
3. Meningitis rarely ; oftener meningism, especially in children.
4. Jaundice.
5. In children, otitis media.
6. Abortion.

Prognosis.—There is no prognosis of pneumonia ; each case must be judged by itself. The most constant determining factors are the presence or absence of *alcoholism*, the age, and the degree of leucocytosis. The state of the heart, as already indicated, is also of importance. The second pulmonic sound is accentuated owing to obstruction to the intrapulmonary circulation ; disappearance of this accentuation before the signs of consolidation begin to diminish suggests approaching cardiac failure. Irregularity of the heart, signs of dilatation, and cyanosis are also ominous.

Treatment depends entirely on the type of case, and the condition of the patient. Routine treatment is the worst of all treatments. Answer the following questions before prescribing : Is the patient full-blooded, and is there a full bounding pulse ? Is the pulse feeble, irregular, or intermittent ?

In the first case, in a young and previously healthy adult, if there be cyanosis, or signs of dilatation of the right heart, blood-letting to the extent of a few ounces may perhaps relieve the strain, but more generally treatment should be directed to maintaining the strength from the outset.

In the latter case we can hope for nothing from a depressing treatment, so stimulants must be resorted to, such as alcohol, ammonium carbonate, egg and brandy mixture, quinine, ether, etc. The giving or withholding of alcohol depends upon its effect upon the pulse; should the pulse-rate fall and the tongue become moist it may be continued. Chronic alcoholics require free stimulation. In asthenic cases, strychnine hypodermically is necessary from the start, and normal saline may be given by the rectum or by the skin. Oxygen inhalations are used where there is cyanosis, but it is doubtful whether they have saved many lives. When there is evidence of failure of the heart (weakness of the second pulmonary sound, etc.) digitalis should be resorted to. Many prescribe it from the outset.

The diet should consist of milk, beef-tea, or broths, white of egg, and so on. The patient should be as little moved as possible, and the bed-pan must be used. Constipation must be dealt with, and in all cases the bowels should be freely opened at the beginning, preferably by a mercurial. This tends to relieve the toxæmia to which so many of the symptoms are due. As in other fevers, an airy room and good nursing are essential, and where the climate permits, open-air treatment appears to give favourable results.

Remember that narcotics are not well borne in respiratory embarrassment as a rule. Chloral should be avoided, but *if pain be excessive* a hypodermic injection of morphia does *more good* than harm, notwithstanding that theoretically morphia is contra-indicated. It should not be given later than the first few days of the illness. Paraldehyde in doses of one to two drachms (cc. 4 to 8) is safer though less effective. It may be given by the rectum to avoid its unpleasant taste. The pain may also be relieved by poultices, which, however, are of doubtful use if carelessly made, or by application of ice. Cold packs applied to the trunk only, and frequently repeated, are very useful in relieving both pain and fever. Depressant anti-pyretics are to be avoided.

A Type I. antiserum is useful in Type I. infections, but not in others; Types II. and III. antisera are without effect. The serological reactions of the causative organism must therefore be determined before serum treatment is tried. Vaccine treatment, preferably by an autogenous vaccine, is more useful in cases of delayed resolution than in the acute stage.

BRONCHOPNEUMONIA

(CATARRHAL OR LOBULAR PNEUMONIA)

Inflammation of the terminal bronchi and air vesicles.

Etiology.—The disease is often primary, but rather more frequently secondary, either to the *specific fevers*, among which measles, whooping-cough, and diphtheria are its most common precursors, or to the entrance of particles of food or of discharges into the larynx (*aspiration pneumonia*). It is most frequent in childhood, before the fifth year, but it is also common in old age as a complication of exhausting diseases. It may result from the extension of a simple bronchitis, it may be a part of tuberculous disease of the lung, or it may follow the inhalation of irritating gases. Rickets, diarrhœa, and malnutrition are predisposing causes; chill or exposure may determine an attack.

The organisms most commonly found are Friedländer's pneumobacillus, and the pyogenic staphylococci and streptococci. The pneumococcus is less common, but may be found in the primary form.

Morbid Anatomy.—The disease affects both lungs, and begins in the terminal bronchioles, spreading thence to the infundibula and alveoli. The consolidated patches have therefore a *lobular* arrangement, but if many adjacent lobules are affected the consolidation may be almost lobar. The *bronchioles* are inflamed and frequently plugged with mucus, and their walls and the surrounding interstitial tissue are infiltrated with small cells. The walls of the *air vesicles* in the consolidated area are congested, their epithelium is swollen, and their lumen is filled with proliferated epithelial cells, leucocytes, and a mucous or muco-purulent (*not fibrinous*) exudate. Many lobules are *collapsed*, but not inflamed, from plugging of the bronchioles.

When cut into, the small consolidated areas are seen to be conical in shape, with their bases towards the pleura, reddish in colour, with indefinite margins, and separated from each other by crepitant lung tissue. Adjacent lobules may be emphysematous (compensatory emphysema). The bluish-grey collapsed areas are most numerous in the lower lobes.

Symptoms.—In *primary* bronchopneumonia the onset is abrupt; in the *secondary* form the symptoms are at first merely those of bronchial catarrh; but the temperature rapidly becomes

high, and the fever is markedly oscillating, or irregularly remittent in character. The dyspnœa becomes marked, and the pulse rapid, feeble, and sometimes irregular. The face may be flushed or cyanotic. The cough is harsh, short, and painful. The sputum, which is scanty, is *never rusty*, but may be streaked with blood. The disease ends by lysis, and frequently there are recrudescences of fever after the temperature has become normal. Loss of flesh is marked, and difficulty might be experienced in diagnosing this affection from acute tuberculosis. Death often takes place from asthenia; or recovery is followed by a rather tardy and interrupted convalescence. Aspiration pneumonia is very fatal, and may go on to gangrene. If resolution is delayed, bronchopneumonia is sometimes followed by phthisis, the softening inflammatory products forming a suitable nidus for the tubercle bacillus.

Physical Signs are very uncertain. The chief signs over the consolidated areas are increased vocal resonance and fremitus, with *slight* tubular breathing and *small* moist or subcrepitant râles. There may be scattered patches of dullness, usually only relative, but seldom anything like lobar condensation. The intercostal spaces are often sucked in over the collapsed areas.

Treatment.—*Avoid lowering treatment.* The diet should be light and nourishing, and the bowels should be evacuated daily. Stimulant expectorants—ammonia, senega, and ipecacuan—are the chief drugs, and an emetic dose of ipecacuan may be needed if the tubes are blocked. Strychnine hypodermically or alcohol may be used as stimulants. Jacket poultices are very comforting, and often of much service. Immersion in a hot mustard bath for two or three minutes, during which the chest is firmly kneaded, frequently eases the respirations and lessens cyanosis. *Great care should be taken during convalescence.* Woollen clothing, cod-liver oil, hypophosphites, and malt extract, etc., must not be forgotten.

CHRONIC INTERSTITIAL PNEUMONIA

(CIRRHOSIS OR FIBROSIS OF LUNG)

An induration of the lung tissue, characterised by overgrowth of the fibrous elements, and attended clinically with symptoms of pulmonary embarrassment.

Etiology.—Interstitial pneumonia is a condition secondary to other diseases of the lung. Thus it may follow or accompany—

1. Pulmonary tuberculosis.
2. Bronchopneumonia.
3. Lobar pneumonia (very rarely).
4. Chronic pleurisy (pleurogenic cirrhosis).
5. Compression of a bronchus.

It is occasionally due to syphilis.

Morbid Anatomy.—The overgrowth of interstitial connective tissue produces the following changes :—

1. Encroachment upon and subsequent obliteration of the air vesicles.
2. Changes in the bronchial tubes, their muscular coats being replaced by fibrous tissue. The tubes subsequently yield to intra-pulmonary traction, and form bronchiectatic cavities (*see* Bronchiectasis).
3. *Obliterative changes in the smaller pulmonary and bronchial blood-vessels.*

The lung as a whole is shrunken, often enormously, airless, and hard. The opposite lung is emphysematous, and the right ventricle is hypertrophied.

Symptoms.—The disease, which is usually unilateral, runs a very chronic course. Cough and dyspnoea are the chief, and may be the only symptoms complained of for a long time. Later, the symptoms are those of bronchiectasis, or those of failure of the right heart.

Physical Signs.—The affected side is retracted, much flattened, and the intercostal spaces more or less obliterated. The percussion note will depend on the state of the bronchi, ranging from *absolute dullness to a boxy note*; indeed, in the later stages, the physical signs may be those of small cavities with extensive bronchitis. The retraction may lead to compensatory emphysema of the opposite side, dragging of the heart out of position (to the right or to the left and upwards), dragging on the great vessels, etc. Clubbing of the fingers is common.

Treatment consists in maintenance of the general condition, light employment in the open, and attention to bronchiectatic or cardiac conditions as they arise.

Pneumonokoniosis is a fibroid condition of the lung due to the inhalation of various kinds of dust. It has been recently maintained that, at all events in anthracosis, the dust may reach the lungs by way of the intestinal tract, but the work of L. Findlay shows that this is not the case. The morbid changes are very similar to those of interstitial pneumonia, but the appearance of the lung differs with the kind of dust inhaled. In *anthracosis*, due to the inhalation of carbonaceous matter (colliers), the lung is black, and the fibrosed areas are surrounded by areas of emphysema. In *silicosis*, due to inhalation of particles of stone (stonemasons, grinders, potters), the colour is a steely grey. *Siderosis* results from inhalation of oxide of iron, and so on. The main symptoms are those of bronchitis and emphysema, followed by bronchiectasis; phthisis sometimes develops at a later date.

TUBERCULOSIS OF THE LUNGS

(PHTHISIS—*φθίω*, *I waste*)

Phthisis pulmonalis may be acute or chronic. The acute form exists in two varieties, pneumonic and bronchopneumonic.

Pneumonic phthisis, which is uncommon, closely simulates lobar pneumonia, but usually attacks the upper lobe. The whole lobe or the greater part of it is solidified; miliary tubercles may be found closely aggregated, or few and scattered; there may be foci of early softening, or an old chronic lesion from which the acute process has sprung. The onset is abrupt and the signs of consolidation characteristic; there may even be rusty sputum. But the fever is slightly more fluctuant than that of pneumonia, and the usual defervescence does not occur. After some time the bacilli may be found in the sputum. The disease ends fatally within a month or two.

Bronchopneumonic phthisis (galloping consumption) has a somewhat more gradual onset, and like bronchopneumonia, may in children follow measles and whooping-cough. Both lungs are attacked, but the changes (branching areas of caseation or softening, small ragged cavities) are most advanced in the upper lobes. Dry pleurisy is constantly present. Signs of diffuse bronchitis, followed by localised (apical) dullness and friction, accompany the bronchopneumonic symptoms. The fever is hectic; sweating is free, and emaciation rapid. Tubercle

bacilli and elastic fibres are to be found in the sputum. Death takes place in a few months after the onset.

Chronic Phthisis.—The etiology of this, the most common form of pulmonary tuberculosis, is the same as that of tuberculosis in general (*see* p. 74), but infection by inhalation assumes a special prominence. The general morbid anatomy of tuberculosis has also been discussed. It remains to be noted that the first seat of the organisms is in the alveoli and terminal bronchioles, where they set up an inflammatory reaction, and that they are disseminated by the lymph stream from these foci as centres. The early changes, then, are those of peribronchitis and lobular pneumonia, and these are followed by caseation, softening, and the formation of cavities. The bronchial glands are secondarily involved, but in children they may form the primary focus from which the lungs are infected.

An area of lung tissue infected by the tubercle bacillus passes in a typical case through three main stages—(1) the stage of invasion; (2) that of consolidation; (3) that of softening and excavation. To these stages certain physical signs and clinical symptoms very roughly correspond, and in the following table the main features of a typical case are briefly summarised.

| | MORBID ANATOMY. | PHYSICAL SIGNS. | CLINICAL SYMPTOMS. |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| First stage. | 1. Invasion and lodgment of the bacilli. | Weakened breathing, prolonged expiration, cog-wheel inspiration; slight relative dullness at the affected apex. | Possibly no symptoms beyond a slight persistent cough, weakness, anorexia, etc. Fever is sometimes present. |
| Second stage. | 2. Inflammatory changes around bacilli resulting in the formation of grey tubercles. 3. Inflammatory zone around the <i>tubercles</i> . | <i>Consolidation.</i> { Diminished movement. Slight flattening. Dull note. Vocal fremitus, and Vocal resonance increased. Bronchial or tubular breathing. | Increased weakness and cough; elevation of temperature, especially in the evening; diffuse pain in chest. |
| Third stage. | 4. Commencement of breaking down. 5. Formation of cavities. | Consolidation, but attended <i>with moist sounds</i> . Flattening is marked; movement much diminished; boxy note or cracked-pot sound; whispering pectoriloquy; amphoric or cavernous breathing, plus adventitious sounds (large bubbling râles with metallic resonance, etc.). | Increase in the severity of above symptoms; there are now great emaciation, night-sweats, oscillating temperature, hæmoptysis, distressing bouts of coughing, characteristic sputum, diarrhœa. Evidence of lardaceous disease in other organs, especially <i>liver</i> . |

These three stages correspond roughly to those of the Turban-Gerhardt classification, in which Stage I. implies disease confined to a limited area at one or both apices ; Stage II., extensive consolidation of the greater part of a lobe ; and Stage III., advanced cases with more or less extensive cavitation.

It must, however, be remembered that cases differ widely in detail. For instance, the disease may begin with very marked symptoms of bronchial catarrh ; other cases again are so insidious in their onset, that the greater part of a lung may be consolidated before any severe symptoms develop. Profuse hæmoptysis may be the first symptom, or the disease may commence as a pleurisy with effusion. Fever may be present from the outset, or may be little marked until the stage of softening is advanced.

The physical signs also vary greatly. Those given above are the typical signs of damage to the elasticity of the lung, of consolidation, and of a cavity ; but such typical signs are often absent, or masked by the bronchial affection ; and the student who has a clear idea how the various sounds are produced, will learn more by the careful examination of a few cases than by a course of unassisted reading.

We shall now consider the various symptoms in detail.

Onset.—The disease usually begins in the upper lobe, slightly below the apex of the lung, by the formation of tubercles in the peribronchial tissue, but gradually deposits of tubercles form at lower levels, especially along the anterior margins. When the lower lobe is affected, the seat of invasion is near its apex, *i.e.*, about that part of the lung corresponding to the vertebral border of the scapula, when the hand of that side is hooked over the opposite shoulder, or at a point opposite the fifth dorsal spine. Owing to the peculiar manner in which the disease begins and progresses, it is possible in *one* case to get the signs of invasion of tubercle at the *base*, consolidation in the *middle*, and excavations at the *apex*.

Phthisis is at first unilateral, but when it is at all advanced the other apex is almost invariably affected.

Course.—The disease may be rapid or extremely chronic. Its course may be hastened by neglect of treatment, by its occurrence in those already predisposed, or by secondary

infections. It may, on the other hand, be arrested or hindered by—

1. Formation of fibrous tissue encapsulating the tubercles.

2. Caseation and calcification of the tubercles or tubercular debris, thus causing cavities to dry up (natural cure). Remember, however, that the disease, having become chronic, may take on a rapid form as a consequence of some inflammatory condition elsewhere, and that an apparently obsolete tuberculosis may be lit up again from a seemingly trivial cause.

Special Symptoms.—(1) *Hæmoptysis*.—The blood is bright and frothy in the early stage, but later it may be dark from stagnation or venous congestion. During the excavation stage small aneurysmal swellings on unsupported blood-vessels *may burst and cause speedy death*. Slight or even copious hæmoptysis may be the first symptom of phthisis.

(2) *Cough* is a constant symptom; at first slight, then gradually becoming hacking, paroxysmal, and painful.

(3) *Expectoration* is at first muco-purulent, but later becomes more purulent and copious. It is non-aerated, often blood-stained, and when expectorated into water spreads out into flattened circular discs like coins (*nummular sputum*). Often little grey hard pellets are present, with abundance of elastic tissue and bacilli. In the early stages, before the lung tissue has begun to break down, tubercle bacilli may be absent, or may be found only after repeated examination; in the later stages, besides the bacilli, pyogenic cocci are present. A case of phthisis begins as a pure tuberculosis, but ends as a “mixed infection.”

(4) *Pyrexia*.—At first the temperature is elevated only in the evening, but towards the end the temperature may oscillate continually between 100° and 104° F. The earlier fever is produced by the tuberculous toxins, but the later hectic disturbance results from sepsis due to the presence of pyogenic organisms in the broken-down pulmonary tissues, that is, to secondary infection. It is usually accompanied by the “hectic” flush, dilated pupils, and severe night-sweats. When night-sweats occur in the *earlier* stages, they are probably due to reflex vaso-motor disturbances *and not sepsis*.

(5) *Loss of Flesh*.—This is *generally most marked*, especially

in the later stages, and where pyrexia is prominent. There is often extreme muscular irritability (myoidema).

(6) *Anæmia* is prominent from an early stage, and in young girls phthisis should be remembered as a cause of pallor even more frequent than chlorosis.

(7) *General Appearance*.—The chest is frequently flattened, the antero-posterior diameter being short. The ribs present marked obliquity, so that the epigastric angle is acute. The angles of the scapulæ may stand out prominently from the ribs (alar chest). In the late stages there are marked clubbing of the finger-tips and curvature of the nails.

Physical Signs.—It has already been pointed out that the typical signs given in the table are often absent or masked by various overlying conditions. With regard to cavity, although its signs are typical in well-marked cases, it is often difficult to decide whether a cavity exists or not, owing to (1) its relatively small size; (2) its deep situation, relatively healthy lung intervening between it and the surface; (3) thickened pleura; (4) compensatory emphysema; (5) breath-sounds being drowned by extensive bronchitis; (6) blocking of the tubes leading to the cavity; (7) irregularity of its walls; (8) too high or too low tension in its walls.

The “cracked-pot sound” is not absolutely diagnostic; it may be heard in crying children with healthy lungs, and in some cases of pneumonia. Alteration of the pitch of the percussion note on opening the mouth (Wintrich’s sign) is sometimes present, and is of considerable value; so too is an alteration of pitch when the patient changes from the recumbent to the erect posture (Gerhardt’s sign). But, as will be seen, there are many difficulties in the recognition of a cavity, and a too exclusive reliance upon physical signs may lead to an erroneous diagnosis, as *post-mortem* examinations prove.

The early signs are more difficult of identification. A slight flattening at one apex, slight impairment of respiratory movement, and *persistently* localised râle or rhonchus are among the most important, especially when taken in conjunction with the general symptoms already mentioned. X-ray examination of the chest, although not in itself decisive in the early stages, corroborates the findings in a doubtful case. The tubercle bacillus may be absent from the sputum for long after the tuberculous process has begun.

Complications.—1. *Dry Pleurisy* is commonly present over the affected area, but it is doubtful whether it should be looked upon as a complication. As Gairdner said: "It prevents perforation of the pleura, or even obliterates the cavity between the two layers, thus preventing empyema, pneumothorax, etc. *It is a curious and beautifully conservative arrangement* that in most cases the pleuritic adhesions are often *in advance* of the actual deposit of tubercle near the surface, and still more in advance of its softening." Pleurisy with effusion is less common, but may even precede the pulmonary signs.

2. Pneumothorax, limited to the apex or general; and its sequela, pyopneumothorax. The complication is due to the sloughing of the portion of pleura overlying a superficial cavity, and the consequent escape of air and septic matters into the pleural sac.

3. Spreading of the tubercular disease to the *larynx*, meninges, peritoneum, etc.

4. *Anorexia* and *Diarrhœa*. The latter is a late symptom, and may be due to intestinal catarrh, to tuberculous ulceration of the bowel, or to amyloid disease. The two latter conditions are very intractable.

5. Amyloid disease may also, in the late stages, attack the liver and spleen.

6. Tuberculous ulceration of the bowel may lead to *hæmorrhage*, or more rarely to *perforative peritonitis*.

7. Fistula in ano.

There are many other possible complications, such as nephritis, venous thrombosis, gangrene of the lung, etc., which may occasionally present themselves. The *mental attitude* of the phthisical patient is usually optimistic almost to the end, but some cases develop melancholia and suicidal tendencies.

Fibroid Phthisis is a somewhat unusual form, in which the interstitial tissues of the lung are more implicated than the parenchyma. The morbid changes, the symptoms, and the physical signs are almost identical with those of interstitial pneumonia, the main difference being that in fibroid phthisis the tubercle bacillus is present in the sputum.

Diagnosis.—The constant presence of tubercle bacilli in the sputum is conclusive evidence of tuberculosis of the respiratory tract; but there are many cases of early phthisis in which they

are either absent or difficult to find. In such cases the following additional means of diagnosis are available :—

1. *The injection of old tuberculin* (T.O.A.) is followed by a febrile reaction in tuberculous subjects. 0·01 cc. is the initial dose ; if there is no reaction, 0·05 cc. should be injected three days afterwards, and at a similar interval 0·1 and 0·5 cc. If the reaction remains absent, the condition is not tuberculous. This method is not advisable in febrile cases, and should not in any case be used if the diagnosis can be made in other ways, as it is not entirely free from risk.

2. *The tuberculo-opsonic index* does not, in health, fall below 0·8 or rise above 1·2. Indices persistently above or below these levels point to tuberculosis.

3. *Calmette's Reaction*.—A drop of a solution of the precipitate obtained by treating tuberculin with absolute alcohol being placed in the conjunctival sac, an inflammatory reaction follows within twenty-four hours in tuberculous cases. The reaction is sometimes very severe, and if the eye itself is diseased the result may be disastrous. The test is valuable, but not infallible.

4. *Von Pirquet's Cutaneous Reaction*.—A drop of tuberculin is placed upon the surgically clean skin, which is scratched through it as in vaccination. In the tuberculous an inflammatory reaction follows. A control inoculation through sterile saline solution is made at the same time. The only drawback to this method is that the reaction occurs both in healed and in active tuberculous lesions ; it is therefore most valuable in children.

5. *Moro's percutaneous reaction* is a modification of the above, the tuberculin being rubbed up with an equal bulk of lanolin to form an ointment, which is rubbed into the skin.

The *agglutination test* is of little practical value.

It should be added that even in the absence of bacilli or of a positive result from the tuberculin tests, the diagnosis is justified and should be made when at one apex slight dullness is associated with the presence of *persistent* râles. In such cases X-ray examination is often helpful.

Treatment.—1. For the *prevention* of infection, care in the disposal of the sputum is requisite. When in the house the patient should spit into paper or rags, which should be at once burned ; outside he should carry a pocket spittoon, the contents

of which must also be burned, the spittoon itself being sterilised by boiling water.

2. *Specific Treatment*.—Opinions vary widely on the value of tuberculin in the treatment of phthisis. It does nothing to combat the mixed infections of the later stages, nor can it replace tissues already destroyed. It is contra-indicated in pyrexial cases, but in the *incipient* stage its cautious use has led to valuable results. The initial dose, where the opsonic index cannot be estimated, must be very small (as low as 0·00001 mgr. of T.R., or 0·000005 mgr. of the more recent *bacillary emulsion*). Mixed infections may be benefited by the appropriate staphylococcal or streptococcal vaccine.

Dreyer has very recently introduced a form of treatment by vaccines prepared from “defatted” tubercle bacilli. The organisms are grown upon glycerin broth, killed by formalin and then extracted with acetone. This process destroys their lipoidal envelope, removes their acid-fastness, and renders them Gram-negative. In this condition they come more readily into contact with the body cells, and evoke the formation of antibodies more efficiently than organisms not so treated. The results of this form of vaccine treatment have been uniformly successful in infected rabbits and guinea-pigs, and though the number of cases of human tuberculosis treated in this way is as yet limited, the method appears to be one of much promise.

Serum treatment has not proved successful.

3. If specific treatment is employed, it must not supersede, but aid, the more ordinary measures. The most important of these is FRESH AIR. By day the consumptive should be, short of actual fatigue, as much as possible in the open, and at night the windows should be widely open top and bottom. Where there is fever he must keep to bed; but when possible the bed should be outside, and where that is not possible, the windows must remain open in presence of fever or any other acute symptom. In ordinary circumstances he should sleep alone. A stuffy bedroom with several people in it means rapid deterioration for the patient, and infection for the rest. *Sanatorium treatment*, though except in incipient cases it often fails to cure, produces marked improvement in the majority of cases which are not too far advanced. By its means the disease is reduced to a quiescent stage, and it trains the patient in the habits he must afterwards continue.

4. *Climatic Treatment*.—Under this heading are included long sea voyages and change of residence. Sea voyages undoubtedly do good in many cases of early phthisis, the comparative sterility of the air contributing to the result; but no consumptive who is not a good sailor should be sent on such a voyage, nor anyone who is unable to travel in comparative comfort, or who must travel alone. In the later stages sea voyages are contra-indicated. If change of climate is decided upon, the place selected should be sunny, and should give facilities for the open-air life. Either a dry cold climate may be chosen or a warm one, according to circumstances. In the earlier stages cold dry air is best, the climates of Davos, New Mexico, and Canada offering examples. High altitudes are, however, unsuitable for those with a tendency to hæmoptysis. In the later stages, and especially where there is much emaciation, warm climates, like those of Madeira, Algiers, Torquay, or Bournemouth are more suitable. Remember that it is sheer cruelty to send a patient far advanced in phthisis away from home and friends, only too frequently to die among strangers.

5. Adjuvants to the open-air treatment are *exercise* and *dietetic treatment*. The consumptive should wear wool or flannel next the skin, but should not be overloaded with heavy clothes. Tepid baths, followed by brisk rubbing, are of benefit, and much good is done in afebrile cases by carefully graduated exercise, which promotes a regulated auto-inoculation. The food must be nourishing and varied, and ample in quantity, systematic overfeeding indeed being advocated by many. Everything must be done to combat the very common anorexia and dyspepsia.

6. *Medicinal treatment* is (a) general, and (b) symptomatic.

(a) *General*.—Creosote or guaiacol, cod-liver oil, maltine, and tonics, such as the hypophosphites and *arsenic*, are the principal remedies. Many newer forms of treatment—nascent iodine, emetine (for pulmonary hæmorrhage), etc.—have been introduced in recent years, but their value is not yet sufficiently tested.

(b) *Symptomatic*.—The following symptoms call for special treatment:—

(1) *The Cough*.—As this is a persistent and constant feature of the disease, avoid rushing at once to cough mixtures. A

common exciting cause of the nightly cough is the changing from a warm room to a cold bedroom ; or again, tickling of the fauces by the uvula. A useful combination is that of morphia, spirits of chloroform, and dilute hydrocyanic acid. For laryngeal and bronchial irritation, inhalations of tincture of benzoin or creosote are of much value.

(2) The *Night-sweats*.—Picrotoxin, aromatic sulphuric acid, atropin, and oxide of zinc are the favourite remedies. Atropin gr. $\frac{1}{100}$ to $\frac{1}{80}$ (grm. 0·00065-0·0008) in pill at night, is the most reliable.

(3) The *diarrhœa* is usually best controlled by mineral astringents, in combination with opium.

(4) *Fever* should be treated by rest, fresh air, quinine, and cold sponging, or, if need be, the cold bath. Antipyrin, etc., may be occasionally used.

(5) Pleuritic pain may be relieved by blistering, mustard leaves, or liniment of iodine. The pain at the outset of pneumothorax may require morphia.

Hæmoptysis has already been considered.

In cases which fail to improve under ordinary treatment, and in which the disease is either limited to one lung or the opposite lung is only slightly affected, much benefit often results from the establishment of an *artificial pneumothorax*, nitrogen gas being introduced into the pleural cavity by means of a trocar. The object is to produce collapse of the lung, and so to obtain for it the absolute rest which the respiratory movements forbid. The gas is at first rapidly absorbed, and hence must be reintroduced at increasing intervals. Symptoms in favourable cases are rapidly improved, connective-tissue proliferation takes place in the affected lung, and the tuberculous lesions may become obsolete. The pneumothorax must be maintained for one or two years, after which it may be abolished by permitting absorption of the gas.

For the treatment of complications, *see* Pneumothorax, Pleurisy, etc.

GANGRENE AND ABSCESS OF THE LUNG

Gangrene may arise as a rare consequence of any of the inflammatory affections of the lung, from the putrefaction of the contents of a cavity, bronchiectatic or phthisical, from the

invasion of the lung by disease of neighbouring organs, and from a septic or more rarely a simple embolism of the pulmonary artery. It is very apt to follow aspiration pneumonia.

Gangrene may be either diffuse or localised. In the latter and commoner case the gangrenous area, usually in the lower lobe, is sharply marked off from the surrounding tissue, which is inflamed and œdematous. It is of a greenish-brown colour, and rapidly softens, forming a ragged cavity. The pleura may slough, when pyopneumothorax follows.

The *symptoms* occur in the course of other pulmonary diseases. Intense fœtor of the breath; a sputum which is also intensely fœtid, contains fragments of stinking lung tissue, and on standing separates into three layers; moderate fever, prostration, and rapid pulse are the most noteworthy. There may be signs of cavity.

Abscess may also follow inflammation (most commonly aspiration pneumonia), operations on the throat, purulent affections of the throat or nose, and cancer of the œsophagus. Metastatic abscesses, which are not clinically recognisable, occur in pyæmia. Hydatid cysts or abscesses of the liver may perforate into the lung.

An aggravation of existing symptoms, a hectic type of fever, the physical signs of a large cavity, and an offensive sputum containing *abundance of elastic tissue* are the chief characteristics.

In either of these states *treatment* consists mainly in anti-septic inhalations and support of the strength. With definite evidence of a cavity surgical measures may be attempted.

TUMOURS OF THE LUNG

Carcinoma is the most common form, but endothelioma and sarcoma also occur.

Primary cancer of the lung is very rare. The secondary variety occurs in the form of either dense, hard, irregular nodules, or soft (medullary) masses, scattered throughout the lung tissue. The original sources are mostly—

1. Cancer of the bronchial glands, which spreads inwards at the root of the lung; or
2. Cancer of the liver, which invades the diaphragm and finally the pleura and lung.

Either of these may arise from an evident primary focus, as, for example, cancer of the breast, œsophagus, or stomach. But in many cases the primary focus is not evident during life.

Symptoms are insidious and varied. Pleuritic pain, cough, dyspnœa, and a blood-stained spit, which may be like red-currant jelly, are the chief. Pressure symptoms are also common. *Physical signs* are those of consolidation or of fluid effusion. Dullness due to consolidation may be combined with feeble breathing from pressure on the bronchus.

Diagnosis.—When there is evidence of malignant mischief elsewhere, *marked pulmonary symptoms point to the invasion of the lung*. Even in the absence of such evidence, signs of increasing consolidation or pleural effusion, occurring after middle life in a previously healthy person, and accompanied by rapid wasting, are very suggestive of the nature of the disease. X-ray examination may assist the diagnosis. The disease is usually fatal in about six months from the onset of symptoms.

IV. DISEASES OF THE PLEURA

PLEURISY AND EMPYEMA

Inflammation of the pleural membranes may be primary or secondary, acute or chronic, dry or accompanied by effusion.

Etiology.—1. The so-called primary or idiopathic pleurisy has been shown to be, in most instances, of tuberculous origin. Certain cases arise apparently from *chill*, but even in these, tuberculous affections of the lung may subsequently develop.

2. Secondary pleurisy may arise from numerous causes :—

- (a) Pneumonia or pneumococcal infection.
- (b) Various specific fevers (particularly *rheumatism* and scarlet fever) and septic diseases.
- (c) The final stages of chronic diseases (cirrhosis of the liver, Bright's disease, cancer, etc.).
- (d) Irritation from aneurysms of the aorta, or from tumours of the lung or mediastinal glands, etc.
- (e) Traumatism, and rupture of abscesses into the pleura.

Chill is a frequent determining cause.

The organisms usually found in pleurisy are the pneumococcus, streptococcus, and tubercle bacillus.

Morbid Anatomy.—The following stages may be distinguished :—

1. *Hyperæmia*.—Loss of lustre ; the membrane is dry and red.

2. *Exudation* of fibrin, which coagulates, and gives a shaggy appearance to the membranes. In dry or plastic pleurisy the process goes no further. The fibrin-covered surfaces adhere, and the adhesions permanently obliterate the cavity, though in some cases complete resolution may occur. Dry pleurisy is usually localised.

3. *Fluid Effusion*.—The exudate is sero-fibrinous, and yellowish-green in colour, with floating flakes of lymph. The specific gravity is 1010-1020 ; the albuminous fluid coagulates on boiling ; and it also contains a large amount of fibrin. It may be hæmorrhagic in tuberculous or malignant pleurisy.

4. *Resolution*, with more or less extensive permanent *adhesions*. In some instances, instead of resolving, the effusion becomes purulent, constituting an empyema. Pneumococcal pleurisies are usually purulent from the first.

Effects of the Effusion.—If large, it produces grave symptoms by pressure on the lung tissue and viscera near it.

1. It causes collapse of a portion, or sometimes the whole of the lung. (The lung naturally *tends* to collapse, by virtue of its own elasticity.)

2. In pleurisy of the left side the heart is often displaced to the right.

3. In extreme cases the heart, great vessels, and mediastinum are pushed to the *opposite side*.

4. The thorax bulges *forward*, and the liver or spleen are displaced *downwards*. The intercostal spaces may be slightly distended, and the diaphragm much embarrassed.

Absorption occurs in many cases in from ten days to three weeks. If the fluid is unusually slow of absorption, suspect empyema.

Symptoms.—Pleurisy is ushered in by—

1. Slight or repeated chills ; rigor is uncommon.
2. Rapid ascent of temperature (which is not so high as in pneumonia).
3. Lancinating, tearing pain in the side, rendered worse by *any respiratory act*. The pain may be referred to the epigastric or umbilical region.

As the disease advances, and effusion takes place, the severe pain becomes replaced by dyspnœa. The patient lies on the affected side to give the sound lung more freedom. The respirations are hurried, the pulse quickened, and the cough is hacking in character ; the sputum is, however, slight in amount, mucoid in character, and *never rusty*, unless pneumonia exists as a complication.

Physical Signs.—1. *Stage of Fibrinous Exudation*

- (1) Auscultation reveals the characteristic friction rub, synchronous with the respiratory movements, usually leathery-creaking in character, but sometimes musical, like the sound produced by rubbing a pane of glass with a moist finger.
- (2) Palpation may yield friction fremitus.

2. *Stage of Effusion.*

A. Over the *affected area*—

- (1) Absence or diminution of breath sounds.
- (2) Absence or diminution of vocal resonance and fremitus.
- (3) Absolute dullness on percussion, and board-like resistance.
- (4) Diminished movement, and bulging of the lower intercostal spaces.

The upper boundary of the area of dullness is horizontal, falling, however, about an inch from the angle of the ribs to the spine, and sometimes slightly higher in the mid-axillary than the scapular line. Since the complementary pleural sinus extends beyond the normal limits of the lung, the area of dullness also extends beyond these limits. On the left side it invades the crescentic space of Traube, and this forms a useful distinction between the dullness due to pleurisy and that due to pneumonia.

B. *Just above the line of effusion.*

Here there is a small area where the voice is transmitted

through (1) slightly *condensed* lung, and (2) a *thin* layer of effusion. This gives rise to a peculiar modification of the voice, termed *œgophony*—compared by some writers to the bleating of a goat.

C. Over the lung above the effusion.

The signs will depend on the amount of pressure.

Usually they are as follows :—

Inspection.—Diminished movement.

Palpation.—Vocal fremitus increased. Vocal resonance increased to the extent of bronchophony.

Percussion.—“Skodaic resonance,” due to relaxation of the partially compressed lung tissue.

If the amount of fluid is only moderate, the breath sounds may not be entirely absent, but they are always weakened. In such cases there may be a slightly tubular quality, due to collapse of the lung tissue around the *patent* tubes.

Grocco's sign is the presence of a triangular area of dullness close to the spine, and at the base of the lung *on the opposite side*. The apex of the triangle points upwards, and its base may be from 2 to 5 cm. wide. It is said to be due to displacement of the mediastinum by the fluid.

Signs of displacement of the organs may also be found :—

1. Altered position of the apex beat, and displacement of the cardiac dullness to right or left according as the pleurisy is left- or right-sided.
2. Ensiform cartilage pushed aside.
3. Liver pushed downwards.

Course.—The fever subsides by *lysis*, sometimes within a week, sometimes not for three weeks. Absorption of the fluid is slow, and as it disappears, friction may once more be heard. The prognosis is favourable in uncomplicated pleurisy, but where there is extreme effusion, *sudden death* from syncope may take place as the result of pressure on the heart, or displacement of the great vessels. In a certain proportion of cases the fluid becomes purulent (empyema), and this may be indicated by such signs as—

1. Persistence of fever, which becomes hectic in type. It should, however, be remembered that pus may be present in the pleural cavity without any rise of temperature.

2. Rigors.
3. Night-sweats.
4. Leucocytosis.

The only certain indication is gained from exploratory puncture.

Diagnosis.—The examination of the cellular contents of the fluid (*cytodiagnosis*) may help to determine the character of the pleurisy. In tuberculous pleurisies these cells are largely lymphocytes, while polymorphonuclear cells prevail in simple inflammations. It is not common to find tubercle bacilli in the exudate of a tuberculous pleurisy. For the diagnosis from pneumonia, *see* the table on p. 426, and from hydrothorax, *see* p. 430.

Empyema.—The main points of note in connection with purulent pleurisy are the following :—

1. Whilst an empyema is frequently due to the *pleuritic effusion* becoming purulent, it may be *primary*—*i.e.*, purulent from the beginning.
2. When pleurisy is a *sequela* or *complication of the infective fevers or pyæmic state*, it nearly always becomes purulent.
3. If pleurisy is a result of pneumonia, it is usually *purulent from the start*.
4. In old empyema the ribs undergo the following changes :
 - (1) A crowding together of the lower ribs.
 - (2) Absorption of a portion of rib (atrophy) with a deposit of new bone (hypertrophy), giving the rib on section a Δ appearance—*i.e.*, atrophy at the apex and hypertrophy at the base.
5. *Leucocytosis* is constant in empyema, and there are usually symptoms of sepsis.
6. The prognosis is much more unfavourable.
7. In empyema, untreated by the surgeon, *pus may burrow in any direction*, the empyema perforating, for example, into the pericardium or œsophagus, or through the diaphragm. It usually ruptures into the lung, but occasionally it may open externally. In a few cases natural cure by absorption takes place.

Hæmorrhagic Pleurisy.—In pleurisy due to malignant disease, tuberculosis, or cachectic states, the exudate may be hæmorrhagic.

Diagnostic Table
(MODIFIED FROM F. ROBERTS)

| | BRONCHITIS. | CROUPOUS PNEUMONIA. | BRONCHOPNEUMONIA. | PLEURISY. | ACUTE PHTHISIS. |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|
| 1. Mode of invasion. | Coryza, and other symptoms of "cold." No marked rigors, but only slight and repeated chills, if any. | One or more severe rigors. Often vomiting. | Generally after bronchitis, or collapse, and without distinct rigors. | Frequently none, but sometimes several, not severe rigors. | Follows pneumonia, bronchitis, or bronchopneumonia, or begins with severe rigors, often repeated. |
| 2. Sensations about the chest. | Soreness, heat, etc., behind the sternum. Muscular pains from cough. | Pain in the side at first, not stitch-like, but more dull and diffused. | Pains about the chest, but not specially localised. | Severe stitch-like pain in side, increased on respiratory movements. | Generally pains in various parts of the chest. |
| 3. Cough. | In paroxysms, often severe. | Hacking, or in paroxysms. | Short, hacking, and painful. | Slight, and patient tries to repress it. | Frequent and violent fits. |
| 4. Expectoration. | Abundant, mucous, mucopurulent, etc., changing its characters as the case progresses. | Considerable; viscid, tenacious, "rusty." | Often less than before; not "rusty." | Absent, or very slight, and of no special characters. | Abundant, perhaps purulent, or nummulated; often streaked with blood. |
| 5. Disturbance of breathing. | Sense of dyspnoea, in proportion to the extent of the disease; may be extreme. Pulse-respiration ratio not proportionately altered. | Very rapid breathing, and much perversion of pulse-respiration ratio, but not proportionate feeling of dyspnoea until the later stages, when dyspnoea is marked. | Rapidity of breathing increased when it occurs in bronchitis; dyspnoea may be marked. | Quick, shallow breathing at first, but less disturbance of pulse-respiration ratio than in pneumonia. Later on, more or less actual dyspnoea according to the amount of pressure. | Great dyspnoea, and very hurried breathing. |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| 6. Degree of pyrexia. | Often absent or slight, and temperature rarely above 100°-102° F. Skin moist. | Considerable; temperature usually high, 103°, 104°, 105° F., or more, and runs a regular course. Skin peculiarly hot and dry. | Temperature high, but there are considerable remissions, at irregular intervals. | No regularity in course of temperature. Skin not acridly hot. | Often very high, but no regularity in temperature, <i>i.e.</i> , oscillates, but usually higher in evening. |
| 7. Aspect of patient, and general condition. | Tendency to cyanosis, if the disease be extensive. In some cases adynamic symptoms. | Marked flushing of face, often unilateral. <i>Malair</i> cyanosis. Herpes round mouth. | Face is flushed. Often much anxiety and restlessness, with loss of flesh and strength. | Nothing special. No particular prostration, or tendency to cyanosis unless dyspnoea becomes marked. | Severe prostration and weakness, with profuse night-sweats. |
| 8. Physical signs. | Various râles and bronchial fremitus. Signs of obstruction of bronchial tubes. More or less bilateral. | At first, fine crepitations, followed by signs of consolidation, <i>viz.</i> , diminished movement, diminished vocal fremitus, dullness, bronchial or tubular breathing, increased vocal resonance, etc. Usually one base is affected. The side is not notably enlarged, nor is there displacement of organs. | There may be signs of consolidation in scattered spots, with râles. Both lungs are usually involved in irregularly scattered patches. | At first friction-sound or fremitus, succeeded by signs of fluid, <i>viz.</i> , side often enlarged, movements interfered with, diminished vocal fremitus, dullness occasionally movable, weak or suppressed breathing. Usually on one side, and often displacement of organs. | At first merely signs of bronchitis, followed by consolidation, softening, or excavations in different parts. There is frequently nothing but scattered râles in very acute cases. |
| 9. Course and termination. | Variable. No crisis. Tendency to death by apnoea or cardiac failure. | (1) Often a marked crisis from fifth to eighth day; (2) death; (3) gangrene of lung; (4) abscess of lung. | No crisis, and course often prolonged. | No crisis, and course very variable. | Generally very rapid course, and fatal termination. |

Treatment.—In *dry pleurisy* relieve pain by a blister, or if need be by morphia. In *pleurisy with effusion*, fever diet and a free purge are necessary at the outset. Pain may be relieved by morphia or Dover's powder, leeches, or strapping the affected side to restrict its movements. If the exudate is only moderate in amount, an attempt may be made to promote absorption by the daily administration of a concentrated solution of magnesium sulphate (Matthew Hay), of which $\bar{3}\text{iv}$ to $\bar{3}\text{vi}$ (grm. 16.0-24.0) may be given before breakfast in $\bar{3}\text{ij}$ (cc. 60) of hot water. The free purgation induced may, however, prove exhausting to weakly patients, in whom alkaline diuretics may be substituted with advantage. Externally, liniment of iodine is often used, but inunction of mercurial ointment is more effectual. During convalescence, nourishing diet and tonics, such as arsenic or the hypophosphites, should be employed, and respiratory exercises should be begun early to aid expansion of the lung.

If the fluid is not rapidly absorbed (within two or at most three weeks), it should be removed by a trocar and cannula, or by aspiration. If the fluid reaccumulates, the operation may be repeated. If it is too long delayed, the subsequent expansion of the lung may be unsatisfactory. The chest should be tapped *at once* if there are signs of serious pressure on the heart or interference with breathing, and always if the dullness reaches the level of the second rib in front.

The treatment of *empyema* is surgical, and consists in free drainage. After the operation the appropriate bacterial vaccine may promote healing.

PNEUMOTHORAX

Pneumothorax means the presence of air in the pleural cavity.

Etiology.—1. Traumatism, such as punctured wounds, laceration from the end of a broken rib.

2. Causes from the lung side—

- (1) *Breaking down of a subpleural tuberculous focus* leading to undermining and perforation of the pleura.
- (2) Gangrene or abscess of the lung.
- (3) Rupture of an empyema into a bronchus.
- (4) Rupture of emphysematous air vesicles.

The opening may be small or large, and may remain patent or rapidly heal up. In the latter case the air is absorbed.

Symptoms.—The symptoms of pneumothorax depend largely upon the manner in which it was produced, and the quantity of air present. They may be summed up as follows:—

1. *Sudden* pain at the time of rupture, with or without collapse.
2. Great dyspnœa.
3. Quick and small pulse.
4. Shallow and rapid breathing.

In many cases of advanced tuberculosis, the symptoms, owing to limiting adhesions, or to extensive disease of the lung, are not very urgent, and dyspnœa is not marked.

Physical Signs.—*Inspection.*—Bulging may be local or general on the affected side.

Percussion usually yields a hyper-resonant or tympanitic note. If the valve-like opening be patent, a typical cracked-pot sound can be elicited.

Palpation.—Absence of vocal fremitus.

Auscultation.—Absence of breath-sounds. On coughing, the sounds produced are peculiarly amphoric and have a metallic ring. If the chest be struck with two coins whilst listening with the stethoscope, the characteristic bell or anvil sound is heard.

In a left-sided pneumothorax the heart may be displaced to the right, or the cardiac dullness may even be obliterated, the complementary pleural sinus being distended by air and intervening between the heart and the chest wall.

The admission of air into the pleural cavity implies the admission of organisms. Inflammatory changes are thus set up, and an effusion, either sero-fibrinous (*hydropneumothorax*) or purulent (*pyopneumothorax*), is the consequence.

Hydropneumothorax.—A condition where air is present above and fluid below in the pleural cavity. The physical signs are, in the upper part, those already described as diagnostic of pneumothorax, plus *hippocratic succussion* (the term applied to the splashing sound heard on shaking the patient), and below, those diagnostic of fluid already discussed under pleurisy.

Pyopneumothorax means the presence of air and pus in the pleural cavity. The physical signs are the same as those of hydropneumothorax.

Treatment.—Subdue the pain by a hypodermic injection of morphia, or by hot poultices. Meet the shock by diffusible stimulants, etc. Paracentesis is sometimes of value, if the air is confined in the pleura under high pressure. Pyopneumothorax may be treated by incision if the lung is only slightly affected. Where there is advanced pulmonary disease, incision is not indicated.

HYDROTHORAX

Hydrothorax, or dropsy of the pleura, is a term used to denote the effusion of fluid into the pleural cavity as the result of a passive exudation. It is generally due to Bright's disease, but may be of cardiac origin, and sometimes occurs in the grave anæmias.

The main points of difference between it and inflammatory effusion (pleurisy) are—

1. It is not preceded by acute symptoms of inflammation, therefore *friction is absent*.
2. It is usually bilateral.
3. The fluid gravitates with movements of the patient to a far greater extent (like ascites).
4. It is associated with signs of dropsy elsewhere.
5. Pain is absent, but dyspnœa may be greater than in pleurisy.
6. There are other signs of cardiac or renal disease, and the treatment depends upon the primary condition.

V. DISEASES OF THE MEDIASTINUM

MEDIASTINAL TUMOURS

These not very common growths are most frequent in the male, between the ages of thirty and forty. Sarcoma and carcinoma both occur, but the latter is always secondary. Sarcomata or lymphosarcomata originate in the lymphatic glands, connective tissue, or remains of the thymus. The anterior mediastinum is the most common seat.

Symptoms are mainly those of pressure, the onset being insidious. There may be dyspnœa from pressure on the trachea or bronchi, cyanosis and unilateral or bilateral *œdema* of the head and arms from pressure on the large veins, distension of the external jugulars and superficial veins of the chest, pressure on the recurrent laryngeal (paralysis of the left cord), sympathetic (unequal pupils), or vagus (rapid pulse). Brassy cough is frequent, and there may be some pain in the chest, irregular fever, and emaciation. Dullness over the manubrium is the chief physical sign, but pleural effusion may appear at any time, the heart may be displaced, and the cervical glands may be enlarged.

The *diagnosis* from aneurysm is often difficult, but there are no abnormal auscultatory phenomena, pulsation is absent, and pain is less. A case in which the symptoms have lasted over a year is unlikely to be a tumour.

The outlook is hopeless, and relief of symptoms is all that can be attempted.

DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS

EXAMINATION OF THE URINE

THE examination of the urine in disease is of great importance. Whenever possible, a specimen *of the urine passed in the twenty-four hours should be used*, as the urine is richer in certain constituents at certain parts of the day. Observe—

1. *Quantity*.—Normal, 45-52 ounces (1300-1500 cc.).

2. *Specific Gravity*.—Normal, 1015-1025. If above 1025, test for sugar. The total amount of solids per 1000 parts may be roughly estimated by multiplying the last two figures of the specific gravity by 2.33.

3. *Odour*.—The normal odour is slight but characteristic. It becomes ammoniacal when the urine decomposes. It is honey-like when sugar is present, suggestive of chloroform in the presence of acetone, and like that of violets after the administration of turpentine.

4. *Reaction* is normally acid, except after meals, when it may be temporarily neutral or alkaline from the salts of the food. The acidity may increase for a few hours after the urine is passed; later, the reaction becomes alkaline from ammoniacal decomposition.

5. *Colour*.—Normal, pale straw to dark amber.

(1) If red, or reddish-brown, or smoky, suspect the presence of blood, and search for blood-corpuscles; test with guaiacum and ozonic ether, and, if necessary, examine with the spectroscope.

(2) If greenish or yellowish-brown, suspect the presence of bile pigment; observe the colour of the froth; test for bile pigment and bile acids.

(3) If pale, in large quantity, and of a specific gravity over 1025, test for sugar.

The colour may be yellow or orange from santonin or rhubarb, and green or black from carbolic acid.

6. *Deposit*.—Allow the urine to settle in a cylindrical or conical glass, and a cloud of mucus invariably forms. It is always light, and moves easily with the fluid.

A deposit of urates is common in concentrated acid urines. It is usually of a brick-dust colour, and moves easily when the vessel is inclined.

A deposit of earthy phosphates, in neutral or alkaline urines, has usually a white or dirty-white appearance, and is somewhat heavy.

Oxalates form a white dust on the surface of other sediments (powdered-wig deposit).

If the deposit is dense and slimy, it probably contains much pus.

If the urine is milky on passing, it is usually due to deposit of the earthy phosphates. This condition is common after a full meal, especially after much vegetable food; the urine in such a case is usually neutral or alkaline. Do not mistake this deposit for pus, nor confound *earthy* phosphates with the crystalline triple phosphates, or with urates. Urates are usually brick-red, redissolve on heating or on the addition of alkali, and are insoluble in acids; earthy phosphates are white or milky, do not dissolve on heating or on the addition of alkali, and are soluble in acids.

Urea.—The quantitative test for urea is of great importance, for by comparing the amount of nitrogenous material taken in with the amount of urea passed, we are enabled to gauge the state of metabolism in the body. Urea is increased during active metabolism, as in fevers, and also in diabetes mellitus and insipidus, and in chronic gout. It is decreased upon a scantily nitrogenous or non-nitrogenous diet, in all conditions which lower the metabolic functions, in Bright's disease, especially its chronic forms, in degenerative affections of the liver, in persistent vomiting or diarrhoea, and the later stages of acute febrile diseases. It must not be forgotten, however, that the formation of urea may be for a time excessive, and yet the excess may not appear in the urine through inability of the kidneys to excrete it.

Volumetric estimation of urea by the hypobromite process depends on the fact that the solution of sodium hypobromite decomposes urea into CO_2 , N, and H_2O . The CO_2 combines

with the free soda, and nitrogen, therefore, is the only gas given off. One gramme of urea by this method yields 371 cc. of nitrogen, therefore 37.1 nitrogen equals 1 decigramme of urea. If we measure the amount of N given off from a known quantity of urine, we can then calculate the total amount of urea passed daily.

The *ureameter of Doremus* is a U-tube of which the longer limb is graduated, while a bulb is blown on the shorter limb. The longer limb and half the bulb being filled with hypobromite solution, 1 cc. of urine, freed if need be from albumin by boiling and filtration, is drawn into a graduated pipette capped by a rubber teat. The curved lower end of the pipette is then passed through the hypobromite in the bulb, until its point is directly under the vertically placed longer limb of the tube. The urine is then slowly expelled, and the nitrogen given off rises to the upper end of the graduated arm. After the tube has stood for half an hour, the amount of urea corresponding to the nitrogen is read off upon the scale.

Hinds's modification of this instrument dispenses with the pipette, the urine being allowed to flow through a stopcock directly into the long arm of the tube. Loss of nitrogen is thereby avoided, and the estimation is quite sufficiently accurate for clinical purposes.

On an ordinary mixed diet, with an average amount of exercise, the daily excretion of urea for a man in good health varies between 25 and 40 grm., the average amount being about 33 grm. (500 grains). This corresponds with a proteid intake of about 120 grm. But a much lower excretion with a lower proteid intake is perfectly consistent with good health, and, as has been seen, the daily excretion is much diminished in vegetarians.

The *urea concentration test* is now commonly used for determining the activity of the functions of the kidney. After the patient has emptied his bladder, he swallows a dose of 15 grm. urea dissolved in 100 cc. water. He passes urine an hour afterwards, and again an hour later. The percentage of urea is estimated in each specimen. If the percentage is above two, the renal efficiency is considered good; if much below that figure, the renal efficiency is impaired. The test has obvious bearings on those conditions of albuminuria in which there is no other indication of renal disease, and upon conditions in

which, from arteriosclerosis and cardiac hypertrophy, renal insufficiency might be suspected.

Other tests for renal insufficiency—the diastatic reaction, the various dye tests—are ambiguous in their results.

Uric acid appears in the urine to the extent of 7-12 grains (grm. 0.5-0.8) daily, combined with soda, etc., as urates. It is derived from the nucleins of the food, and in part from those set free in the body by the metabolism of the cells. It is much increased by an abundant meat diet, in acute febrile diseases, in conditions embarrassing the respiration or circulation, in diseases of the liver or spleen, and in gout after the paroxysm. It occurs as a deposit in very acid urines, and then presents the appearance of minute refractile granules, crystalline even to the naked eye, reddish or like cayenne pepper in colour, and separately studding the bottom of the urine glass. With a lens their crystalline and refractile character is still more evident.

The main test for the presence of uric acid is the *murexide test*. Place five drops of urine in a porcelain capsule, and add one drop of nitric acid. Evaporate *gently* nearly to dryness. Add a small drop of ammonia; a purple colour, due to murexide or purpurate of ammonia, develops.

Volumetric estimation is of no clinical value.

Chlorides.—The amount of *chlorine* excreted daily is equal to about 100 grains, chiefly in combination with soda.

Test.—Solution of silver nitrate, preceded by acidulation with nitric acid, gives a white curdy precipitate of chloride of silver.

The chlorides are markedly diminished in all cases of croupous or fibrinous inflammations; this is particularly the case in croupous pneumonia.

Sulphates.—Sulphates, of which the total daily excretion is from 1.5-3 grm., appear in two forms in the urine, in combination with potassium, sodium, and magnesium as alkaline sulphates, these constituting by far the larger proportion, and as aromatic or ethereal sulphates not precipitable by barium chloride as the alkaline sulphates are. In the ethereal sulphates the sulphuric acid is combined with an alkaline base and also with one of the aromatic bodies—skatol, indol, etc.—derived from proteid decomposition taking place principally in the intestines, but also in the tissues. The sulphates as a whole are increased in fever; the ethereal

sulphates are increased by the administration of phenol and similar substances as drugs, and by the occurrence of putrefactive changes in the body—abscess formation, or conditions causing retention of the intestinal contents, such as constipation, peritonitis, or intestinal obstruction. A rough means of determining the amount of the ethereal sulphates consists in precipitating the alkaline sulphates by adding to the urine an equal quantity of alkaline barium chloride solution, filtering, strongly acidulating the filtrate with hydrochloric acid, and heating to near boiling point. This decomposes the ethereal sulphates which are precipitated in the inorganic form. If in normal amount the precipitate is merely a white cloudiness; if in excess the precipitate is dense.

Phosphates.—The total amount of phosphates excreted daily is from 2-3.5 grm. The tests for the earthy phosphates have already been mentioned; that for the alkaline phosphates is precipitation by uranium nitrate. For the characters of the crystalline phosphates, *see* p. 441.

Albumin.—The tests for albumins depend on their coagulability by heat and precipitation by nitric acid, picric acid, or other acids. The most convenient and reliable tests are—

1. *Heller's Test.*—Put a little nitric acid in a test-tube, let the urine, filtered if necessary, flow on to its surface, and a white ring of coagulated albumin appears at the junction of the two fluids. If the albumin is abundant, it appears quickly; if there is only a trace of albumin, its appearance may be delayed for two or three minutes.

But nitric acid in the cold also precipitates *proteoses*; these are distinguished from albumin by the precipitate dissolving when heated and returning when cooled. Resins are also precipitated by nitric acid, but redissolve on adding alcohol.

In using Heller's test, remember that the addition of nitric acid to undiluted urine may cause a precipitate of *uric acid*; this, however, is always very scanty, and the microscope shows crystals. Further, if the urine be very concentrated, the addition of nitric acid may cause a precipitate of nitrate of urea, but its appearance is very different from that of the flocculent precipitate of coagulated albumin. Nitrate of urea is not thrown down when the urine is diluted before adding the acid.

2. Boil the urine in a test-tube. A flaky precipitate falls

which may be albumin, or if the urine is only faintly acid, phosphates. Phosphates are redissolved on acidulating with acetic acid; albumin is not.

Picric acid and salicyl-sulphonic acid are also used as tests. Picric acid precipitates, besides albumin, proteoses, uric acid, creatinin, and alkaloids; salicyl-sulphonic acid precipitates only albumin and proteoses.

Of all these tests, salicyl-sulphonic acid is probably the most delicate and the least open to fallacies, but in any doubtful case more than one test should be used.

3. *The quantitative test* may be roughly performed by Esbach's albuminimeter; but since picric acid is the reagent used, it should be remembered that *all the proteids* in the urine, other than albumin, are thereby precipitated.

METHOD.—*Esbach's albuminimeter* is a graduated tube for roughly estimating the percentage of albumin in urine. It cannot be successfully used if the percentage is large, and it succeeds best where the urine is diluted until its specific gravity is not above 1010. If necessary, therefore, an equal volume or two volumes of water may require to be added to the urine, and this must be taken into account in making the calculation.

1. Fill the tube with urine up to the mark *U*.
2. Add picric and citric acid solution to mark *R*.
3. Mix thoroughly, and set aside for twenty-four hours.
4. Read the height of the coagulum on the scale. The numbers on the scale indicate grammes of albumin per litre of urine. The result is only approximative, because the bulk of the coagulum depends much upon its density.

An accurate quantitative estimation of the amount of albumin passed *per diem* can be made only by elaborate processes, and furnishes little more information to the physician than the rough method explained above.

Serum-globulin, precipitated like serum-albumin by heat, nitric acid, and picric acid, is recognised by its precipitation when the urine is saturated with magnesium sulphate after neutralisation.

Proteoses are found chiefly in suppurative processes, in acute infections, and in acute inflammations, but they also occur in some cases of chronic Bright's disease. They are precipitated by nitric acid and salicyl-sulphonic acid, but redissolve on heating. They give the biuret reaction, the test being thus

performed: Precipitate all albumin by heat and acetic acid, filter, and float the filtrate on the surface of the reagent, which consists of a 20 per cent. solution of caustic potash in distilled water to which a trace of sulphate of copper has been added. A rose-pink colour appears at the junction of the fluids.

A peculiar proteose is found in *Bence-Jones proteosuria*, a condition associated with sarcomatosis of the bone-marrow. It is coagulated by a temperature of 58° C., and redissolved on boiling. Strong hydrochloric acid in the cold produces an abundant precipitate, also redissolved on boiling.

Sugar (Dextrose).—The various tests used are those of Fehling, Trommer, Johnson, the phenyl-hydrazin test, the fermentation test, and the test by means of the polarising saccharometer.

Fehling's solution is an alkaline solution of potassio-tartrate of copper, and is made of such a standard strength that 1 cc. of *recently* prepared Fehling's solution is reduced by 5 milligrammes of grape sugar. It may be used to demonstrate the presence of a reducing sugar, or for the quantitative estimation; but in the latter case it is better to use the Pavy-Fehling solution, which contains ammonia in addition to the other salts. The ammonia prevents the precipitation of cuprous oxide, and thus the complete reduction is indicated at once by the disappearance of the blue colour of the reagent.

METHOD.—Having removed albumin (if present) from a sample of the urine passed in the twenty-four hours—(1) dilute the urine to 1 in 20 (5 cc. urine—95 cc. water); (2) place the urine in a burette; (3) measure 10 cc. Pavy-Fehling solution, and place in a porcelain basin or small flask; (4) heat to boiling, and while boiling drop in urine until the blue colour just disappears; if the urine be dropped in too slowly, the ammonia may be driven off by the prolonged heat, and a precipitate of cuprous oxide will fall, confusing the reaction; (5) calculate the total amount of sugar in the urine passed in twenty-four hours.

In using Fehling's solution for the qualitative test, add the urine drop by drop to the boiling reagent. If much sugar is present, a yellow or red precipitate of cuprous oxide appears at once; if little, only after some time; if very little, there may be only a greenish discoloration of the fluid. Certain other constituents of the urine (uric acid, creatinin, glycuronic acid) and certain drugs (chloral, chloroform, benzoic acid, salicylates) also

reduce cupric oxide, and may give the reaction if large quantities of urine are used. More urine than reagent should never be employed, and if the specific gravity of the urine is above 1020, it is better to use not more than half as much urine as reagent. Prolonged boiling should be avoided. Albumin should be removed by heat and filtration before the test is performed.

Benedikt's Test is a more sensitive modification of Fehling's. The reagent consists of copper sulphate 17.3, sodium or potassium citrate 173, crystallised sodium carbonate 200, distilled water to 1000. To 5 cc. of this add 8-10 drops of urine, boil for a couple of minutes, and allow to cool. The precipitate appears at once or on standing. Creatinin, uric acid, chloral, chloroform, etc., do not reduce Benedikt's solution.

Phenyl-hydrazin Test.—If Fehling's test gives doubtful results, place in a test-tube half an inch of crystals of acetate of soda and the same quantity of phenyl-hydrazin hydrochlorate, and fill the tube half full of the suspected urine. Boil for two minutes, and allow to stand for half an hour. Then remove with a pipette a little of the yellowish sediment, and examine it under the microscope. Yellow acicular crystals of phenyl-glucosazone, arranged in sheaves, will be seen if sugar is present.

Fermentation Test.—Boil the urine to drive off air, and acidulate if necessary with tartaric acid. Shake up the urine in a test-tube with a piece of German yeast the size of a pea, place the resulting emulsion in a fermentation tube, and set aside in a warm place for twenty-four hours. The liberated carbon dioxide accumulates at the top of the tube. A control experiment should be made with yeast and water.

Should there still be any doubt as to the presence of sugar, estimation of the blood-sugar should be made by Maclean's or other methods. The process, unfortunately, cannot be widely applied in general practice. (*See article on Diabetes.*)

Acetone.—Add to the urine a few drops of a fresh saturated solution of sodium nitro-prusside and then a few drops of NaHO. A dark-red colour, due to creatinin, appears. Acidulate with strong acetic acid, and the red changes to crimson in the presence of acetone, but disappears if acetone is absent. Or add to one inch of the urine in a test-tube five drops of 10 per cent. KHO solution; heat gently, and slowly add a saturated solution of iodine in potassium iodide till the urine becomes

yellowish-brown ; then add a little more KHO. A yellow turbidity results ; crystals of iodoform are precipitated, and can be recognised by the characteristic smell.

Diacetic Acid.—The addition of the tincture or solution of ferric chloride produces a deep Bordeaux-red colour, not given by acetone. The colour disappears on boiling.

Bile.—*Bile pigments* give from a deep orange or greenish to almost a porter-like hue to the urine, which froths easily, *the froth being tinged with the pigment.*

TESTS.—1. Add impure nitric acid (nitric-nitrous) cautiously to the urine in a test-tube or on a porcelain slab ; at the junction of urine and acid a display of colours occurs, due to oxidation of the pigments. The characteristic colour is green. (Gmelin's test.)

2. Pour on to the surface of the urine in a test-tube a dilute solution of tincture of iodine (1 in 10). A green ring forms at the point of contact. (Maréchal's test.)

Bile acids cannot be certainly detected in bilious urine without evaporating, or unless the amount of bile is excessive.

TESTS.—1. Sprinkle a pinch of flowers of sulphur on the surface of the urine ; in the presence of bile acids the sulphur sinks, while in a normal urine it floats (Hay's test). The phenomenon is due to an alteration in the surface tension of the fluid.

2. Add a solution of cane sugar to the urine in a test-tube, shake, let a drop of H_2SO_4 trickle down the tube ; at the junction of the acid and froth a cherry rose-red colour will develop. (Pettenkofer's test.) The test is very fallacious.

For the van den Bergh reaction for bile in the blood-serum, see article on Jaundice.

Blood.—(See p. 444.)

Pus.—1. Examine microscopically for leucocytes.

2. KOH added to the urine renders it stringy.

3. Pour off the supernatant urine, and add tincture of guaiacum to the slimy sediment. A blue colour develops at the point of junction.

4. Ozonic ether added to the urine effervesces in the presence of pus.

The chemical tests are entirely subsidiary to the microscopic recognition of the leucocytes.

Casts of the renal tubules are found most commonly, though not exclusively, in connection with inflammatory affections of the kidney. It is doubtful whether they consist of the coagulable elements of the blood, or are a pathological secretion of the renal cells. Seen under the microscope, such a cast reproduces the outline of the lumen of the tubule, and is a structureless, non-refractile, transparent body, more easily recognisable when lightly stained with gentian violet (*hyaline* cast). But in the presence of inflammatory changes, the casts may carry on their surface any detached epithelium or blood corpuscles lying in the lumen of the tubule where they originate, and such epithelium may be either freshly shed, or degenerated in various ways. In such conditions we may therefore find *blood casts* and *epithelial, fatty, or granular casts*. Of these, epithelial and blood casts are usually predominant in the acute inflammations, granular casts in chronic conditions, and fatty casts in "large white kidney." *Waxy* casts, structureless like the hyaline cast, but highly refractile, may also be found in chronic renal affections.

Crystalline Deposits.—The commonest of these are uric acid, triple phosphates, and oxalates. *Uric acid* crystallises in rhombs or prisms, which are of a red or reddish-brown colour, and may be found singly or arranged in sheaves or rosettes. *Triple phosphates* (ammoniac-magnesian phosphate), found in decomposing urine, form large colourless refractile crystals, of the familiar "knife-rest" or "coffin-lid" shape. *Oxalates* form small octahedral or dumb-bell-shaped crystals, colourless and highly refractile. When they are present in quantity, they settle as a light powdery deposit ("powdered-wig" deposit) on the surface of any other deposit which may have fallen to the bottom of the urine glass.

Other crystals, which are occasionally found, but do not require description here, are those of crystalline urates, stellar phosphate of lime, cystin, leucin, tyrosin, and cholesterin.

ALBUMINURIA

By albuminuria is meant the presence of serum-albumin and serum-globulin in the urine. As albumin is one of the essential

constituents of the blood, an escape of it in the urine must necessarily be looked upon with suspicion, if not with anxiety. Formerly, all cases of renal albuminuria were regarded as varieties of Bright's disease, but it is now well known that albuminuria is sometimes present in individuals who are apparently in perfect health (functional or cyclic albuminuria). However, a *persistent* albuminuria must always be looked upon as a probable indication of organic disease, most commonly of renal or cardiac origin. In other words, just as palpitation of the heart may exist without cardiac disease, but may on the other hand be a prominent symptom of a grave organic lesion; so with albuminuria, it may or may not be a serious omen. If it is the only symptom, it may be of little significance. It occurs in healthy people, up to middle age at all events, after severe exercise or after a temporary excess in alcohol, and it is not to be taken as indicating renal disease without definite accompanying symptoms. The question is often important from the point of view of life insurance.

Albuminuria may be either of renal origin, or dependent upon some lesion of the urinary tract below the kidney. The cause of renal or essential albuminuria is to be found mainly in the glomeruli. The epithelial cells of the glomerular tuft exert a selective influence in excretion, inasmuch as they allow the water and certain soluble salts to pass, but prevent albumin from so doing. It has also been maintained that albumin *normally* escapes through the glomeruli into the tubules, but is rapidly taken up again by the cells of the tubules, and *reabsorbed into the blood*. This is, however, very doubtful, while there is proof that the albumin escapes through the diseased glomeruli. It is, however, possible that in severe inflammations of the kidney, in which the tubular epithelium is largely shed, lymph may exude through the denuded basement membrane into the interior of the tubules, and in this way the amount of albumin may be increased. In milder inflammations the albumin is probably derived from the glomeruli alone.

Experimentally, we may produce albuminuria by—

1. Pressure upon (not closure of) the renal veins; the pressure in the glomeruli is increased thereby.
2. Closure of the renal artery, and subsequently re-establishment of the circulation; this interferes with the nutrition of the renal cells.

3. Ligature of the aorta *below one* kidney, and extirpation of the other.

4. Ligature of the aorta above the renal arteries.

5. Compression of the trachea ; this leads to asphyxia, and consequent rise of blood-pressure (Halliburton).

Clinically, we get albuminuria—

1. Due to—

Morbid conditions of the kidney, such as acute and chronic inflammation, congestion, active or passive, amyloid degeneration, renal calculi, tumours, etc.

Diseases of the urinary apparatus below the kidney.

Hæmic changes—anæmia, leucocythæmia, etc.

Certain fevers, especially scarlet fever and diphtheria.

Pregnancy.

Certain poisons—cantharides, turpentine, arsenic, phosphorus, excessive use of morphia, etc.

2. After certain diets, especially in those who pass much oxalates in their urine (oxaluria).

3. In a *remittent or cyclic form*, occurring in apparently healthy people ; albumin is in such cases only present in the urine at certain periods of the day, as after rising, after meals, or following severe exercise or mental emotion.

No case of albuminuria should be considered functional until the possibility of organic disease has been excluded. The urine should be examined at different periods of the day, and other abnormal ingredients (casts, renal epithelium, etc.) must be looked for in the sediment. Signs of renal disease may also be found in the condition of the vascular system (arteriosclerosis, hypertrophied left ventricle). The tests for renal efficiency, and especially the urea concentration test, should also be employed. Only in the absence of all such signs upon repeated examination is a diagnosis of functional albuminuria justified. Should it appear that the albuminuria is due to organic disease, the source of the albumin must next be determined from the characters of the urinary sediment and from the accompanying symptoms. Do not forget that the *temporary absence* of albumin does not necessarily indicate a healthy kidney ; in chronic interstitial nephritis, for example, it may occasionally be absent for days together.

The treatment of albuminuria is that of its cause.

BLOOD IN THE URINE

The presence of blood in the urine is an important symptom. Two forms are described :—

1. Hæmaturia, or bloody urine proper.

2. Hæmoglobinuria, a condition marked by the presence of blood-pigment in the urine, but *few or no* blood-corpuscles. *The blood-pigment is generally methæmoglobin* (chocolate colour).

Hæmaturia.—*Etiology.*—Diseases of the kidneys, or the urinary apparatus below them.

Scurvy (especially in children).

Malignant forms of fevers, especially the malarial type.

Traumatisms.

Drugs which directly irritate the kidney—turpentine, cantharides, carbolic acid, etc.

Parasites, especially the *Bilharzia hæmatobia*.

Diagnosis.—1. *By the colour of the urine*, which ranges from a slight smoky tint to deep red or even porter colour.

2. *Microscope.*—Detection of blood discs (in fresh urine).

3. *Spectroscope.*—The characteristic bands of hæmoglobin (generally the reduced Hb).

4. The ozonic ether and guaiacum test gives a blue tint. The reaction is also given by nasal mucus, saliva, and iodine or the iodides.

If the blood comes from above the ureters, it is usually freely mixed with the urine ; *if from the ureters*, it may be clotted in the form of moulds ; *if from the bladder*, it appears in greatest quantity towards the end of micturition ; and *if from the urethra*, before or during the *first* part of micturition.

There are no definite means of ascertaining the site of the hæmorrhage by mere examination of the urine alone, and although in many cases the accompanying symptoms make the diagnosis clear, in others a cystoscopic or X-ray examination is necessary for certainty.

Treatment of hæmaturia varies with the cause. Rest in the recumbent posture is indicated in all cases. Of drugs, calcium lactate is possibly the most effective, in doses of 10-15 grains (grm. 0·6-1·0) every four hours. It should not be given for more than forty-eight hours. Ergot, aromatic sulphuric acid,

or extract of hamamelis may be tried. In the absence of nephritis a full dose of opium is often effective. Surgical measures are requisite in many cases; in some (bilharzia) parasitocides must be used.

Hæmoglobinuria.—*Etiology.*—The *toxic form* is due to the action of certain poisons, such as *chlorate of potassium*, nitrobenzol, arseniuretted hydrogen, carbon monoxide, bile, etc. It may also follow extensive burns, septic diseases, and severe infections, and it is the central feature of blackwater fever. It may be epidemic in the new-born. For *paroxysmal hæmoglobinuria*, see p. 355.

URÆMIA

This is the name given to the series of toxæmic symptoms which may arise in association with inflammatory affections of the kidneys and with suppression or diminished quantity of urine. Numerous theories have been advanced to account for the toxæmia, but none of these is free from objection. The most important are—

1. The symptoms are due to retention in the blood of excess of urea. To this it is objected that the blood does not always contain excess of urea, that urea may be injected into the blood without causing uræmia, that anuria may exist without it, and that it may occur in spite of a normal elimination of urea.

2. The urea is decomposed in the blood into carbonate of ammonia, which causes the symptoms. But carbonate of ammonia may not be present in uræmic blood, and the odour of it in the breath is due to decomposition in the mouth, not in the blood.

3. The symptoms are due not to urea alone, but to the total of the normal urinary excreta. None of these except the inorganic salts is present in sufficient quantity to be toxic, and the results of experimental injection of urine are very variable.

4. The symptoms are due partly to the salts of potassium, partly to intermediate products of proteid waste which resemble alkaloids. Bouchard regards the condition as depending partly upon absorption from the intestine (constipation is very constant in nephritis), partly upon non-elimination by the kidneys.

5. The condition is due to defect or to abolition of an internal secretion of the kidneys.

6. Uræmia is produced not by the retention of poisons normally found in the body, but by poisons formed in the diseased kidneys (*nephrollysins*).

Not one of these theories has sufficient evidence behind it to justify it as an explanation of all the cases of uræmia. Even the most modern of them fails to cover the whole of the phenomena. It remains true that from defective renal elimination, symptoms of uræmia may and do occur, but the precise cause of uræmia is still undetermined.

Uræmia may be *acute*, *chronic*, or *latent*. The acute form presents symptoms of a cerebral type; in the chronic form the symptoms are both cerebral and digestive. The latent form is associated with anuria due to obstruction of the ureters.

Acute Uræmia : Symptoms.—*Epileptiform convulsions*, which may come on suddenly, or be preceded by headache, vertigo, or nausea. They are usually bilateral, but may be unilateral. There may be a single fit, followed by stupor, or a series of fits, with intervening coma (*status epilepticus*). Tonic spasms or tetany, muscular tremors or twitchings may replace convulsions.

Coma accompanies the convulsions, but may occur independently.

The seizure may be *apoplectiform*.

Delirium or even *acute mania* may occur.

Amaurosis may accompany the convulsions, or occur independently, with no other symptom than headache. The patient finds himself suddenly totally blind in both eyes. There are no changes in the fundus oculi, and sight may be perfectly recovered in a few hours or days.

Chronic Uræmia : Symptoms.—(A) Cerebral. Persistent *headache*, *vertigo*, and *drowsiness*, either continuous or intermittent, passing into a condition of apathy or stupor, and ultimately into the *typhoid state*. There may be repeated attacks of *dyspnœa*, with rapid shallow breathing and cyanosis (renal asthma), or *Cheyne-Stokes breathing* may occur. *Pruritus* is not uncommon. Muscular twitchings are frequent.

(B) Digestive. *Vomiting*, at first in the morning or after

meals, later independent of food. The vomitus may contain urea. *Diarrhœa* is not common. It may be simply catarrhal, or due to ulcerative colitis. *Hiccough* may be troublesome.

For latent uræmia, see Renal Calculus, p. 462.

Prognosis.—The first attack of uræmia may prove fatal, but in acute nephritis there may be complete recovery. In chronic nephritis the patient may survive the attack for several years.

Diagnosis.—If a patient is first seen in a comatose state, apoplexy, alcoholic poisoning, and opium poisoning must be excluded. The urine, removed by catheter, must be tested for albumin, the pulse examined for evidence of arteriosclerosis, and the heart for hypertrophy of the left ventricle. Conjugate deviation of the eyes speaks for cerebral hæmorrhage. In opium poisoning the pupils are contracted, in alcoholic coma usually dilated, in uræmia they are variable, and may be unequal. Remember (1) that cerebral hæmorrhage is common in cirrhosis of the kidney, and (2) that though a patient's breath smells strongly of alcohol, he may yet have uræmic, and not alcoholic coma. If there be any doubt, treat the case as if it were the graver lesion.

ACUTE BRIGHT'S DISEASE

(ACUTE PARENCHYMATOUS NEPHRITIS)

By Bright's disease we mean a non-suppurative inflammation of the kidneys. To understand the classifications that have been made, it is necessary to recognise the following structures in the kidney, which is liable to diseases in which one or the other of them may be principally involved. They are—" (1) the *tubules*, with their epithelium, forming the parenchyma of the kidney; (2) the *interstitial tissue*, very small in quantity in the healthy organ, but liable to considerable increase by inflammatory processes; (3) the *blood-vessels*, and the glomeruli, consisting of the vascular tufts, the capsule, and the epithelial cells covering the former and lining the latter " (Taylor).

It is evident that in nephritis the inflammatory changes may be most marked in the *tubules*, or in the *interstitial tissue*, or in the *blood-vessels*; but it must be equally clear that no *one* of these special tissues can be affected to any great extent *without implicating the other components of the kidney structure*.

In other words, though the various types of Bright's disease are based upon the variety of tissue principally involved, it must still be understood that *the kidney structure as a whole shares in the inflammatory changes*, in acute, and still more markedly in chronic cases.

Acute inflammation of the kidneys is a disease characterised by grave changes in the urine, dropsy, and slight fever.

Etiology.—1. Exposure to cold and damp.

2. Acute specific fevers and septic states, especially scarlet fever and ulcerative endocarditis. (Albuminuria without the other symptoms of acute nephritis is common in all fevers.)

3. Certain irritating drugs, *e.g.*—cantharides, copaiba, turpentine, etc.

4. Extensive burns involving the abdomen. The nephritis is due to septic absorption.

5. The disease sometimes occurs in pregnancy.

6. Extension from the lower urinary tract (*consecutive nephritis*).

Males are somewhat oftener attacked than females, and acute nephritis is commoner before the age of forty than later.

Morbid Anatomy.—Two types are usually distinguished—*i.e.*, the ordinary or catarrhal form, and the so-called infective or glomerulo-nephritis. Further types—*i.e.*, toxic and embolic nephritis—are also described, but they are symptomatic of the diseases from which they arise, and not primary affections of the kidney.

1. *Catarrhal Nephritis.*—The kidneys are large, much injected, and the cortex is seen to be disproportionately enlarged. On section, the cut surfaces show up the Malpighian bodies as deep red points; here and there are patches of extravasated blood. The tubules show marked changes, especially the convoluted portions, and their epithelium undergoes cloudy swelling, followed by proliferation and detachment of the cells, which form casts or masses of granular or fatty debris, often to the extent of blocking up the tubules. It must not be forgotten, however, that though the tubules are the parts principally involved, the interstitial portion also takes part in the inflammatory process.

2. *Glomerulo Nephritis.*—In this form, usually the result of infective diseases, and especially scarlatina, the glomeruli

principally suffer. After a preliminary engorgement of the blood-vessels, extensive leucocyte emigration takes place, filling the glomerular capsule, the capillary vessels often burst, and the blood flows into the tubules. The epithelium of Bowman's capsules often proliferates to such an extent that the tufts become obliterated by the pressure, and in time the latter may be actually changed into fibrous nodules. Of course the tubules and interstitial tissue are also involved, though not to the same extent.

Symptoms are, at first, chilliness, pain in the back, vomiting, and pain over the brows; the temperature is raised (but may never be high); and the characteristic œdema rapidly appears, at first in the eyelids, cheeks, and ankles, and later it may become general. The pulse is usually quick and of *high tension* from the beginning. The urine is voided frequently, but is scanty in quantity, and indeed may be suppressed for a time. It is dark from the presence of blood, exhibits the well-known smoky hue, and generally gives a copious deposit of urates, blood-discs, granular debris, epithelial and hyaline casts, and blood-casts, and *a large amount of albumin*. Though the urine is of high specific gravity, the total amount of urea passed daily is much decreased. The urea concentration test applies rather to cases of chronic renal inefficiency than to the obvious cases of acute disease. Dropsy may be very slight, or may go on to anasarca; there may be dangerous dropsy of the serous sacs, œdema of the base of the lung or of the glottis. Anæmia is marked. The bowels become constipated, the tongue dry, and there is great thirst. Hypertrophy of the heart is seldom marked in acute cases, although acute dilatation of the heart may occur. If improvement does not quickly take place, grave dangers arise from the development of uræmia; and intense headache, convulsions, and coma often usher in a fatal termination. Most cases, however, with care, recover; others pass into the subacute stage or "large white kidney."

In cases of acute nephritis complicating the specific fevers, œdema may be but little marked. Scarlatinal nephritis is an exception to this rule.

The more important complications to remember are—

1. Excessive dilatation of the heart in debilitated patients.
2. Œdema of the lungs or glottis; hydropericardium or hydrothorax.
3. Uræmia.

Albuminuric retinitis is not present unless the acute attack arises as an exacerbation of pre-existing chronic disease.

Treatment.—Absolute rest in bed, the patient being laid between blankets, occasional purgation by compound jalap powder $\bar{3}$ ss to $\bar{3}$ i (grm. 2·0-4·0), or by salines, diluents, such as Potus Imperialis—bitartrate of potassium $\bar{3}$ i (grm. 4·0), syrup of lemon $\bar{3}$ iss (cc. 45), water to $\bar{3}$ xx (cc. 568)—and a *non-nitrogenous* diet, form the routine treatment. If there is much blood in the urine, dry cupping or hot fomentations should be applied over the loins. The diet should, if possible, be of milk only. Remember that nitrogenous extractives are highly irritating to an inflamed kidney, *hence the necessity of diminishing the quantity of proteids taken*, and of withholding such preparations as beef-tea. Acetate of potash and nitrous ether with hyoscyamus form a useful mixture, as we have at once a *diuretic*, a *dilator of the peripheral arterioles*, and a *sedative to the urinary tract*. But if there is excessive renal congestion causing marked diminution or suppression of urine, diuretics should not be given till the congestion is relieved by cupping, hot air-baths, or leeching, and it may even be advisable to allow nothing but sips of water for the first few days. During convalescence the anæmia should be treated by iron.

Excessive dropsy should be treated by hot packs or hot air-baths, and free purgation by compound jalap powder. Elaterium is seldom necessary. Should these measures fail, pilocarpin gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ (grm. 0·008-0·016) may be injected, but only if there is no œdema of the lungs, and if the bronchioles are free. The fluid may also be drawn off from the legs by Southey's tubes or acupuncture, or from the internal cavities by tapping. The diet should be deprived of salt.

In *uræmia*, treatment is the same as for excessive dropsy, *plus* chloroform during the convulsions, and wet cupping. Venesection is a valuable measure in patients otherwise robust.

In *severe dyspnœa* nitrite of amyl is of great service.

The "war nephritis" or "trench nephritis" of the recent war was for a time thought to be a disease *per se*, and possibly due to a specific organism, but all the evidence has gone to show that it was an acute glomerulo-nephritis, occurring chiefly under circumstances of exposure, running much the same course as the acute nephritis of civil life, and therefore more or less amenable to the same forms of treatment.

CHRONIC BRIGHT'S DISEASE

Chronic Bright's disease may be divided into two forms—

1. Chronic parenchymatous or tubal nephritis (large white kidney), sometimes leading in the later stages to contraction (small white kidney).
2. Chronic interstitial nephritis (small red or gouty kidney, cirrhosis of the kidney, granular kidney).

Chronic parenchymatous or tubal nephritis may either follow an attack of acute nephritis or arise independently. It is a disease of comparatively early adult life. Chronic interstitial nephritis is rare before the age of forty.

Lardaceous or waxy disease of the kidney (pale waxy kidney), although it has been described as a form of Bright's disease, is really a degeneration, and not of an inflammatory nature. But it is often *accompanied* by interstitial nephritis.

Before describing these varieties in detail, we must consider some *general* facts in reference to chronic renal disease. The consequences of defective renal secretion are as follows :—

1. Retention of waste and poisonous products in the blood.
2. Damage to the vascular walls by those poisonous products.
3. Disturbed metabolism; leading to imperfect nutrition of *all the tissues and organs in the body*. One of its chief expressions is *wasting*, often masked by accompanying œdema. Anæmia is also prominent.

The main changes may be described under six heads :—

1. *Changes in the kidney structure*, involving all its elements, interstitial tissue, tubules, and blood-vessels.
2. *Changes in the urine*, both as regards quantity and quality. The main pathological constituents are albumin, and fatty, granular, or hyaline casts. Blood is often present in chronic parenchymatous, seldom in interstitial nephritis. The excretion of urea is always defective.
3. *Changes in the circulatory system*; hypertrophy of the heart, arteriosclerosis, and a hard *pulse of high blood-pressure* and prolonged tension (*see* Fig. 15), in which the dicrotic wave is almost obliterated.

The cause of the cardiac hypertrophy is still unsettled. It has been thought to be secondary to the arteriosclerosis, and to the increased peripheral tension which occurs quite early in even

acute Bright's disease. Herringham considers that it follows degenerative changes in the great vessels, which lose their elasticity, the resistance in the smaller vessels being thus increased. In Cohnheim's view, the obliteration of the capillary

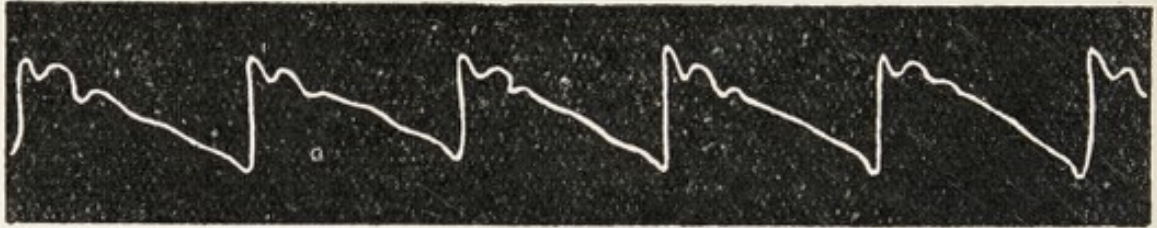


FIG. 15.—Pulse of high blood-pressure, from a case of Bright's disease.

areas in numerous glomeruli demands an increase of pressure, in order that as much blood as formerly passed through the whole kidney should pass through the now restricted field, and thus accounts for the hypertrophy. The arteriosclerosis itself is often secondary to the renal affection, but in one form of interstitial nephritis it is primary.

4. *Ocular Changes*.—Albuminuric retinitis is characterised by—

Œdema of the retina, causing opacity and swelling.

White glistening patches due to fatty degeneration of Muller's fibres.

Flame-shaped extravasations of blood.

Slight optic neuritis, sometimes followed by atrophy.

It occurs in about 15 per cent. of the cases, and adds to the gravity of the prognosis.

5. In chronic parenchymatous nephritis, *dropsy* is first apparent, as in acute nephritis, in the eyelids and feet: later, general anasarca, and dropsy of the serous cavities—ascites, hydrothorax, or immense dropsy of the scrotum—may occur. The position of the fluid is influenced by gravitation. In interstitial nephritis dropsy is not at first prominent, and later assumes the cardiac type.

The dropsy, which is at first most apparent in the morning, is due to a combination of causes, including—

(1) The anæmic and hydræmic state of the blood.

(2) Degeneration of the vascular walls.

(3) Deficient secretion of urine.

(4) Defective excretion of salts, specially chlorides.

6. *Tendency to Uræmia*.—Uræmia has already been fully discussed.

When it follows an acute attack, chronic inflammation of the kidney, as Grainger Stewart pointed out, differs in no way from that of other organs. Given a slowly progressing inflammatory action, we should expect at first a stage of enlargement, and finally a state of atrophy. The chronic inflammation must also be preceded by an *intermediate or subacute stage*. But the relations of chronic to acute inflammation are by no means always so simple as this. Chronic Bright's disease may arise independently of the acute disease, "large white kidney" is not necessarily followed by "small white kidney," and the causes of interstitial nephritis are, as will be seen immediately, very different from those of the parenchymatous form.

Chronic parenchymatous nephritis is often a sequel of an acute attack, but may develop insidiously after infective diseases or in the course of chronic suppurations or syphilis. It leads either to fatty degeneration of the kidney substance ("large white kidney"), in which the capsule is non-adherent, the cortex yellowish or mottled, and the pyramids injected, or, later, to fibrous degeneration ("small white kidney"). In this stage the capsule is adherent, the surface granular, the cortex narrow and pale.

In its early stages ("subacute nephritis") the *symptoms* approximate to those of the acute form. The urine is scanty, highly albuminous, contains blood, and is defective in urea. Fatty casts are present in quantity. Dropsy is prominent (Fagge quotes the saying that "large white kidneys make a large white body"), and affects the internal cavities even more frequently than in acute nephritis. In the later stages, the urine is increased in quantity, blood and albumin are less, the casts tend to become granular or hyaline, and dropsy is less prominent. Cardiovascular changes are more pronounced.

The relations of acute nephritis to large white kidney and to secondary contraction are still a matter of dispute. The older view that these affections represent consecutive stages of a single disease is widely combated. Herringham's conception is that both large white kidney and secondary contraction may arise out of acute nephritis, not as consecutive events, but as radii diverging from a common centre. If the tubules are chiefly affected in the acute stage, the tendency will be to

Differential Diagnosis of the Forms of Bright's Disease

| CHRONIC NEPHRITIS. | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | ACUTE NEPHRITIS. | CHRONIC PARENCHY- MATOUS NEPHRITIS; LARGE WHITE KIDNEY. | SECONDARY CONTRACTED KIDNEY; SMALL WHITE KIDNEY. | CHRONIC INTERSTITIAL NEPHRITIS; PRIMARY CON- TRACTED OR SMALL RED KIDNEY; CIRRHOTIC OR GRANULAR KIDNEY. | |
| Etiology. | | Chill; acute poison- ing (cantharides, etc.); acute infections (scar- latina, etc.). | Acute nephritis; prolonged influence of cold and damp; malaria, cardiac lesions, phthisis. | Gout, lead-poisoning, excess in alcohol or nitrogenous diet (uric acid). | |
| | Quantity. | Scanty. | Rather less than normal. | Not less than normal; usually increased. | Very abundant. |
| Characters of Urine. | Colour. | Turbid, pale red, or smoky to deep red. | Turbid, resembling meat infusion. | Fairly clear. | Clear, pale. |
| | Specific gravity. | High. | Somewhat raised, may be normal. | A little below normal. | Low. |
| | Blood. | Abundant. | Commonly present. | In small quantity. | Usually absent. |
| | Albumin. | Abundant. | Abundant. | In moderate quantity. | In very small quantity; may be absent for some time. |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|--|
| | and red corpuscles; blood-casts, epithelial and granular casts; urates. | and red corpuscles; numerous casts, especially <i>fatty</i> . | Casts fairly numerous, granular and hyaline chiefly. | chiefly hyaline. |
| Salts and Urea. | Marked diminution of urea, chlorides and phosphates. | Diminution of urea, etc. | Marked diminution of urea, etc. | Marked diminution of urea, etc. |
| Cardiac Hypertrophy. | Usually <i>absent</i> , unless in acute exacerbations of chronic disease. | Sometimes present. | Usually present. | Almost always present, and very considerable. |
| Dropsy. | Marked; shifting from place to place with position of patient. | Marked; <i>dropsy of internal cavities</i> . | Moderate; both subcutaneous and internal. | Usually absent; later dropsy of cardiac type when heart fails. |
| Uræmia. | Frequent. | Fairly frequent. | Frequent: both chronic and acute types. | Very frequent; both chronic and acute types. |
| Associated symptoms. | Those of infective diseases or intoxications. | Marked pallor of skin, retinitis, bronchitis, etc., inflammations of internal organs. | Uræmia, cerebral hemorrhage, cardiac failure, internal inflammations. | |
| Death results from— | Uræmia, pulmonary oedema, internal inflammations. | Uræmia, or oftener internal inflammations. | | |

Modified from Leube.

large white kidney; if the interstitial tissue has been much involved, contraction will follow. There are intermediate forms, as any number of radii may be interposed between two given radii, but each pursues its own line of development. Cases beginning as large white kidney end as such, in his view, with much dropsy, little arterial change, and death by asthenia; while in contracted kidney cardiovascular changes are marked, œdema is slight, and death may be due to uræmia, cerebral hæmorrhage, or cardiac failure.

Chronic interstitial nephritis (*granular kidney, cirrhosis of the kidney*) has two forms, one primary, the other secondary to a general arteriosclerosis (*arteriosclerotic kidney*). Its most frequent causes are gout, lead-poisoning, chronic alcoholism, or excessively nitrogenous diet, associated with the less active metabolism of middle age. Heredity is sometimes a factor. The kidney is small, the capsule firmly adherent, the surface purplish-red, uneven, and studded with small cysts. The cortex is narrow and fibrosis is very marked. Arteriosclerosis is pronounced.

In the arteriosclerotic form, most common in America (Osler), the kidney is comparatively little contracted.

Symptoms.—Chronic interstitial nephritis is a disease of middle and later life. Its onset is very insidious, and often there is nothing to attract the patient's attention to such a serious condition, beyond languor, frequency of micturition, *especially at night*, possibly dyspeptic symptoms, diffuse headache, and thirst. The urine is pale, clear, and abundant, but albuminuria may be absent for a considerable time. Casts are very few, and chiefly granular or hyaline. Occasionally there may be an intercurrent attack of hæmaturia. When the disease is well marked, and cardiac hypertrophy begins to fail, the symptoms become very pronounced, and are such as pallor, breathlessness, attacks of uræmic asthma, dimness of vision, and dropsy of the cardiac type. Pulmonary complications are frequent. It is very essential that the condition should be early diagnosed, and any of the early symptoms mentioned above, occurring in a middle-aged man, demands a careful examination of the pulse, heart, retina, and urine.

The foregoing remarks, along with the diagnostic table on pp. 454, 455 appended to them, should enable the beginner to have a clear idea of the elementary facts of chronic Bright's disease.

An important feature, more notable in interstitial than in chronic parenchymatous nephritis, but common to both, is the liability to death by *cerebral hæmorrhage*. In both, too, internal inflammations are frequent causes of death; and in interstitial nephritis the long-standing cardiac hypertrophy may end in dilatation, and in death from cardiac failure, sooner or later.

The course of chronic nephritis may be interrupted by intercurrent acute attacks.

Treatment of chronic Bright's disease must be considered under two heads—

1. General treatment.
2. Symptomatic treatment.

General Treatment.—The indications vary with the stage of the disease. In the stage of large white kidney, treatment must evidently be upon much the same lines as in acute nephritis, but in the subsequent contracted kidney, and also in interstitial nephritis, confinement to bed is undesirable. The patient should be placed in the most favourable hygienic conditions, and guarded from cold by woollen underclothing. The action of the skin should be promoted by tepid baths and friction; he should take gentle exercise in the open, and should live on a varied diet, containing only a limited quantity of nitrogenous food. Meat should not be allowed oftener than once a day, and alcohol should be forbidden. Strychnine may be used as a general tonic, and iron, or iron and arsenic, for the anæmia. The bowels should be kept free by the use of saline laxatives, and although mercurials are sometimes badly borne in renal affections, there can be no doubt as to the efficacy of an occasional dose of pil. hydrarg. or calomel, given at night-time, and followed by an aperient water in the morning. Hepatic depletion by brisk cathartics is often more efficacious than any other treatment in allaying urgent symptoms.

Symptomatic Treatment.—High blood-pressure, when moderate, should not be interfered with, but if it is excessive, and causes troublesome symptoms, saline laxatives are indicated, and also nitroglycerin or nitrite of sodium.

Headache is best relieved by caffeine. When the tension is very high, a good purge and a few whiffs of nitrite of amyl are often promptly effective.

Cardiac failure is to be met by strychnine and digitalis.

Dropsy, in large white kidney, requires the measures detailed under Acute Nephritis.

Threatened uræmia requires hot packs, smart purgation or pilocarpin, the last only in the absence of pulmonary complications.

Albuminuria cannot be effectively controlled by any known drug.

LARDACEOUS (AMYLOID) DISEASE OF THE KIDNEY

This affection, which has been sometimes described as a form of Bright's disease, is not an inflammatory lesion, but a degenerative change. It is, however, frequently associated with interstitial nephritis.

Etiology.—The disease follows upon prolonged suppuration, especially that due to phthisis or to caries of bone, and upon long-standing syphilis, whether associated with suppuration or not. It occurs, but rarely, in cases of malarial cachexia.

Morbid Anatomy.—The kidney is large (it may be contracted if interstitial nephritis coexists), pale and smooth on the surface, and firm, the capsule stripping off easily. On section, the cortex has a glistening waxy appearance, the medulla being injected. The lardaceous tissues stain mahogany brown with tincture of iodine.

The changes affect first the walls of the vessels (glomeruli and arterioles), spreading thence to the basement membrane of the tubules.

Symptoms vary considerably, according as interstitial nephritis is or is not present. Where it exists, the urinary changes are those already tabulated on pp. 454, 455. Where it is absent, the urine is variable in quantity, pale yellow, *clear*, of normal or low specific gravity, and free from blood. Albumin is sometimes absent or scanty, but usually abundant; sediment is absent, though a few hyaline or waxy casts may be found. *Urea is not diminished*. Dropsy is very considerable, but cardiac hypertrophy, retinitis, and uræmia are all absent unless there are inflammatory complications. Death occurs from exhaustion, or from the causative disease.

Diagnosis is easy if, in the presence of a definite cause, and with evidence of amyloid disease elsewhere (spleen, *liver*, intestine), the above symptoms are to be found. It is difficult when the amyloid change is superadded to an interstitial nephritis. The kidney is never sufficiently enlarged to be accessible to physical examination.

Treatment is that of the causative disease. Cases not too far advanced may recover completely where the cause can be removed (tuberculosis of joints, etc.).

PYELITIS, PYELONEPHRITIS, AND PYONEPHROSIS

By pyelitis is meant an inflammation limited to the pelvis of the kidney. The inflammation may extend to the substance of the kidney, and there very often leads to suppuration (*pyelonephritis*). Should a large collection of pus form within the pelvis, distending that structure and the calyces, and flattening out the renal substance, the condition is called *pyonephrosis*.

Etiology.—The exciting cause of these conditions is almost invariably microbic, the *Bacillus coli* being the commonest organism, although others, such as the tubercle bacillus or staphylococci, may also be found. There are many predisposing causes, among which are—

1. Morbid states of the blood, such as acute infections, diabetes, Bright's disease, anæmia.
2. Extension of inflammation from below ("surgical kidney").
3. Calculi, blood-clots, parasites, tumours.
4. Certain drugs—cantharides, etc.
5. Pressure upon the ureter, causing dilatation of the pelvis. Decomposition of the retained urine may follow.
6. Injuries to the spinal cord.
7. Pregnancy.

Morbid Anatomy.—If the pelvis alone is inflamed, its mucosa is opaque and thickened, showing punctiform hæmorrhages or superficial ulcers. Pus is present in the pelvic cavity. In pyelonephritis linear areas of suppuration are found extending

between the pyramids towards the cortex of the kidney, in which small abscesses are present. In pyonephrosis the wall of the sac is formed by the kidney substance, which is flattened as the result of pressure, and becomes fibrotic from coincident nephritis.

Symptoms depend upon the cause, the stage, and the complications. A simple pyelitis gives rise to but few definite symptoms; a localised pain in the lumbar region may be the chief or only complaint on the part of the patient, or perhaps he seeks advice on account of frequent passage of urine, which, on examination, may be found to contain pelvic epithelia or blood. When suppuration commences, the symptoms are much more definite: the urine now contains blood, pus cells, and albumin, but, if the *Bacillus coli* is the infecting organism, remains acid in reaction. There may be occasional attacks of pyrexia, resembling ague. As the kidney substance becomes involved, the symptoms of more or less acute nephritis appear. If the suppurative process is pronounced, there are usually rigors, sweating, wasting, and fluctuating temperature. The urine may become ammoniacal, viscid, and "ropy," if the pyelitis has followed upon cystitis. Hæmorrhage is usually slight, but in calculous pyelitis there may be intermittent profuse hæmaturia.

Sometimes the debris chokes up the ureter, or it may be occluded by a calculus, and the urine which escapes by the free ureter will be clear for a short time, only to become purulent again when the plug moves away. If the pus be pent up, it causes a cystic swelling of the renal pelvis (pyonephrosis). It will of course be easily understood that, if such a condition occurred in both kidneys, death would speedily result from uræmia.

The physical signs of pyonephrosis are those of a tumour in the flank, which (when large) causes distinct bulging in front and behind. Such a tumour—

Can be separated from the liver or spleen;

Is always crossed by the colon;

Yields a dull note on percussion; and is *tender* on pressure.

Tenderness in the lumbar region is often present in the absence of tumour.

Prognosis.—Cases occurring in the course of the acute fevers usually recover spontaneously. In other forms the condition, if left alone, is frequently fatal, but sometimes, even after pyonephrosis has occurred, the pus dries up, the walls of the cyst become coated with patchy layers of phosphatic deposits, and the cavity in time contracts. In other cases the abscess may burst through the capsule of the kidney into the peritoneum, or so as to form a retroperitoneal abscess, which in turn may burrow in various directions, leading to subphrenic abscess, perforation of the diaphragm, etc. Death may also be brought about by extensive lardaceous disease, by cachexia, or by uræmia (typhoid state).

Treatment.—Our treatment should aim to—

1. Remove the cause if possible. In simple pyelitis operative treatment is unnecessary. Rest, light diet, diluent drinks, and urinary antiseptics, such as urotropin, are sufficient.

2. Relieve the inflamed kidney by rest, cupping, and the administration of sedative salines, such as citrate of potassium with hyoscyamus, and the free drinking of liquids.

Vaccines may be of use in cases due to *Bacillus coli* infection.

Pyonephrosis demands surgical treatment, either by emptying and draining the sac, or in some cases by nephrectomy.

HYDRONEPHROSIS

A condition due to distension of the pelvis and calyces of the kidney by urine. It may be congenital or acquired.

Etiology.—Congenital hydronephrosis is usually double, being caused by imperforate urethra. The kidneys may be so dilated as to impede delivery. The acquired form may be single or double. Where it is single it is due to obstruction in the ureter, however caused (stricture, compression by cicatricial bands, impacted calculus, floating kidney, etc.); where it is double, to obstruction lower down, which is usually partial. Thus urethral stricture, enlarged prostate, villous tumours of the bladder, and in the female displacements or tumours of the uterus, may cause it. In such cases death often ensues from uræmia before the renal tumour becomes large enough for recognition during life. In unilateral hydronephrosis the other kidney carries on the renal function. Symptoms dangerous to

life do not follow, and the tumour may grow to a very great size.

Morbid Anatomy.—Dilatation of the ureter and pelvis are followed by pressure on the pyramids, with flattening and atrophy of the kidney. The sac is divided into loculi by septa formed of the connective tissue surrounding the interpyramidal vessels. There are corresponding bulgings on its surface. The sac contains a pale watery fluid, albuminous, but presenting only traces of urea or other urinary constituents.

Symptoms.—In bilateral cases with incomplete obstruction, frequent passage of very dilute urine, followed later by symptoms of chronic uræmia, and death in the typhoid state. In unilateral cases, weight and pain in the loin, and if the tumour be large, nausea, vomiting, or constipation from pressure on the colon. If the obstruction be intermittent, history of sudden passage of a large amount of clear urine, followed by disappearance of the tumour, and gradual reaccumulation. The physical signs are those of renal tumour in general.

Treatment.—Do not interfere if there be no discomfort. Sometimes the sac has been emptied by massage, but operation is usually required. Repeated aspiration may result in cure, but it may be necessary to resort to nephrotomy and drainage, or even to nephrectomy. Make certain first (*a*) that there is another kidney; (*b*) that it is functionally active.

RENAL CALCULUS

(NEPHROLITHIASIS. STONE IN THE KIDNEY)

Renal calculi are due to the deposition of certain solid constituents of the urine in the substance of the kidney or in the renal pelvis. They may be of any size, forming granules of "sand" or "gravel," or large concretions. They may be solitary or very numerous.

Characters.—Calculi of appreciable size are made up of concentric layers arranged around a nucleus often of quite different composition. The nucleus may consist of crystals of uric acid or oxalate of lime; or of colloid bodies such as mucin, epithelia, or tube casts; or of micro-organisms. The laminae are composed of uric acid (the commonest form), oxalate

of lime, alternate layers of uric acid and oxalate, or sometimes phosphate of lime and triple phosphates deposited upon a nucleus of one of the other crystals. This occurs in the presence of ammoniacal decomposition of the urine in the pelvis, as sometimes in pyonephrosis. Other forms of calculi (cystin, xanthin, etc.) are very rare.

Uric acid calculi are of a reddish colour, hard, smooth, and, if they are multiple, faceted on the opposing surfaces. Oxalate calculi are very hard, greyish, smooth, and rounded while small, but when they become larger presenting a rough tuberculated surface ("mulberry calculi"). Phosphatic calculi may grow to a great size by continual deposition of phosphates from the alkaline urine. They tend to assume the shape of the pelvis and calyces, and form "dendritic" masses.

Etiology.—The deposition of uric acid is favoured by increased acidity of the urine, and diminution of the salts, especially phosphates, which tend to hold it in solution. Oxalates tend to be deposited when there is excess of them in the urine. But neither uric acid nor oxalate crystals agglomerate into calculi without some additional factor, which is supplied by the presence in the pelvis of colloid material, such as mucus, albumin, or blood. These may be present as the result of slight catarrhal pyelitis or congestion of the pelvis. That such local causes are at work is shown by the frequency with which calculus is unilateral.

Morbid Anatomy.—A calculus generally sets up some degree of pyelitis, which may be suppurative, and lead to pyonephrosis. If the ureter be obstructed, the kidney may atrophy, or hydronephrosis may follow. Malignant tumours have been attributed to the continued irritation of the calculus. If both ureters be obstructed, anuria and the symptoms of latent uræmia will follow.

Symptoms may be latent throughout life. The most characteristic is renal colic, but between the attacks there may be (1) pain in the lumbar region, aching or dragging, and made worse by movement; (2) some degree of tenderness on deep pressure in the lumbar region; (3) hæmaturia, recurring at intervals, often without other symptoms, aggravated or induced by movements especially of a jolting nature (riding, jumping, etc.), and relieved or removed by rest; (4) marked acidity of

the urine, which may contain uric acid or oxalate crystals, and, if there be pyelitis, pus.

Renal colic results from the passage or attempted passage of a calculus down the ureter to the bladder. It is characterised by excruciating pain beginning in the loin and radiating over the anterior aspect of the abdomen on the affected side, and downwards to the testicle, which is retracted, and to the inner side of the thigh. The skin is hyperæsthetic over the affected abdominal area, but the scrotal skin is not so, having a different nerve supply. The patient is faint, and sweats profusely. The pulse is small and rapid; there are nausea and vomiting; and pregnant women may abort. The paroxysm may last a few hours or a few days. It ends suddenly if the stone slips into the bladder; more gradually if it becomes impacted. During the attack urine is passed frequently and in small quantity. It is usually scanty, high-coloured, and blood-stained. It may be suppressed.

Where the opposite ureter is already obstructed, death may ensue from *obstructive suppression*, the symptoms being those of *latent uræmia*. There is anuria, without marked symptoms beyond lassitude and insomnia for about a week. Then muscular twitchings appear, the pupils become contracted, and there is gradually increasing dyspnœa, which leads to death within a day or two. The mind remains clear till just before death.

When the *diagnosis* is doubtful, examination under the X-rays and cystoscopy are of much service.

Treatment.—Uric acid calculi are soluble in alkaline solutions. The urine should therefore be rendered alkaline by salts of potassium, such as the citrate or acetate, $\bar{3}j$ - $\bar{3}ij$ (grm. 4.0-8.0) every three hours, and the treatment should be kept up for three months or more, but should be stopped if the urine becomes ammoniacal. The diet should be light, as little nitrogenous as possible, and stimulants should be avoided. Plenty of fluid should be taken. Oxalate calculi are not affected by this treatment. In them, and in uric acid calculi where the solvent treatment has failed, operation (nephrotomy or nephrectomy) may be required.

The treatment of renal colic is to be directed to the relief of pain, by hot fomentations, hot baths, morphia, and, if necessary, chloroform.

RENAL TUBERCULOSIS

This condition may occur in the form of miliary tubercles in the course of a general infection, or may be primary. The disease may begin in the kidney and spread downwards, or may extend to the kidney from the lower urinary tract, in which case both kidneys are usually affected.

Morbid Anatomy.—The primary form of the disease begins by the formation of tubercles in the medulla, which coalesce and lead to caseation and softening. Cavities are thus formed, separated from each other by inter-pyramidal septa of fibrous tissue. The whole renal substance may be ultimately destroyed. The pus is discharged in the urine, causing tuberculous pyelitis, extension of the process to the ureter, and consequently partial or complete occlusion of that structure, leading to pyonephrosis. The bladder may also be affected.

Symptoms are chiefly those of pyelitis, and consist of dull aching pain in the loin, frequent micturition, constant presence of pus in an acid urine, proportionate albuminuria, and often hæmaturia, much less readily influenced by rest than that of calculus. Tubercle bacilli *may* be found in the urine. There are the usual general symptoms of wasting, fever, and sweating; later, pulmonary or peritoneal tuberculosis may appear. If pyonephrosis is present, there may be evidence of renal tumour; tuberculosis *per se* does not materially increase the size of the kidney.

Diagnosis depends upon the presence of bacilli in the urine, the existence of tuberculosis elsewhere, or the positive result of the tuberculin tests (*see* p. 416). An examination by the cystoscope is called for to determine whether the bladder is affected.

Treatment, medicinal and hygienic, is that for tuberculosis in general, with the addition of such urinary antiseptics as salol, urotropin, or benzoate of soda. Nephrectomy can only be thought of where the disease is unilateral and the bladder is unaffected; nephrotomy and drainage may sometimes be of use.

RENAL TUMOURS

These are almost invariably malignant. The so-called sarcomata are congenital tumours of complex structure, often

growing to an enormous size, and running a brief course to death. The tumours of adult life are either epitheliomata originating in the pelvis, or adeno-carcinomata originating in the cortex. Many of these renal tumours are supposed to be of suprarenal origin, developing in portions of suprarenal tissue included in the kidney substance. They are therefore called *hypernephromata*. The epitheliomata cause uniform enlargement of the kidney, the adeno-carcinomata nodular outgrowths. There may be direct extension through the capsule of the kidney to the retroperitoneal tissue; or extension may take place by the veins (the renal vein or inferior cava may be blocked by the growth) to the lungs, or by the lymphatics to the liver and lumbar glands.

Symptoms are (1) lumbar *pain*, dull and aching, but sometimes, where blood-clot is present in the ureter, like that of renal colic; (2) *tenderness* on pressure; (3) recurrent *hæmaturia*, often profuse; (4) sometimes *varicocele*, from pressure on the spermatic vein; (5) evidence of tumour; (6) the general symptoms of malignant disease.

Characters of a Renal Tumour.—(1) The tumour fills up the loin, and bulges forwards. Its shape is rounded, and its edges blunt. Its direction is vertical. (2) The fingers can be slipped beneath the ribs above it (distinction from liver or spleen), and beneath the iliac crest below (distinction from ovarian tumour). (3) It is only slightly movable on respiration. (4) The colon may be traced in front of it by palpation or percussion (see that the bowel is emptied before examining). (5) The dullness is continued posteriorly to the middle line (distinction from spleen). (6) It may cause *pressure symptoms*—(a) varicocele; (b) ascites from pressure on the portal vein; (c) enlargement of superficial veins from pressure on the vena cava; (d) intestinal obstruction.

Treatment, as far as it is not surgical, is purely palliative.

MOVABLE OR FLOATING KIDNEY

The kidney may be unduly mobile from laxity of the sub-peritoneal fascia. The peritoneum may nearly surround it, forming a false mesonephron. This condition may be part of a general enteroptosis, or may be the result of laxity and

pendulousness of the abdominal wall. Tight lacing is said to cause it ; it is more frequent in the female than the male ; and the right kidney is much more commonly affected than the left.

Symptoms may be entirely absent. There is often dragging pain in the loin, worse on exertion. Paroxysmal crises of pain like that of renal colic, attended by rigor, vomiting, and collapse, may occur (Dietl's crises), and neurasthenia and dyspepsia are frequent. Intermittent hydronephrosis may occur from temporary kinking of the ureter. A freely movable tumour of the size and shape of the kidney is to be felt. It may occupy almost any position in the abdominal cavity. Squeezing it causes a feeling of nausea. It can be pushed back into the loin by palpation.

Treatment.—If a displaced kidney causes no symptoms, and is found by accident in the course of an abdominal examination, the patient should not be told of its existence. No treatment may be required, but in other cases a carefully adjusted pad and bandage may retain the kidney in position. Sometimes it is necessary to stitch it to the posterior wall.

DISEASES OF THE FIBROUS TISSUES, MUSCLES, AND JOINTS

FIBROSITIS

(MYALGIA, MUSCULAR OR CHRONIC RHEUMATISM)

A PAINFUL condition involving the muscles, fasciæ, aponeuroses, tendon sheaths, or ligaments.

Etiology.—The disease is most common amongst the middle-aged poor, particularly those who are exposed to cold and wet. It very rarely follows acute rheumatism, though certain cases may be due to alimentary or other toxæmia; and the term chronic rheumatism, hitherto in very common use, has been so loosely used to cover a large variety of conditions associated with pain and stiffness of movement, that it may be regarded as having no precise meaning. Trauma and muscular overstrain are frequent contributory factors.

Morbid Anatomy.—The fibrous tissues are principally involved, and there are inflammation and proliferation of the aponeurotic sheaths of muscles, the sheaths of adjacent tendons, or the capsules and ligaments of joints in the affected area. Firm and tender fibrous nodules often form in the aponeurotic sheaths, and the muscles themselves may be indurated, especially in the neck.

Symptoms may come on suddenly or more gradually, and consist of intense pain on movement and tenderness on pressure, with, frequently, the presence of deeply-seated fibrous nodules to be made out on firm palpation. Usually they are confined to one muscle or group of muscles, and according to their situation different varieties are distinguished. The chief of these are :—

1. *Lumbago*.—The aponeurosis of the erector spinæ and latissimus dorsi is most frequently involved. The pain is often intense, and may markedly affect the locomotion. Often the onset of the pain is traced to some physical exertion, such as getting up into the saddle, or lifting heavy weights.

2. *Pleurodynia*.—The sheaths of the pectoral muscles, intercostals, or serratus magnus, are most commonly affected. The respiratory movements of the affected side are much embarrassed. This affection may be mistaken for pleurisy, as the movements of the affected muscles often cause a distinct fremitus. The absence of other physical signs should prevent such an error.

3. *Muscular Torticollis or Stiff Neck*.—Here the cervical muscles, especially the sternomastoid, are affected. This condition must not be confounded with spasmodic torticollis. Many other varieties are described.

Treatment.—At the outset the bowels should be opened by a saline. Rest to the muscles is essential, and may be obtained by strapping, as in pleurodynia, or by plasters in lumbago, in which hot fomentations are also useful. Anodyne liniments or galvanism may be employed. In lumbago acupuncture is often of service. In chronic cases, iodide of potassium or guaiacum should be given, and massage should be employed. Acetylsalicylic acid, gr. x-xv (grm. 0.65-1.0) thrice daily, is of value for the relief of pain.

MYOSITIS

A rare inflammatory affection of the voluntary muscles, occurring in various forms. It may be primary or secondary, suppurative or non-suppurative. The principal varieties are :—

Dermatomyositis, in which the muscles are swollen and tender, and the skin over them œdematous, and showing patchy urticarial, erythematous, or erysipelatoid eruptions. The onset is sudden or gradual, there is some fever, and the spleen is enlarged. The disease is usually fatal after a course of months or years, but some cases recover. The muscles are soft and friable, and their fibres show granular or hyaline degeneration. The connective tissues are infiltrated with round cells. A *hæmorrhagic* form is also described. The etiology is unknown.

Secondary myositis occurs in trichiniasis ; in certain infective fevers, principally enteric, where the change is mainly degenerative ; and in pyæmia, where the condition is suppurative.

Myositis ossificans is a chronic disease, beginning in early childhood, affecting first the muscles of the back and neck, and extending to the other voluntary muscles. There are at first

recurrent attacks of pain and swelling of the muscles, which are infiltrated with embryonic connective tissue. This undergoes fibrosis, causing induration of the muscles and limitation of movement. Later the fibrous tissue becomes calcified, and finally it is replaced by true bone. After the muscles of the trunk those of the limbs are involved, and later still the muscles of mastication. The patient becomes bedridden, and dies of intercurrent diseases, such as pneumonia or bedsore. The duration is prolonged, and though there may be temporary arrests of progress, there is no real intermission.

Treatment in most cases of myositis is purely palliative. If a tuberculous or syphilitic origin be suspected, the appropriate remedies should be employed. Pain should be relieved by sedatives and local applications. Salicylate of soda or aspirin may be used, and in the more chronic cases firm massage is of some value.

THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHIES

These affections, however various in form, are all of them essentially due to a congenital defect in the development of the muscular system, which manifests itself sooner or later in atrophy on the one hand, and hypertrophy or pseudo-hypertrophy on the other. In all there is either a marked *hereditary influence*, or a *family predisposition*, the disease affecting several members of the same generation; and all of them begin either in childhood or comparatively early in adult life.

Morbid Anatomy.—In all forms the muscular system is primarily affected, and changes in the nervous system are either absent or inconstant. The muscular fibres are some of them atrophied, some hypertrophied, their nuclei are increased, and the perimysium proliferates, leading to increase of fibrous tissue. An extensive deposit of fat-cells takes place within the perimysium, and may entirely replace the muscle fibres, which become fissured and vacuolated. Ultimately certain muscles may completely disappear.

The changes begin in the muscles *of the trunk*, and in the proximal section of the limbs adjacent to them. Not all the muscles undergo atrophy; some increase in size either from the development of fat or connective tissue or from real hypertrophy, and this increase is most common in the upper limbs in

the infraspínatus, deltoid, and triceps, in the lower limbs in the glutei, sartorius, and muscles of the calf.

Pseudo-hypertrophic Paralysis occurs principally amongst boys, and has a tendency to affect more than one male member of the same family. It may be hereditary, and in such cases the tendency is transmitted through the female line, while only the male children suffer. It commonly begins in childhood.

The muscles most conspicuously *atrophied* are the latissimus dorsi and lower part of the pectoralis major, but the biceps, serratus magnus, and flexors of the hip may also suffer. The *pseudo-hypertrophy* is seen in the *calves*, the glutei, the triceps, and the infraspínatus and deltoid.

Symptoms are very characteristic when the disease is fully developed, but in the earlier periods they are somewhat obscure.

1. Impaired locomotion from muscular weakness ; the little fellow lags behind his playfellows.

2. Hypertrophy of muscles with atrophy of others.

3. Certain deformities through contraction of muscles un-antagonised by the paralysed ones. *Lordosis* is conspicuous.

4. The characteristic gait and movements.

During walking the abdomen is thrown out, with a corresponding *hollowing of the back* ; the legs are widely spread out, the whole effect being a *waddling gait*.

The getting up from a recumbent position is very characteristic, especially if there are no objects near by which the child can aid himself. He first gets on his hands and knees ; then extends his knees to the utmost ; and lastly, quickly grasping first one knee and then the other, he moves his hands alternately higher and higher up the thighs till the trunk is raised ("climbing up the thighs").

It is remarkable how easily some patients can manage these movements. Later, the muscular weakness is such that they require the aid of near objects to grasp at, and finally failure is complete, the patient being helpless.

There is no reaction of degeneration. The response to both galvanism and faradism becomes progressively less, but as long as any true muscular tissue is left, there is some response to stimulation. The knee-jerk is lost when the tonicity of the extensors fails.

The *hereditary* muscular dystrophy of Leyden-Möbius affects the same muscles as pseudo-hypertrophic paralysis, but all the muscles are atrophic.

The Juvenile Type of muscular dystrophy described by Erb arises about puberty or in early adult life, and may occur in either sex. The muscles of the shoulder girdle and upper arm are first and principally affected, and the lower limbs suffer later. The latissimus dorsi, serratus, and pectoralis major suffer, and also the trapezius, rhomboids, biceps, triceps, and supinator longus. The deltoid and the hand escape.

In the **Infantile or Facio-Scapulo-Humeral Type** (Landouzy-Déjérine type), which may begin either in infancy or at puberty, the facial muscles are primarily involved, and the lips may be thickened from pseudo-hypertrophy. The orbicularis palpebrarum also suffers, and the disease spreads to the shoulder girdle and arms. The tongue and ocular muscles are not affected.

Prognosis is least favourable in the pseudo-hypertrophic and infantile forms, in which few patients survive to the age of twenty, and the majority die of intercurrent pulmonary disease due to weakness of the respiratory muscles. In the other forms life may be prolonged for many years.

Diagnosis.—These affections are to be distinguished from spinal muscular atrophy by the following points. They begin in early life, and show a hereditary or family tendency; they involve most markedly the muscles of the trunk and proximal sections of the limbs, while the distal sections, and particularly *the hands*, are little affected; *fibrillary tremors are absent*; electrical reactions are only quantitatively diminished; and the atrophy is often combined with hypertrophy or pseudo-hypertrophy.

Treatment.—Most benefit is to be expected from a thorough system of well-planned gymnastic exercises, massage, careful hygiene, and galvanism. The diet should be highly nourishing. Cod-liver oil or malt extract may be given.

Tonics such as strychnine and phosphorus may be employed, and of these strychnine hypodermically is most frequently used. Arsenic also is often prescribed, and may be given hypodermically or by the mouth. The thinness of the chest walls renders the patient very prone to chest affections, which are often fatal, and should be particularly guarded against.

THOMSEN'S DISEASE

(MYOTONIA CONGENITA)

A rare condition, characterised by a tendency of the muscles to tonic spasm during attempts at voluntary movements.

The disease is probably always associated with some congenital defect, but auto-intoxication has been suggested as the cause. Heredity is an important factor, and more than one member of a family may be affected.

Morbid Anatomy.—The muscular fibres are hypertrophied, and may be more than twice the ordinary size. The nuclei of the sarcolemma are increased, and there is a slight increase of interstitial tissue. Among the hypertrophied fibres atrophic fibres have been found.

Symptoms.—1. After *rest*, the patient experiences tension and stiffness of the muscles on attempting to rise, etc.

2. Difficulty in *relaxing* the muscles.

3. In severe cases the spasm may be at first so great as to cause the patient to remain locked in the position in which he is ; but it yields gradually to repeated attempts at movement.

4. The muscles of the tongue, face, and eyes may be similarly affected. The acts of micturition, defæcation, and respiration are not usually involved.

5. The muscles are usually enlarged, and respond excessively to stimuli, swelling locally after a slight blow.

6. The electrical reactions are markedly disturbed. There is increased irritability, and the contraction following faradic, and especially galvanic, stimuli is unduly prolonged. A.C.C. is as easily elicited as K.C.C. A continuous galvanic current sets up a series of wave-like contractions, passing from cathode to anode (*myotonic reaction*).

Note that continued movements and warmth decrease the spasm ; mental worry and cold usually aggravate it.

Treatment.—Massage and regular gymnastic exercises, with warm bathing, may alleviate the spasm. The disease is incurable, but not fatal.

MYASTHENIA GRAVIS

A rare condition characterised by ready exhaustibility of the voluntary muscles, principally those of the eyes, lips, and

tongue, without lesions of the nervous system, but attended by deposits of lymphocytes in the muscles and other tissues.

The disease begins most commonly in the first half of life, and affects the sexes almost equally. Its etiology is unknown. No constant changes are found in the nervous system. The thymus is often enlarged. Small deposits of lymphocytes are constantly present in the muscles, thymus, adrenals, liver, and pancreas. The blood is normal.

Symptoms.—The principal ocular symptom is ptosis, least obvious after the night's rest, and increasing as the day goes on. The eyes cannot be kept open for long at a time, and as the occipito-frontalis is too weak for compensatory contraction, the brow remains unwrinkled. There may be transient paralyses of the ocular muscles. The muscles of the face and those of mastication are affected, whistling is impossible, the voice becomes nasal, the tongue is protruded with difficulty, and the head cannot be kept upright from weakness of the muscles of the neck. All these symptoms are less prominent after rest, and increase on repetition of the respective movements. The disease in time extends to the muscles of the limbs and to those of respiration. The duration is long, and death is the result of respiratory or cardiac failure or of choking. Paræsthesiæ are occasionally present. The knee-jerks are increased, but may temporarily disappear after repeated stimulation.

The *myasthenic reaction* is characteristic. The muscles respond at first normally to faradism, but the response is gradually exhausted on repeated stimulation, to return after rest. The power of voluntary contraction may persist after the faradic response has ceased.

There is no effective *treatment*. Rest and strychnine hypodermically, with general tonics, are the most successful measures. The administration of thyroid or thymus extracts has proved useless.

The majority of the more acute lesions of the *joints* has already been described under the various diseases to which they are due—acute rheumatism, gout, gonococcal, pneumococcal, and other infections, pyæmia, hæmophilia, etc.—and the reader is referred to the articles on these diseases for further details.

Charcot's disease of the joints finds its place under locomotor ataxia (*q.v.*). There remain certain affections, not so easily classifiable, of which the most important is

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

(OSTEO-ARTHRITIS. ARTHRITIS DEFORMANS)

A chronic inflammatory affection of the joints, giving rise to changes in the synovial membrane and the surrounding tissues, and sometimes to changes in the bones.

Etiology.—The disease is most common amongst females, and usually begins between the ages of twenty and forty. It may, however, occur at any age. Heredity, uterine disorders, a tuberculous family history, gout or rheumatism, grief, worry, etc., are looked upon as important etiological factors. It is most prevalent among the poor, and is favoured by exposure to cold and damp. It may, in fact, be said that almost any influence tending to lower the vitality may predispose to the disease.

Pathology.—The view now most commonly held is that the disease is of microbic origin. It is often the sequel to an acute infection, in certain cases its onset is acute, in children there is often widespread enlargement of lymphatic glands and of the spleen, and organisms of various kinds have occasionally been found in the articular fluid. Some consider "that it is due to a settlement of micro-organisms in the affected joints, that they there produce a toxin, and that that toxin, passing into the circulation, is responsible for any nervous symptoms which occur" (Luff). It is, however, rare to find such organisms in the joints, the fluid from which is commonly sterile; and other authorities, with much recent evidence to justify them, think that the joint condition is due to a chronic sapræmia, the result of a local microbic infection. The most frequent source of infection is the teeth, pyorrhœa or abscesses at the roots of the teeth being the conditions generally found. Suppurative affections of the nasal sinuses, the uterus, the urethra, or the colon may also be associated with the disease. Poncet has recently pointed out that many cases are really of tuberculous origin, being due to the invasion of the joints by tuberculo-toxins, derived from an obvious or latent focus of tuberculosis elsewhere in the body. The etiological importance of a tuber-

culous family history, and the frequency of arthritic pains in tuberculous subjects without tuberculosis of the joints, become explicable on this assumption.

The view that the disease is a tropho-neurosis, although supported by the symmetry of the lesions, the nutritional disturbances in the skin and muscles, and the frequently concurrent neuritis, is now generally abandoned.

Morbid Anatomy.—The morbid changes found in the joints affected are similar to those of Charcot's joint disease, sometimes a complication in cases of locomotor ataxia. The disease begins in the cartilages and synovial membranes. The cartilage becomes soft and vascular, and is gradually absorbed. The result is approximation of the two articular surfaces of the bones, which, by rubbing together, become very dense, hard, and highly polished. The surfaces at the same time become broadened out and lipped at the edges. Underneath the new and dense ivory-like bone, rarefaction and atrophy may occur, and lead to shortening and deformity.

The synovial membranes are inflamed and thickened: often portions become detached and form loose bodies in the joint. The ligaments are much thickened, and often contracted; sometimes they calcify and cause more or less ankylosis. At the margins of the joints, where the pressure is less, ossification goes on, resulting in the formation of irregular bony outgrowths, termed osteophytes. The ankylosis is rarely complete, and there is no tendency to suppuration.

A rheumatoid type is described, in which the synovial membranes and ligaments are chiefly affected (*rheumatoid arthritis*); and an osteoid type (*osteo-arthritis*) in which the atrophic changes in the cartilages and bones predominate. Many writers believe that the two are separate diseases, but the differences in type are by most accounted for by the age of onset and the greater or less chronicity of the infection.

Muscular atrophy is common, as are neuritis and trophic changes in the skin.

Symptoms.—

The Ordinary Chronic Form.—The joints are involved symmetrically, although the process generally begins on one side, and becomes symmetrical by extension. The smaller joints, especially the metacarpo-phalangeal and inter-phalangeal joints of the hands, are usually first affected. At first the joints may

be swollen, red, and tender, but the more constant features are stiffness and gradually increasing deformity, without any marked signs of inflammation. In confirmed cases, the joint changes and the accompanying muscular atrophy cause the extremities to assume a very characteristic appearance. The lower ends of the ulna and radius project at the wrists, the metacarpophalangeal joints are flexed, the first phalangeal joints are over-extended, the second are flexed, and the fingers deviate to the ulnar side. The joints give forth a creaking sound when moved.

When the disease is confined to the hands, osteophytes may form at the sides of the terminal phalanges, and are known as 'Heberden's Nodes.' After the hands and wrists, the knees and ankles are most commonly attacked, but all the articulations of the body may be implicated, and joints such as the sterno-clavicular and temporo-maxillary, which escape in acute rheumatism, are often affected. The muscular atrophy, though no doubt largely due to trophic influences, is contributed to by disuse.

The *monoarticular* form of the disease affects as a rule the hip, shoulder, or hip-joint, and occurs chiefly in elderly men (*morbus coxæ senilis*). The knee is often affected in women about the menopause.

The *rheumatoid* type, beginning with fusiform swelling of the inter-phalangeal joints, and extending to the larger joints, in which there is much fluid effusion, is the commoner in young women. It may set in acutely, with much pain, fever, and a rapid pulse, the acute symptoms disappearing after about a month, while some disorganisation of the joints remains, and is added to in subsequent attacks (*acute rheumatoid arthritis*). In the *osteo-arthritic* type, in which the changes chiefly affect the cartilages and bones, creaking is perceptible on movement, and osteophytes may cause locking or fibrous ankylosis may immobilise the joint, and more frequently affects the elderly. Multiple *osteo-arthritis* sometimes attacks children, and in them is often associated with enlargement of the spleen and lymphatic glands, anæmia, and fever (*Still's disease*).

Diagnosis.—Charcot's joint disease is painless, and ataxic symptoms are present. In chronic gout tophi are present, uric acid is in excess, and there is a history of acute attacks. Acute rheumatism responds to salicylates, acute rheumatoid arthritis does not.

Treatment.—No treatment can cure this disease, except in its earliest stage, but it is often arrested by careful attention to the general health. Liberal diet, fresh air, and gentle exercise, avoiding pain, and a dry, warm climate are beneficial. Of drugs, cod-liver oil, iron, and arsenic are chiefly used. Garrod recommends iodide of iron, and Luff potassium iodide or carbonate of guaiacol gr. v-x (grm. 0.3-0.6) thrice daily. Massage is often of great service. At first light general massage only should be employed, but after a few days frictions may be made over the affected joints. Passive movement is also useful, and the thermo-cautery helps to relieve pain and lessen thickening. Any local infection which may cause a toxæmia should be treated, and of late vaccines made from the organisms found in such local conditions as pyorrhœa alveolaris, leucorrhœa, and colitis have been used with considerable success. Even in the absence of such conditions, a polyvalent streptococcus vaccine has sometimes given good results, and the recently introduced phylacogens would seem to have done good. Radiant heat and hot-air baths are useful in relieving pain and increasing freedom of movement. A course of treatment at Harrogate, Strathpeffer, or Droitwich may also be useful.

“Protein shock” therapy is still on its trial. The method consists in the intravenous injection, at intervals of a week, of 10 cc. of a 10 per cent. solution of Witte’s peptone in water, or of 50 to 100 millions of a typhoid or *B. coli* vaccine. The introduction of the foreign protein produces both a general and a local reaction—fever, sometimes up to 105° F., with pain and swelling of the joints, passing off usually within twenty-four hours, and followed by improvement. It is not without some danger, but has proved beneficial in a number of cases.

INTERMITTENT HYDRARTHOSIS

A rare disease characterised by periodic pain and swelling of the joints with synovial effusion. The attacks occur at regular intervals of from ten days to a fortnight, and clear up quickly, leaving the joints normal. There is no fever. The knees are most commonly affected. The condition may last for years, and is very resistant to treatment, although it does not affect the general health in the intervals between the attacks, during which rest is imperative. It is thought to be allied to urticaria and angio-neurotic œdema.

HYPERTROPHIC PULMONARY OSTEOARTHROPATHY

Enlargement of the bones of the terminal phalanges of hands and feet, with stiffness and sometimes effusion into the interphalangeal joints, and "clubbing" of the soft parts of the terminal phalanges. The condition is chronic, and is always secondary to such affections as congenital disease of the heart, certain chronic affections of the lungs (bronchiectasis, phthisis, empyema), and certain toxæmias, such as chronic dysentery, chronic pyelonephritis, or chronic jaundice.

The first stage is clubbing of the fingers, the terminal phalanges being swollen, bluish from cyanosis, and rounded, while the nails are unduly curved in both directions. In this stage the fibrous tissues are thickened and the vessels engorged, but there are no changes in the bones. Later the hands and feet become enlarged, their bones become thickened, especially in the phalanges, and to a lesser degree the bones of the lower part of the forearm and the leg may be thickened near the joints. These changes are due to a subperiosteal proliferation of bone, with rarefaction of the deeper bony tissues. The involved joints show thickening of the synovial membrane, and sometimes synovial effusion. Their movements are stiff, and there may be tenderness on pressure, but there is no actual pain. Kyphosis is sometimes present.

The prognosis and treatment are those of the causative disease.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

I. INTRODUCTORY

BEFORE commencing the study of diseases of the nervous system, the reader is strongly advised to digest the following account of the anatomy and physiology of the motor and sensory tracts.

THE NEURON

The primary elements of the nervous system are the neuron and the neuroglia, the former being the discharging and conducting structures, and the latter the supporting. The **neuron** is the essential element of the nervous system, which may be regarded as built up of an enormous number of them arranged in series, and occupying definite tracts. A neuron consists of a nerve cell and its branches (axon and dendrons or dendrites). The **dendrons** belonging to a single cell may be many, or there may be but one; in either case they are short processes, soon subdivided into many terminal branches forming an arborisation. They are made up of fibrillæ, and of granular matter lying between the fibrillæ, which are continuous, through the body of the cell itself, with the fibrillæ of other dendrons or of the **axon**. This process, entirely composed of fibrillæ, gives off collaterals at right angles to its course, and these, like the axon itself, often end in an arborisation around the dendrons of another nerve cell. These places of linkage of one neuron with another are called **synapses**. An axon may be either long or short; in the former case it does not branch for a considerable distance, becomes surrounded with myelin, and passes as a nerve fibre into the white matter; in the latter it breaks up into branches close to its cell, which is known as a "link cell," and is confined to the grey matter alone. The myelin sheath is, in the peripheral nerves, surrounded by a thin nucleated membranous sheath, the neurilemma; in the brain and cord the neurilemma is absent. The dendrons conduct impulses *towards* the cell, the axons *away* from it.

The **nerve cell** itself, besides its nucleus and nucleolus and the fibrillæ which traverse it, contains a series of angular granules (Nissl's bodies) similar to those of the dendron. They stain deeply with methylene blue, and are an index of the state of health or degeneration of the cell. The multiplication of nerve cells ceases shortly after birth, but their growth is active, and they have great reparative power.

The **neuroglia** is composed of a network of delicate interlacing fibrils containing a number of nucleated cells (Deiter's cells) embedded in it. It everywhere interpenetrates the nervous elements, but is most abundant round the central canal of the cord and the ventricles of the brain, and in the substantia gelatinosa of Rolando, which lies at the tip of the posterior cornu of the cord. In the various "scleroses," it is increased at the expense of the nervous elements.

A neuron is "efferent" or "afferent," according as its axon carries impulses from the central nervous system towards the periphery, or from the periphery towards the centre. By the superposition of one efferent neuron upon another, or of one afferent neuron upon another, efferent, descending, or *motor*, and afferent, ascending, or *sensory paths* are built up, which occupy definite positions in the spinal cord and brain. A brief account of the anatomy of the cord is necessary for the comprehension of these paths.

THE SPINAL CORD

The Spinal Cord consists of a tubular prolongation of the brain enclosed in three membranes, the dura mater externally, the arachnoid, and internally the pia mater. Between the arachnoid and the pia mater is the subarachnoidal space, filled with cerebro-spinal fluid, and *continuous*, through the foramen of Majendie, *with the ventricles of the brain*. The blood-vessels enter the spinal cord in trabeculæ derived from the pia mater, which closely invests it. The substance of the cord consists of white matter externally, and grey matter internally.

The Grey Matter, which is more vascular than the white, is composed of a network of medullated and non-medullated fibrils (axons and dendrons of the cells, and commissural fibres), and of nerve cells, supported by a framework of neuroglia. The nerve cells are arranged for the most part in groups, of which the following are the most important :—

In the *Anterior Horn*.

1. Median or internal group, close to the anterior column of white matter.
2. Ventro-lateral group, in the outer part of the horn.

In the *Intermedio-lateral Tract*.

3. Lateral group, most prominent in the thoracic region.

In the *Posterior Horn*.

4. *Vesicular Column of Clarke*, at the junction of the posterior horn with the grey commissure. These cells send their axons into the white matter of Flechsig's tract.
5. Smaller groups at the margins of the horn, and in the substantia gelatinosa; also solitary cells throughout the horn.

The anterior cells are multipolar and give origin to motor nerve roots; they also act as *trophic* centres for motor fibres in the nerve trunk. The cells of the column of Clarke are important through their implication in the transmission of sensory impulses from the posterior root-fibres.

The White Matter, though apparently homogeneous, is really divisible into columns or tracts which have been recognised by the study of degenerations, and each of which is specially concerned in the transference of impulses up to or from the brain, or in some instances between different parts of the cord. The chief tracts are:—

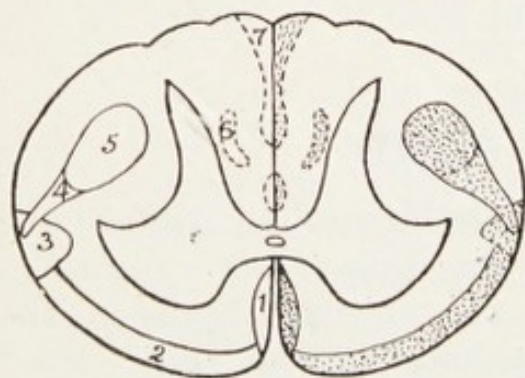


FIG. 16.—SCHEME OF THE DESCENDING TRACTS IN THE WHITE MATTER.

1. Direct pyramidal (Türck); 2, descending cerebellar or vestibulo-spinal (Löwenthal); 3, tract of Helweg; 4, pre-pyramidal or rubro-spinal (Monakow); 5, crossed pyramidal (Türck); 6, comma tract; 7, association tracts, containing both ascending and descending fibres.

I. **Efferent or Descending** (see Fig. 16).

(a) *The Crossed Pyramidal Tract*, in the posterior part of the lateral column, between the posterior horn and the direct cerebellar tract of Flechsig.

(b) *The Direct Pyramidal Tract*, on either side of the anterior median fissure. Both these tracts are formed of the axons of cells in the motor area of the cortex.

The fibres of the crossed pyramidal tract, which is much the larger, decussate in the medulla, passing to the opposite side, while those of the direct pyramidal tract continue on the same side as their cells, probably decussating lower down in the white commissure.

- (c) *The Rubro-spinal or Pre-pyramidal Tract*, a crossed tract descending from the red nucleus in the cerebral peduncle.
- (d) *The Descending Cerebellar or Vestibulo-spinal Tract*, uncrossed, coming from Deiter's nucleus in the medulla, and through the vestibular division of the auditory nerve connecting cerebellar nuclei with the grey matter of the anterior cornu.

II. Afferent or Ascending (see Fig. 17).

- (a) The Postero-internal Tract (*column of Goll*) next the posterior median fissure.
- (b) The Postero-external Tract (*column of Burdach*) between the column of Goll and the posterior horn. Both of these contain fibres from the inner bundle of the posterior root-fibres (axons of cells in the posterior root-ganglia).
- (c) The *Antero-lateral Ascending Cerebellar Tract* of Gowers.
- (d) The *Postero-lateral Ascending Cerebellar Tract* of Flechsig (*direct cerebellar tract*). Both contain fibres which are the *axons of cells in the grey matter of the cord* (cells of the posterior horn and of Clarke's column).
- (e) The marginal Tract of Lissauer, a small area just external to the posterior roots. It contains fibres from the outer bundle of posterior root-fibres.

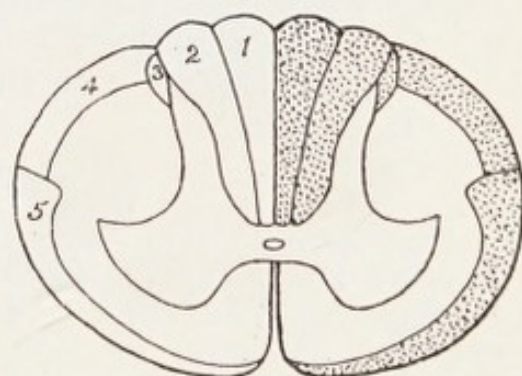


FIG. 17.—SCHEME OF THE ASCENDING TRACTS IN THE WHITE MATTER.

1, Postero-internal (column of Goll); 2, postero-external (column of Burdach); 3, marginal (Lissauer); 4, postero-lateral ascending cerebellar (Flechsig); 5, antero-lateral ascending cerebellar (Gowers).

Of these five tracts the first four run the whole length of the cord, and are known as the *long ascending tracts*. Among other tracts of secondary importance are a tract from the

anterior corpora quadrigemina to the opposite anterior columns, and the small comma tract of the posterior column, which though *descending*, is composed of *sensory* fibres.

THE MOTOR PATH

The motor path is composed of two sections—(1) An upper or cerebro-spinal efferent neuron (the pyramidal system,

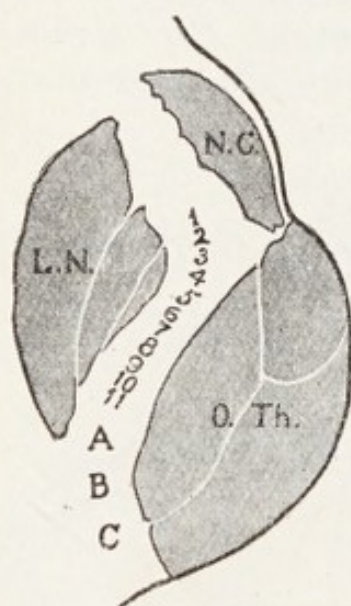


FIG. 18.—SCHEME ILLUSTRATING THE RELATIVE POSITION OF THE DIFFERENT BANDS OF FIBRES IN THE INTERNAL CAPSULE.

N.C., Nucleus caudatus ; O.Th., optic thalamus ; L.N., lenticular nucleus. The anterior limb of the capsule contains, in front, the fibres of the fronto-pontine projection system, and posteriorly some of the fibres of the pyramidal system—1, fibres to eyes ; 2, head ; 3, tongue. The posterior limb contains—4, mouth ; 5, arm ; 6, hand ; 7, trunk ; 8, hip ; 9, knee ; 10, leg ; 11, toes. In the posterior part we have sensory fibres A, the temporo-pontine projection fibres B, and the visual radiating fibres C.

Wyllie's *first trophic realm*), comprising the cortical motor cell, its dendrons, and its axon, which passes downwards through the cord to terminate in an arborisation round a motor cell of the anterior grey cornu ; (2) a lower or spino-peripheral neuron (second trophic realm), comprising the motor cell of the anterior cornu, its dendrons, and its axon passing downwards in a peripheral nerve to the muscle, and ending in the muscular fibres.

Tracing them from above downwards, the motor fibres, originating in the cells of the cortex, principally around the *fissure of Rolando*, traverse—

1. The *corona radiata*.

2. The *genu* and the anterior two-thirds of the *posterior* limb of the internal capsule. The fibres in the genu go to the eye, head, tongue, and mouth ; those in the posterior limb to the limbs and trunk. (See Fig. 18.)

3. The *crusta* of the crus cerebri, where the fibres going to the nucleus of the third nerve cross to the opposite side.

4. The *pons Varolii*. Here the fibres for the face cross over, and end in arborisations around the nucleus of the seventh nerve, the cells and axons

of which (fibres of the nerve) constitute the lower neuron.

5. The *medulla oblongata*. At the lower part of the medulla the bulk of the fibres crosses (decussation of the pyramids, Fig. 19) to the opposite side, and passes down the cord as the

crossed pyramidal tract, and thence (possibly by way of a short intermediate dendron linking the posterior cornual cells with those of the anterior cornu, possibly direct) to a terminal arborisation round the cells of the anterior horn. A few fibres pass down from the medulla without decussation, and form the direct pyramidal tract.

Subsidiary motor tracts, by which in the event of damage to the pyramidal tract motor impulses may be to some extent conducted, are the rubro-spinal and the vestibulo-spinal. The former appears also to convey inhibitory impulses, the latter impulses increasing motor tone.

Such is the course of the upper neuron, and that of the lower or spino-peripheral neuron has already been indicated. It will be seen that the trophic centre for the *motor tracts* is situated in the Rolandic cortex, and that the trophic centres for the *motor nerves* are the multipolar cells in the anterior horn of the cord. A lesion of the motor cortex is therefore followed by degeneration of the *motor* (pyramidal) *tracts*, and a lesion of the anterior horn by degeneration of *motor nerves*.

THE SENSORY PATH

1. The **lower or peripheral neuron** has its cells in the ganglia of the posterior nerve root. These cells give off an apparently single process, which shortly divides like a T into two limbs, one, which corresponds physiologically to an elongated dendron, communicating with the peripheral sense-organ, and the other, which forms the axon, passing into the cord. These axonic processes enter the cord in two bundles, of which the mesial bundle passes into the *posterior column*, and the lateral into the *marginal tract* of Lissauer.

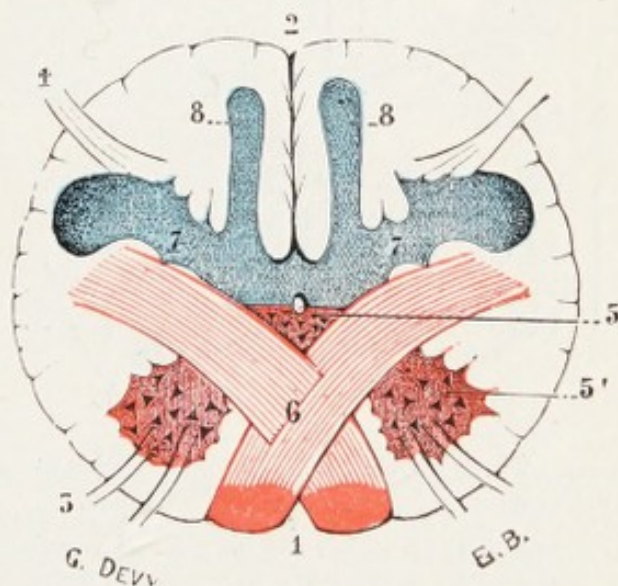


FIG. 19.—DIAGRAMMATIC SECTION THROUGH THE LOWER PART OF THE MEDULLA (AT THE INFERIOR OR MOTOR DECUSSATION) (TESTUT).

1, Antero-median fissure; 2, postero-median fissure; 6, pyramidal decussation; 3, separated anterior cornua; 5, central canal; 7, posterior cornua of grey matter; 8, beginning of the nucleus gracilis.

The processes of both bundles divide on entering the cord into *ascending* and *descending* branches, both of which, as the diagram (Fig. 20) more fully explains, give off collaterals to various cells of the grey matter. Some of these are reflex collaterals, arborising round cells of the anterior horn.

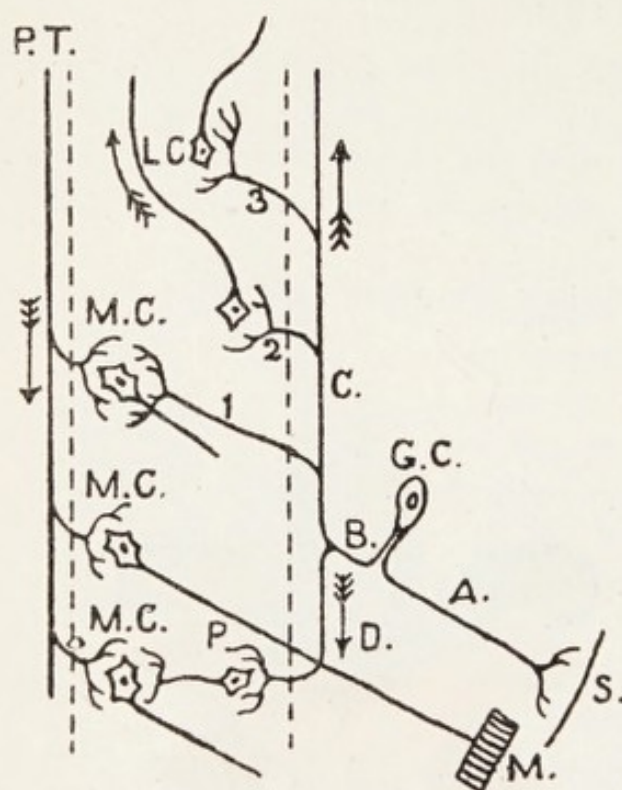


FIG. 20.—CONNECTIONS OF NERVE FIBRES IN THE SPINAL CORD.

S., Skin, from which the fibre A. of a peripheral sensory nerve leads to G.C., the ganglion cell of the posterior root. B., Axon of the ganglion cell, dividing into a short descending branch D., which turns into the grey matter and arborises round a cell P. of the posterior horn; and an ascending branch C., which runs upwards to the medulla oblongata, giving off the following collaterals—1, to a cell of the anterior horn (reflex collateral); 2, to a cell of the posterior horn, the axon of which crosses to the antero-lateral tract of the opposite side; 3, to a cell (L.C.) of Lockhart Clarke's column, the axon of which enters the direct cerebellar tract. P.T., fibre of pyramidal tract, sending collaterals to the motor cells (M.C.) of the anterior horn, the axons of which end in muscle fibres M.

The dotted lines represent the boundaries of the grey matter. (Modified from Schafer.)

The descending branches run a short course, some of them in the comma tract of the posterior column, and then turn into the grey matter.

The ascending branches of Lissauer's tract arborise around cells in the substantia gelatinosa of Rolando, while those of the posterior column run upwards in the columns of Goll and Burdach, entering the grey matter at various levels, or continuing upwards until they end in the nucleus gracilis and nucleus cuneatus of the medulla.

With the doubtful exception that some of the collaterals may pass by the posterior grey commissure to the posterior horn of the opposite side, *the peripheral neuron is uncrossed*.

2. The **central neurons** are composed of two orders of neurons, one above the other, *and are crossed*. The *second order of neurons* commences partly in the cord and partly in the medulla oblongata.

A. Some of the fibres of the posterior roots arborise, as we have seen, round cells of the posterior horn. The axons of these cells decussate *in the cord* (lower sensory decussation), and pass by the anterior commissure to run upwards in the

opposite antero-lateral tract of Gowers. Part of the fibres of this tract goes to the cerebellum, part to the pons, and a third part through the fillet and tegmentum of the crus to the *optic thalamus*. This third set of fibres carries the sensations of *pain and temperature*, and also those of crude touch and pressure (*protopathic* sensation).

B. The fibres of the posterior columns, which we have traced to the gracile and cuneate nuclei of the medulla, arborise there around the cells of the second order of neurons. The axons of these cells cross to the opposite side (*upper sensory decussation*, decussation of the fillet, Fig. 21) at a higher level than the decussation of the pyramids, and continue upwards in the fillet and tegmentum of the crus to the optic thalamus. In this upper sensory decussation, the continuation of the tracts of the posterior columns, cross the fibres conveying sensations of discriminating touch (*epicritic* sensation), active muscular resistance, and estimation of weight.

After the decussation, the fibres join those which have already decussated in the cord, and the two sets run together in the median fillet to the optic thalamus.

The relations of the motor and sensory tracts of the crus with the basal ganglia are well shown in Fig. 22.

3. From the optic thalamus a **third order of neurons** carries by means of its axons the impressions derived from the second order, through the posterior third of the posterior limb of the internal capsule and the corona radiata, to the cortical sensory centres in the post-central gyrus of the parietal lobe.

Fibres for *co-ordination of muscular movement* ascend in the *direct cerebellar tract* of Flechsig from *cells of Clarke's column* to

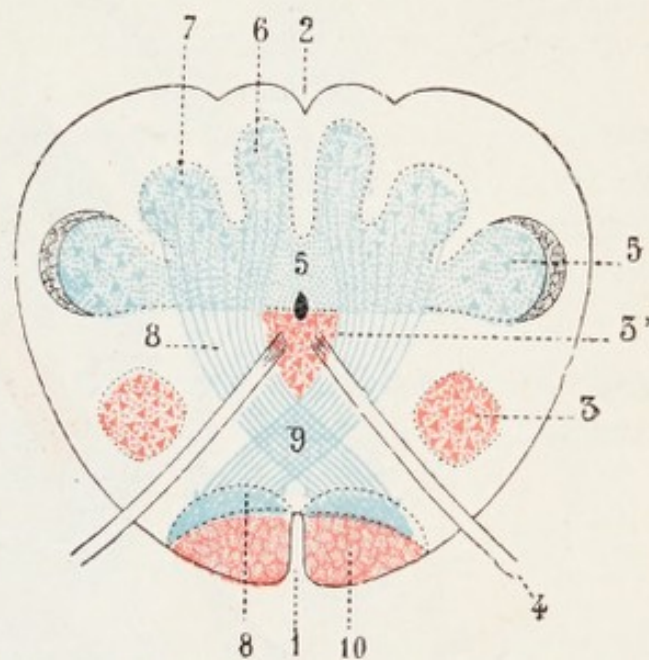


FIG. 21.—SCHEME OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE MEDULLA AT THE LEVEL OF THE SUPERIOR OR SENSORY DECUSSATION (TESTUT).

1, Anterior fissure; 2, posterior fissure; 3, antero-lateral nucleus; 4, hypoglossal; 5, central canal; 6, nucleus gracilis; 7, nucleus cuneatus; 5, nucleus of Rolando capped by the descending root of the fifth nerve; 8, formatio reticularis.

the cerebellum *but remain uncrossed*. Some of the cells of Clarke's column may possibly send axons into the antero-lateral tract.

Fig. 23 illustrates these connections of the posterior root-fibres with the cells of the cord.

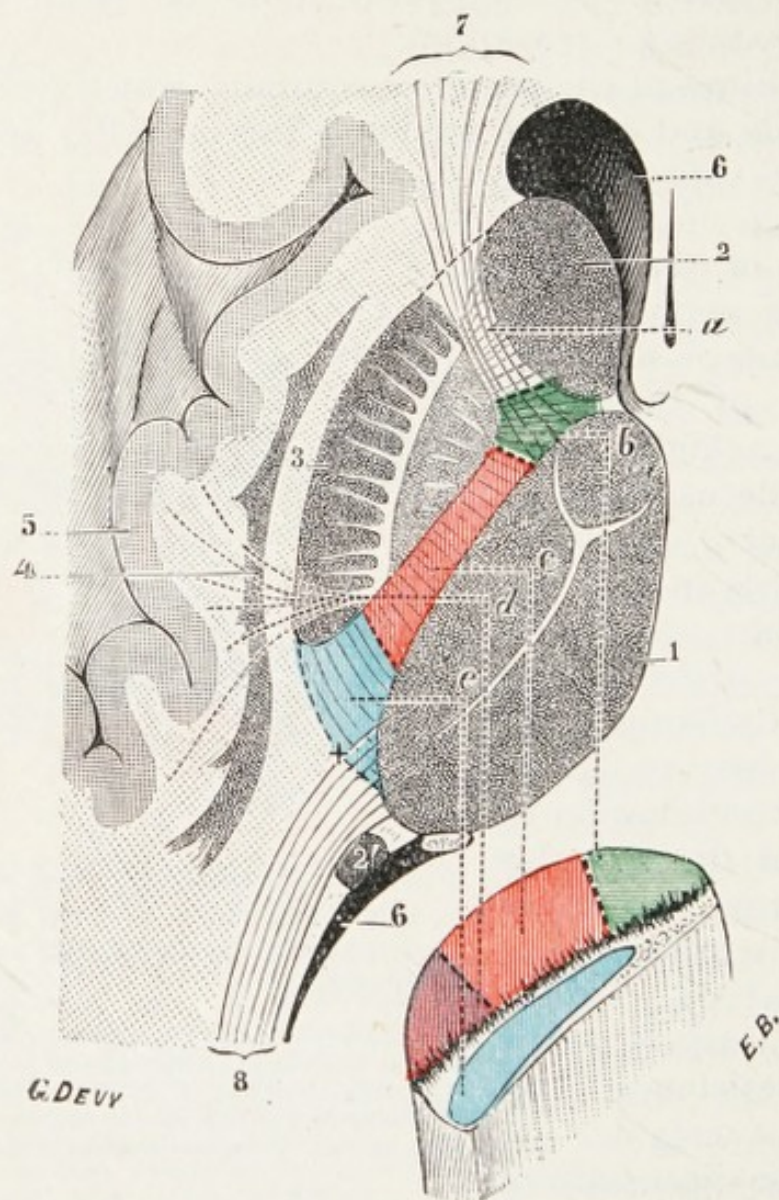


FIG. 22.—SCHEME OF THE CONNECTIONS OF THE CRUS WITH THE BASAL GANGLIA (TESTUT).

1, Optic thalamus; 2, caudate nucleus; 3, lenticular nucleus; 4, claustrum; 5, grey matter of the island of Reil; a, fronto-pontine projection system; b, genu of internal capsule, cortico-bulbar projection system; c, pyramidal projection system; d, temporo-pontine projection system; e, sensory fibres; 7, frontal fibres; 8, optic radiation.

The Internal Capsule (Fig. 18 and Fig. 22), through which the motor and sensory fibres pass, is the band of white matter between the basal ganglia, its boundaries being—

Externally—Lenticular nucleus.

Internally— { Caudate nucleus (anteriorly).
 { Optic thalamus (posteriorly).

In the middle of the internal capsule is a bend termed the "genu" or knee; the portion in front of the knee is called the anterior limb, and the portion behind, the posterior limb. The anterior limb contains commissural fibres of various kinds, the genu contains descending fibres passing to the cranial nuclei of the opposite side, whilst the *posterior* limb contains, as we have already seen, the *sensory and motor fibres* from the spinal cord.

A lesion of the internal capsule involving the motor fibres must therefore cause motor paralysis of the side of the face and of the limbs, on the opposite side of the body.

In cases that survive the original shock, sensation is not usually so much affected. It will be readily seen that a lesion extensive enough to cause both *sensory and motor* paralysis would probably be fatal in the comatose stage; but hemi-anæsthesia, usually transitory, does occasionally occur.

The External Capsule is that portion of the cerebrum lying between the claustrum externally and the lenticular nucleus internally. It is in close proximity to the island of Reil.

II. GENERAL SYMPTOMATOLOGY

Reflexes.—The student is frequently puzzled as to when reflexes should be lost, exaggerated, or impaired, but if he bears the following facts in mind there should be no difficulty.

A reflex act requires a continuity between an *afferent* nerve and an *efferent* nerve. The parts usually involved are—

1. A receiving surface (as skin).
2. A sensory nerve (afferent fibre), receiving station (cells of posterior ganglion), and transmitting fibres (reflex collateral).
3. A discharging station (cells in anterior horn).
4. A motor nerve (efferent fibre) and end station in muscle.

These together constitute a *reflex loop*. A break in *any* part of this loop must be attended with *loss* of reflex.

What is the effect of the brain on reflexes? The brain exercises an inhibitive action; therefore, if the cord be cut off from its inhibitive influence, as by disease of the upper efferent neuron, reflexes must be *exaggerated*.

Imagine the cord to be built up of segments, each segment giving off a pair of spinal nerves; then take a transverse lesion of the cord. What state of reflexes should we find?

1. At the point of lesion—reflexes are lost (as the reflex loop is destroyed).

2. *Below* the lesion—reflexes are exaggerated (as the inhibitive action of the brain is cut off).

3. *Above* the lesion—reflexes are normal.

Note, however, that at the upper border of the lesion, the

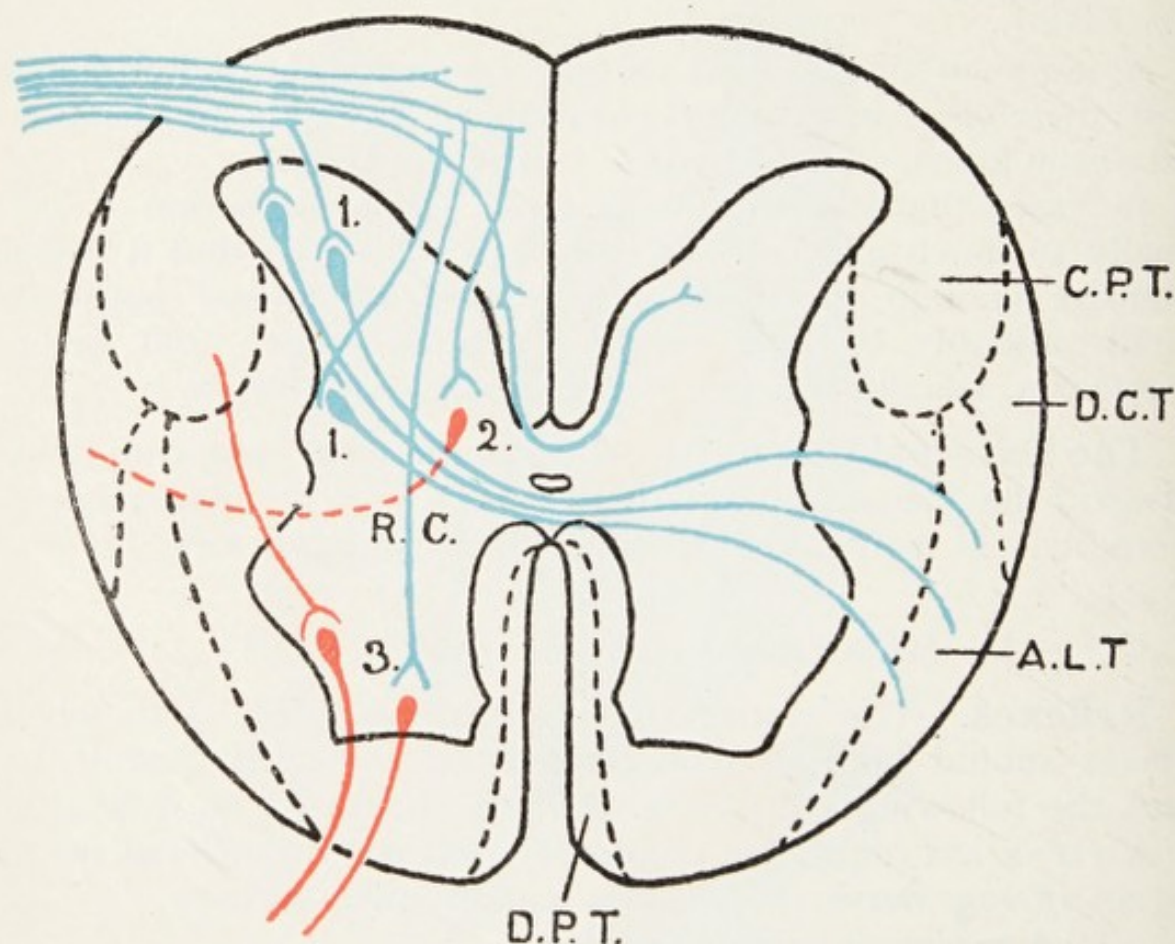


FIG. 23.—SHOWING THE MAIN CONNECTIONS OF THE POSTERIOR ROOT-FIBRES WITH CELLS OF THE GREY MATTER OF THE CORD.

1, Cells of the posterior horn, sending their axons to A.L.T., the antero lateral tract of the opposite side (lower sensory decussation); 2, Cell of Clarke's column, its axon going to the direct cerebellar tract (D.C.T.) of the same side; 3, Motor cells of the anterior cornu; R.C., reflex collateral. Sensory cells and fibres blue, motor red. Clarke's column dotted red line.

dead part would act as an irritant to the healthy portion of the cord, and consequently cause irritation of any sensory nerves coming off that area, thus producing a band of hyperæsthesia.

This painful zone, taken in conjunction with the condition of the reflexes, often enables an accurate localisation of the lesion to be made.

The hyperæsthetic zone also explains the girdle pain present in many lesions of the cord.

For the various cutaneous reflexes and their approximate localisation in the cord, *see* Gowers' Table, p. 500.

Deep or Tendon Reflexes.—These are probably not true reflexes, but muscular contractions produced by direct excitation of the muscle or its tendon. They are dependent upon the tonus of the muscle, and this in its turn depends upon the integrity of the reflex arc. Thus, disease affecting the afferent or efferent parts of the loop, or the receiving station in the cord, abolishes them; and they are exaggerated when the cerebral inhibitory action is interfered with.

The *knee-jerk* is present in health. It is obtained by tapping the patellar tendon when the quadriceps femoris is slightly stretched. The patient may cross one leg over the other, or the leg may hang over the edge of the bed, or the thigh may be supported by the observer's hand. It corresponds to the second, third, and fourth lumbar segments of the cord. If it is difficult to elicit, it may be reinforced by locking together the fingers of the patient's hands, and getting him to pull on them as if endeavouring to separate them (*Jendrassik's method* of distracting the attention).

The *Achilles-tendon jerk* is obtained by getting the patient to place his leg in a kneeling position on a chair with his foot hanging over the edge, and tapping smartly on the Achilles tendon. It is present in health, and corresponds to the first sacral segment.

Knee-clonus is obtained by pulling down the patella as the patient lies upon his back, and delivering a tap upon its upper edge while the tendon is stretched. It is not present in health.

Ankle-clonus is obtained by supporting the calf of the patient's leg upon one hand, and thrusting the foot upwards with the other hand placed upon the ball of the toes. It is also absent in health.

In the arm the most important tendon reflexes are the *triceps* tendon jerk, obtained by tapping the tendon above the elbow, and corresponding to the sixth and seventh cervical segments; and the *supinator* jerk, obtained by tapping the lower end of the radius while the forearm is semi-pronated, and corresponding to the fifth cervical segment. These jerks are often absent or very feeble in healthy persons.

Degenerations.—When nerve fibres are cut off from their trophic centres, they undergo disintegration, known as secondary

degeneration—viz., in the case of sensory fibres, ascending degeneration, and in the case of motor fibres, descending degeneration.

In the case of sensory fibres, the trophic cells are situated peripherally, and the direction of the axon is centripetal. Hence in the cord sensory degeneration starts from below and passes upwards towards the cerebrum. In the motor tracts the reverse is the case, as the trophic cells have a central situation. Degeneration, therefore, occurs from the cerebrum downwards through the cord, or from the anterior cornu along peripheral nerve fibres.

Such degenerative changes in the lower motor neuron express themselves in an alteration of the electrical reactions of the muscles governed by the affected nervous area, and also by alterations in the reactions of the implicated nerves. These are known as the *reaction of degeneration*, or briefly, R.D. The changes on applying the electrodes to the *muscle* are as follows:

1. At first, increase of excitability to galvanic *and* faradic currents; this quickly passes off, and we get—
2. *Decreased* response to faradic, *but increased to galvanic*; next—
3. Decrease to *both* galvanic and faradic.
4. Loss of response to both, in cases where the nervous disease is permanent. In other cases, the response to faradism and to galvanism gradually returns.

These peculiar changes are accompanied by “polar” alterations.

In health we get in response to a minimum current—

1. K.C.C., or kathodal closing contraction, the strongest; next—
2. A.C.C., or anodal closing contraction
3. A.O.C., or anodal opening contraction
4. K.O.C., or kathodal opening contraction, the weakest.

But in disease—

A.C.C., or anodal closing contraction, may be stronger than the K.C.C. (kathodal closing contraction)—*i.e.*, a reversed condition to that seen in health.

The main point, however, to remember is, that a *muscle* cut off from its nerve, or supplied by a *diseased* nerve, undergoes—

1. Increase of excitability.
2. Decrease of excitability, failing ultimately to respond to any electrical stimulus.

Morbid Changes of Degeneration.—The nerve structure shows—

1. Breaking up of the medullary sheath into myeloid globules.
2. Proliferation of the nuclei under the sheath.
3. Disappearance of the axon, and transformation of the nerve substance into a fibrous cord.

The muscle structure shows atrophy of the muscle fibres, which lose their transverse striation and become granular, and great increase of the fibrous tissue.

Spasm and Rigidity.—When a motor nerve is irritated, the muscles supplied by that nerve contract. If the irritation be kept up, the contractions are more or less constant, and cause ‘spasm.’ Spasmodic muscular contractions may be of two kinds, *tonic*, when the contractions are continuous, and *clonic*, when they are intermittent. Spastic contractions of the muscles of the lower limbs, especially when the patient is falling asleep, and cerebral control is thereby relaxed, are frequent in early degenerative lesions of the motor tract. There also exists in such conditions a permanent hypertonicity of the muscles (the spastic state), manifested clinically by a peculiar gait (*see p. 494*), by exaggerated reflexes and by rigidity. When due to irritation of motor nerves, rigidity may take one of several forms. When the motor tracts are injured, let us say by a severe hæmorrhage in the brain, there is not only paralysis, but also rigidity of the limbs. This may come on at once, and pass off in a few hours (*initial rigidity*, due to irritation of the lesion); or more commonly, it comes on after a few days (*early rigidity*) and lasts for a few weeks. It is then due to irritation of the motor fibres by inflammatory products.

Suppose the patient recovers from a fit of apoplexy, with, however, a *resulting hemiplegia*, it will be noted that later a permanent rigidity takes place (*late rigidity*). This has been supposed to be due to the irritation produced by the ensuing secondary descending degeneration. The true explanation is that the rigidity is due to the increased muscular tonus caused by impulses from the subsidiary descending tracts, particularly the vestibulo-spinal, which are left undamaged when the pyramidal fibres are destroyed in the brain. Still later, degenerative changes leading to contraction take place in the muscles themselves.

Rigidity of a similar nature may also occur independently of cerebral disease, when the motor tracts in the cord are affected by sclerosis (lateral sclerosis, disseminated sclerosis).

Inco-ordination.—By co-ordination is meant the harmonious action of muscles involved in the carrying out of complicated movements. *Inco-ordination* means failure of this harmony.

The cerebellum is one of the *chief* centres for co-ordinated movements, though there are subsidiary centres. The centres seem to act through afferent impressions derived from—

1. The muscular sense (afferent muscle-nerve fibres in the columns of Goll and Bürdach and the direct cerebellar tract of Flechsig).
2. Sight (optic nerves).
3. Auditory organs (semicircular canals).

Lesions interfering with these afferent fibres are attended with more or less inco-ordination. Inco-ordination may, therefore, be due to—

1. Disease of the *centres* rendering them powerless to emit the necessary influence.
2. Disease cutting off the means (afferent fibres) by which the centres are stimulated.

Paralysis.—When paralysis is due to a cerebral lesion it is unilateral (*hemiplegia*), and when due to a lesion of the cord it is bilateral (*paraplegia*). When one limb only is affected, the condition is called *monoplegia*. Paralysis may be *spastic* or *flaccid*. In the former variety, due to disease of the upper motor neuron, rigidity of the affected limbs is present, and is attended with exaggerated reflexes and later with contracture; in the latter, in which the lower motor neuron is involved, the muscles are flaccid, *wasting* is marked, R.D. is present, and the deep reflexes disappear. Where the lower motor neuron is not implicated, any atrophy that may exist is slight, and due merely to disuse of the affected limbs. A complete transverse lesion of the cord (transverse myelitis) leads to motor and sensory paralysis of the parts below the lesion, and, in addition, the *urethral* and anal sphincters are usually affected.

Gait.—In the various forms of chronic disease of the spinal cord, whether the lesion be confined to the tracts in the cord itself or is more extensive, there are certain peculiarities of gait

which help to create a typical picture of the disease. These may, therefore, be briefly characterised in this place :—

1. *The Ataxic Gait*.—In locomotor ataxia, as the patient walks, his feet are separated from each other, his heels are brought down first in a stamping fashion, he watches his feet to correct by sight the imperfect muscular sense, and more power is used than is necessary for progression, so that the feet are, as it were, flung out beyond the line of progress. If he stands with the feet together he tends to sway; if he tries to turn sharply he may reel or fall.

2. *The Spastic Gait*.—In lesions such as spastic paraplegia, while the patient can still walk, he drags the rearward leg slowly forward, the toes scraping the ground. The knee and ankle are very slightly flexed, and hence there may be “circumduction.” There is often strong adductor spasm, so that the feet may cross each other. When the spastic element is prominent, the gait may assume a “hopping” character.

In *disseminated sclerosis* (*q.v.*), besides the spastic gait, there may be tremor on exertion (“intention tremor”).

Sclerosis.—This is a term used to express the pathological changes which take place in *chronic degenerative lesions* of the nervous system. The following summary of its features will save repetition in the description of particular diseases :—

Changes in the Grey Matter.

1. Increase of neuroglia.
2. Atrophy of *proper nerve cells*.
3. *Thickening of the vessels*, some of which are obliterated.
4. Extravasation of pigment, and small patches of fatty degeneration.

Changes in the White Matter.

1. Grey discoloration.
2. Wasting or disappearance of axis-cylinders; absence of medullary sheaths.
3. Great increase of neuroglia.

The Nerve-roots, when affected, exhibit similar changes.

To understand the Diseases of the Spinal Cord, where many of the chronic degenerative lesions tend to involve one or more clearly defined nervous tracts, it is important to grasp what fibres are interrupted, or what cells are destroyed, by lesions of those tracts. The student should therefore construct for

himself such diagrams as those on pp. 482, 483, and mark upon them the sites of various lesions in relation to the particular tracts involved. He will then be able to reason what must happen in any given instance.

III. DISEASES OF THE SPINAL CORD AND ITS MEMBRANES

It is no longer possible rigidly to distinguish between diseases of the cord, diseases of the brain, and diseases of the peripheral nerves, although for clinical purposes and in connection with acute and focal lesions the distinction may still be roughly preserved. But the morbid changes of chronic degenerative lesions affect one or other neuron *as a whole*, and thus the anatomical seat of such diseases occupies both the brain and cord, or both the cord and the peripheral nerves at the same time. Such degenerative lesions, known as "*system diseases*," although it may be more convenient to describe them according as their symptoms are mainly cerebral, spinal, or peripheral, are more rationally classified, as in the following scheme of Aldren Turner's, according to the neuron system primarily affected.

I. *Diseases of the Upper Efferent Neuron* (pyramidal system).

General paralysis (spastic form), lateral sclerosis, old-standing hemiplegia, spastic paraplegia and diplegia of children, disseminated sclerosis (paraplegic form).

II. *Diseases of the Lower Efferent Neuron*.

Local and multiple neuritis; acute anterior poliomyelitis, acute bulbar paralysis, acute ophthalmoplegia; Landry's paralysis; chronic anterior poliomyelitis, chronic bulbar paralysis, ophthalmoplegia externa.

III. *Diseases affecting both Efferent Neurons simultaneously*.

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, general paralysis (advanced stage).

IV. *Diseases of the Lowest Afferent Neuron* (posterior ganglionic system).

Locomotor ataxia, general paralysis (ataxic form).

V. *Diseases of Afferent and Efferent Neurons simultaneously*.

Friedreich's ataxia, ataxic paraplegia, disseminated sclerosis (advanced stage).

SPINAL MENINGITIS

Inflammation of the meninges may be acute or chronic, diffuse or localised. When the dura mater is principally affected, the disease is termed pachymeningitis; when the pia mater is most involved, leptomeningitis. This distinction is convenient when we have to deal with a *slow* process, as in *chronic meningitis*; but in acute inflammation, though one or other membrane

may be primarily affected, the disease quickly spreads, and involves the whole three membranes equally.

I. ACUTE SPINAL MENINGITIS

The process may begin in the cellular tissue *outside* the dura mater, *i.e.*, external meningitis; or within the sheath, internal meningitis.

External Meningitis is most commonly local, but is sometimes diffuse. Internal meningitis (leptomeningitis), although it begins in the pia arachnoid, tends also to involve the dura.

The diffuse form of external meningitis differs from leptomeningitis mainly in its causes (extension of contiguous disease, especially caries or other disease of the vertebræ), and very little in its symptoms. It is to be distinguished by evidence of its arising secondarily to such conditions.

The seat of the *local form* can be determined by a study of the distribution of the painful or anæsthetic areas, and the behaviour of the reflexes. The table of Gowers (p. 500) will be of assistance in this localisation.

Internal Meningitis (Leptomeningitis) may, although rarely, be due to extension of an external or of a cerebral meningitis. It forms part of the changes of epidemic cerebro-spinal fever, and occasionally of tuberculous cerebral meningitis. It also arises in connection with other acute infections, such as septicæmia and especially *pneumonia*. It may follow injuries to the spine, or, in rare instances, exposure to cold. Syphilis of the cord causes a meningo-myelitis, rather than an acute meningitis; but it may give rise to a *chronic* localised meningitis (*v. infra*).

The organisms found are those of the associated disease.

Morbid Anatomy.—The meninges are widely involved, and the internal membranes suffer early. The arachnoid is frequently wholly disorganised, the pia deeply injected, and the dura bulged outwards from the accumulation of turbid cerebro-spinal fluid or even pus. In severe cases, the substance of the cord may be softened; and the nerve roots are often swollen.

Symptoms set in with rigor and pyrexia. There are severe and constant pain along the spine, increased by pressure, and paroxysmal pain in the distribution of the implicated nerve roots. The muscles of the back are rigid; there may be retraction of the head, and sometimes opisthotonos; and there

may be cramps in the muscles of the abdomen or limbs. Constipation and retention of urine are frequent. There is marked cutaneous hyperæsthesia, and Kernig's sign (*see* p. 63) may be present. Later, the signs of irritation yield to those of paralysis, and the reflexes, at first exaggerated, are now lost. Death may occur from bed-sores or secondary renal affections, or recovery may follow, either complete or more commonly partial, some degree of paralysis or anæsthesia being left behind.

Diagnosis may be much aided by lumbar puncture, the nature of the meningitis being determined by bacteriological examination of the fluid.

Treatment consists in absolute rest in a darkened room, morphia or chloral and bromide for the pain and spasm, local depletion by dry cupping or leeching, saline purgation, and the promotion of diaphoresis by warm baths and packs. Gowers advises, in addition, inunction of oleate of mercury until the gums are slightly affected. The spinal ice-bag may help to relieve the spasm. A daily lumbar puncture is useful in the relief of pressure.

II. CHRONIC INTERNAL MENINGITIS

Sometimes a sequel to the acute affection, and therefore dependent on the same causes, this disease may also be chronic from the beginning. In such cases it may follow injury or disease of the bones, or form an extension of chronic diseases of the cord. Alcoholism, syphilis, and repeated exposure to cold and wet are also among the causes.

Morbid Anatomy.—In *chronic leptomeningitis* the changes vary from a mere thickening and cloudiness of the membrane with *increase* of cerebrospinal fluid, to obliteration of the sub-arachnoidal space by complete organisation of the inflammatory lymph, which mats the pia mater and dura mater together. The *nerve roots*, at first swollen and injected, become fibrous and atrophied. The *spinal cord* suffers in proportion to—

1. The amount of compression from without.
2. The amount of thickening of the processes of the pia mater which *run into* the cord.

Hypertrophic internal pachymeningitis affects the inner surface of the dura, usually in the cervical region, and causes great thickening, with pressure upon the nerve roots and the cord, which may be softened.

Symptoms are those of irritation, followed by destruction of the nerve roots, and of damage to the cord. At first from irritation of sensory fibres, we have—

1. Pain in the back, increased on pressure, and with some stiffness.
2. Radiating or excentric paroxysmal pains in the distribution of the nerve roots.

Later, when the roots are destroyed, anæsthesia with weakness, wasting of muscles, R.D., and loss of reflexes replace the pain; and ultimately the parts below the lesion are paralysed from implication of the cord.

Treatment.—Rest, the prone position, sedatives, and *counter irritation* are the usual measures. If syphilis is the cause, the Wassermann reaction will be positive in the blood or cerebro-spinal fluid, and the latter may show a considerable leucocytosis. In such cases specific treatment should be adopted; but mercurial inunction is useful, apart from syphilis. When the disease has begun outside the dura, laminectomy may relieve the pressure on the cord.

MENINGEAL HÆMORRHAGE

(HÆMATORRHACHIS)

Like meningitis, this condition may be extradural or intradural. It is frequently due to injury, and may occur in severe convulsions, and also in hæmorrhagic disorders. Extradural hæmorrhage may be caused by the bursting of an aortic aneurysm which has eroded the vertebræ.

Symptoms (pain in the back and in the course of the nerves, with spasm, sometimes retention, etc.) are very similar to those of meningitis, and are due to irritation of the nerve roots. They are to be distinguished from meningitis by the absolute *suddenness* of their onset, and by the absence, at first, of *fever*. Later the effused blood sets up a secondary meningitis, and fever follows. When the hæmorrhage is into the *substance of the cord* (hæmatomyelia), the symptoms are those of sudden spinal paralysis, and pain is not prominent.

Treatment consists in absolute rest in the prone posture, venesection, leeches or cupping, ergotin, and morphia for the pain. Where death threatens in spite of these steps, or symptoms of compression of the cord are prominent, laminectomy may be performed.

GOWERS' TABLE.—Showing the approximate relation to the spinal nerves of the various motor, sensory, and reflex functions of the spinal cord.

| MOTOR. (Nerves). | MOTOR. | SENSORY. | REFLEX. |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---------|
| St. Mastoid, Upper neck muscles, Upper part of Trapezius. | C 1 } Small rotators of head. | 1 } Scalp. | 1 |
| | 2 } Depressors of hyoid. | 2 } Neck and upper part of chest. | 2 |
| | 3 } Lev. angulæ scapulæ. | 3 } | 3 |
| | 4 } Diaphragm. | 4 } Shoulder. | 4 |
| | 5 } Serratus. | 5 } | 5 |
| | 6 } Flex. of elbow. | 6 } Arm, outer side. | 6 |
| Lower neck muscles, Middle part of Trapezius. | 6 } Supinators. | | 7 |
| | 7 } Ext. wrist and fingers. | 7 } Radial side, forearm and hand; thumb. | 8 |
| | | | |
| | 8 } Ext. of elbow. | 8 } Arm, inner side, ulnar side of forearm and hand; tips of fingers. | 1 |
| | 8 } Flex. wrist and fingers. | | |
| | 8 } Pronators. | 1 | 2 |
| Lower part of Trapezius and dorsal muscles. | D 1 } Muscles of hand. | 2 | 3 |
| | 2 } | 3 | 4 |
| | 3 } | 4 | 5 |
| | 4 } | 5 | 6 |
| | 5 } Intercostals. | 6 } Front of thorax. | 7 |
| | 6 } | 7 } Ensiform area. | |
| | 7 } | 8 | 8 |
| | 8 } | 9 | 9 |
| | 9 } Abdominal muscles. | 10 } Abdomen. (Umbilicus, tenth.) | 10 |
| | 10 } | 11 | |
| | 11 } | 12 | 11 |
| | 12 } | | |
| Lumbar muscles. | L 1 } | 1 } Buttock, upper part. | 1 |
| | 2 } Cremaster. | 2 } Groin and scrotum (front). | 2 |
| | 3 } Flexors of hip. | | 3 |
| | 4 } Extensors of knee. | 3 } Thigh. { outer side. | 4 |
| Peroneus I. Flex. of ankle. Ext. of ankle. | 4 } Adductors of hip. | 4 } { front. | |
| | 5 } Ext. and abduct. of hip. | 5 } { inner side. | 5 |
| | S 1 } Flexors of knee. | 1 } Leg, inner side. | 1 |
| | 2 } Intrinsic muscles of foot. | 2 } Buttock, lower part. | |
| Co. | 3 } Perineal and anal muscles. | 3 } Back of thigh. | 2 |
| | 4 } | 4 } Leg { except inner part. | |
| | 5 } | 5 } Perinæum and anus. | 3 |
| | | 5 } Skin from coccyx to anus. | 4 |
| | | | 5 |
| | | | co |

ACUTE MYELITIS

A localised or extensive inflammation of the cord substance, affecting either the grey matter only, or grey and white together. The disease may be acute or subacute, the difference consisting largely in the rapidity of onset. The so-called "chronic" forms are really more of the nature of degenerations than of inflammation.

Etiology.—Myelitis is most common in the male. Its main causes are *infection* and *intoxication*. The disease frequently develops after acute infections of the most varied kind; and it may itself be a primary infection, the organisms reaching the cord by the blood or lymph. In other cases it may be secondary to thrombotic changes in the vessels, usually due to syphilitic endarteritis. Some cases directly follow chill, others injury or disease of the vertebræ, and general debility predisposes to an attack.

Morbid Anatomy.—The cord is swollen and softened at the affected part, and may be hæmorrhagic. The pia mater is injected, and the meninges occasionally share in the inflammation (*meningo-myelitis*). The myelin sheaths of the nerve fibres are broken up, and the nerve cells are swollen and granular. The lower dorsal region is most frequently attacked.

Symptoms.—If meningitis is also present, there may be symptoms of irritation of nerve roots. Usually paralytic phenomena are more prominent. The onset is rapid, a feeling of heaviness in the legs being succeeded in a few hours, or in the course of a day or two, by complete paraplegia. There is usually fever in the acute stage, and, in the diffuse form, hyperpyrexia may precede death. In the case of myelitis affecting the lower dorsal region, the following are the symptoms indicative of a total transverse lesion *after paralysis has become established*. Above the lesion there are no disturbances of sensation, movement, or reflexes, but at a point corresponding to the upper margin of the lesion there is a zone of hyperæsthesia, often accompanied by "girdle sensation." Below the level of the lesion there is complete paralysis (paraplegia) of both limbs, which in the early stages may be flaccid, but rapidly become rigid; there is anæsthesia, complete or partial, to all forms of sensation; the reflexes, both superficial and deep, are exaggerated, after, it may be, a temporary absence; and there is paralysis of the bladder and rectum. There is no wasting of muscles. Where

anæsthesia is complete, trophic and vasomotor disturbances are often present; crops of herpes may appear, and bed-sores are frequent. In the later stages descending degeneration affects the pyramidal tracts; rigidity becomes more pronounced, and painful contractures may be a distressing symptom.

If the lesion affects the cervical or lumbar enlargement, there is rapid wasting of the muscles of the arms or legs following destruction of the cells of the anterior horns. Involvement of the phrenic nerves, in the former case, will lead to rapid death from respiratory paralysis. Occasionally the myelitis is diffuse, affecting the grey matter in a great part of its length, and here, too, rapid wasting of muscles may be found. In some cases it takes an ascending form, beginning with paralysis, anæsthesia, and atrophy of the lower limbs, involving the sphincters, causing bed-sores, and implicating the muscles of the trunk and arms.

The condition of the sphincters varies with the seat of the lesion. The *rectal centre* may be below the lesion or may be involved in it, and there follows at first constipation, from paralysis of the bowel; later, incontinence, due, if the disease is above the centre, to involuntary action of the sphincter, if it involves the centre, to inaction. Similarly with the *vesical centre*; when it is involved, there is incontinence from the first, when it is below the lesion, there is at first retention, and afterwards an overflow incontinence. Priapism may occur as a reflex phenomenon.

In consequence of the increased muscular tonus and exaggerated reflex response, the slightest touch of the bed-clothes, the passage of a catheter, etc., may cause severe spasm. The temperature of the affected limbs is often raised at first, but afterwards it falls below that of the healthy parts.

The course is variable. In cases that recover, sensation returns first, motor power much later, and usually imperfectly. The disease may extend upwards, causing respiratory paralysis and death, or death may follow bed-sores or ascending nephritis.

Syphilitic Meningo-Myelitis is usually of slower onset, and takes the form of an incomplete transverse myelitis associated with pain in the distribution of the affected nerve roots, and also with partial anæsthesia from implication of the posterior columns. In some instances the onset is rapid, and the symptoms those of acute myelitis.

Treatment.—Absolute rest, if possible on the side or in the

prone position, with frequent change of posture ; leeches, dry cupping, or fomentations to the spine ; mercurial inunction. A water-bed should be used. Prevent bed-sores, relieve urinary retention. Later, tonics, massage, and electricity to maintain the muscular nutrition. In syphilitic cases, vigorous specific treatment, full doses of iodide and mercury being combined with salvarsan treatment.

SYRINGOMYELIA

A disease due to a slowly progressive gliomatous new growth about the central canal of the cord, and leading, by breaking down of tissue, to the formation of cavities, which may extend the whole length of the cord, but usually occupy the cervical and dorsal regions. The cavities give rise to pressure upon the grey matter, and later to ascending and descending degenerations. The cervical part of the cord is much enlarged. In a few cases the condition is apparently due to a congenital defect of development, leading to a progressive dilatation of the central canal.

The disease usually affects males, and begins before the age of thirty. Its chief symptoms are *dissociated anæsthesia* and *muscular atrophy*. (1) The anæsthesia is to sensations of temperature and pain, while touch is unaffected. Cigarette smokers often burn their finger-tips. The neck, upper part of the trunk, and the upper limbs are most affected, but the disease may spread to the lower limbs, and touch may also suffer later on. (2) Muscular atrophy (pressure on the anterior cornua) begins in the small muscles of the hand, and slowly spreads up the arms to the trunk. Other *trophic symptoms* are painless whitlows, necrosis of the finger bones, and affections of the joints. Secondary degenerations may in time lead to spastic paraplegia or ataxia, and if the disease spreads upwards, laryngeal paralysis, dysphagia, or nystagmus may occur. If the cervical sympathetic is involved, contraction of the pupil, slight ptosis, and enophthalmos follow.

The course is very chronic, and the sole treatment consists in attention to the general health and special symptoms.

LANDRY'S PARALYSIS

An acute ascending paralysis beginning in the feet, rapidly spreading to the trunk, arms, and bulb, and usually ending fatally in a short time.

Etiology.—The symptoms point to a toxic affection of the lower motor neuron, and cases have followed such infections as septicæmia, enteric, and influenza. The disease sometimes occurs along with epidemics of acute poliomyelitis. Trauma, syphilis, and alcoholism have also been associated with it. It is most frequent between the ages of twenty and forty-five, and attacks men oftener than women.

Morbid Anatomy.—No gross changes have been found in the nervous system, though microscopic alterations have been noted in the cells of the anterior cornua and of Clarke's column, along with engorgement of the vessels, and sometimes peripheral nerve degeneration. In other cases no alterations have been discovered. The cerebrospinal fluid is clear, but increased in amount. It may contain excess of albumen, but there is no alteration of the cell content. The spleen is sometimes enlarged. No specific organism is known.

Symptoms.—There may be slight fever at the onset, but usually the disease begins without warning and is afebrile. Weakness is first felt in the feet, spreads quickly to the legs, which are soon completely paralysed, then to the thighs, afterwards to the abdomen and thorax, then to the arms, neck, and face. The paralysis is flaccid, but there is no wasting, and the electrical reactions are not altered. The deep reflexes are lost, and usually the superficial also, though the latter may sometimes persist. There is little or no sensory disturbance, the sphincters are not affected, bed-sores are absent, and the mind is clear to the end. Death ensues in a few days or weeks from paralysis of respiration or from entry of food into the larynx. In cases that recover convalescence is slow, but the return of power is usually complete. The mortality is about 60 per cent.

Treatment consists in maintaining the strength. Lumbar puncture is useful in relieving the excess of cerebrospinal fluid. In threatened respiratory paralysis full doses of strychnine may be given hypodermically. Ergot has been found useful by some.

COMPRESSION PARAPLEGIA

Compression of the spinal cord is most commonly due to vertebral caries, in which condition the pressure results from the accumulation of pus and caseous material between the bone and the dura, and symptoms may precede the appearance of angular curvature. It is also produced by tumours of the

bones or membranes, occasionally by aneurysm eroding the vertebræ, and sometimes by thickening of the dura mater in pachymeningitis. It causes narrowing of the cord with myelitis at the point of compression and its neighbourhood, descending degeneration of the pyramidal tracts, and ascending degeneration of the posterior columns.

The first **symptoms** are neuralgic pains, due to pressure upon nerve roots, radiating along the course of the affected nerves, and accompanied by hyperæsthesia and later by anæsthesia (*anæsthesia dolorosa*). If anterior roots are compressed, atrophy follows in the muscles they supply. Next follow symptoms due to pressure on the cord itself and the resultant myelitis—paralysis of gradual onset, anæsthesia, increased reflexes and spastic rigidity, and often trouble with the urinary sphincter. In cases due to caries, curvature of the spine may have been present from the outset or may develop later, and tenderness is often present over the spine.

In compression of the cervical cord dilatation of the pupils, dyspnœa, or dysphagia may be present, and all four limbs may be paralysed, the arms being wasted and flaccid, the legs spastic, though in some cases the legs escape. If the lumbar enlargement suffers there is flaccid paralysis with anæsthesia of the lower limbs, accompanied by absence of reflexes, paralysis of the sphincters, and bed-sores.

Treatment depends upon the cause, which is often irremovable. In such cases relief of pain and attention to complications such as cystitis and bed-sore are all that can be attempted; in cases due to vertebral caries careful treatment of the spinal condition often results in cure.

TUMOURS OF THE CORD

These may affect either the cord itself or the spinal membranes, or, growing from the vertebræ, may press upon the cord. Connected with the bones are sarcomata and carcinomata; in the membranes the most common varieties of tumour are sarcomata, gliomata, tuberculous tumours, gummata, and myxomata; in the substance of the cord, sarcomata, solitary tubercle, gliomata, and gummata. Other varieties are numerous, but are much less frequently found.

Symptoms vary with the position of the tumour. If *within the cord*, it produces slowly developing paralysis and anæsthesia,

the paralysis being often at first unilateral if the tumour is on one side, but spreading later to the other side either from the effects of pressure or from setting up myelitis. Consecutive secondary degenerations cause rigidity and exaggeration of reflexes. The anæsthesia may be at first on the opposite side from the paralysis. Involvement of the lumbar enlargement leads to atrophy of muscles, loss of reflexes, and sphincter paralysis. If the *meninges or spinal column* are the seat of the tumour, pain is at first the most prominent symptom. It is due to irritation of nerve roots. Its seat may be in the spine itself, at the level of the lesion, or in the course of the affected nerves. It is persistent, although with paroxysmal aggravations of a shooting character, during which it may be agonising, and is often at first unilateral. Paralytic symptoms and anæsthesia appear later, either from pressure on the cord or from myelitis, their distribution and extent depending upon the position of the tumour, in the determination of which a study of Gowers' table (p. 500) will be of assistance.

The **treatment** varies with the cause. A few cases are open to surgery; tuberculous cases require the treatment for tuberculosis in general; and energetic specific treatment is necessary for gummata.

SYSTEM DISEASES OF THE CORD

The chronic system diseases of the cord may be classified as follows (Ormerod):—

1. Degeneration of the Afferent Neurons: Posterior Sclerosis; *Locomotor Ataxia*.
2. Degeneration of the upper Efferent Neurons: Lateral Sclerosis; *Primary Spastic Paraplegia*.
3. Combined Degeneration of Afferent and Efferent Neurons: Posterolateral Sclerosis; (1) *Subacute combined degeneration (ataxic paraplegia)*; (2) *Hereditary Ataxia*.
4. Degeneration of the lower Efferent Neurons; Progressive Muscular Atrophies of Spinal Origin. (1) *Chronic Anterior Poliomyelitis* or *Progressive Muscular Atrophy*, or (2) combined with Degeneration of the upper Efferent Neuron; *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis*.

We shall first consider those diseases in which the degeneration is confined to one system. Locomotor ataxia, however, as being almost invariably of syphilitic origin, will be discussed under Syphilis of the Nervous System.

PRIMARY SPASTIC PARAPLEGIA

(PRIMARY LATERAL SCLEROSIS)

A paralysis attended with spasm and rigidity, resulting from sclerosis of the anterior pyramidal and crossed pyramidal tracts (upper efferent neuron).

Let us consider what we must expect from interruption of these two tracts.

1. *The brain being cut off from the motor nerves, two conditions are brought about—*

(1) *Voluntary* motion must be imperfect, according to the extent of the lesion.

(2) Reflexes must also be exaggerated, as they are cut off from the inhibitive influence of the brain, but the reflex loops are not interfered with.

2. *The motor tracts, being cut off from the first trophic realm in the cortex*, will undergo secondary degeneration. The uncontrolled impulses transmitted by the vestibulo-spinal (descending cerebellar) tract will cause increased muscular tonus, and hence *spasm* and *rigidity*.

3. The anterior horn not being affected, there will be no interference with the second trophic realm, and consequently no atrophy of muscles.

Etiology.—The disease is comparatively rare, but is most common between the ages of twenty and forty. It is possibly due to nutritional changes in the motor cells of the cerebral cortex, leading to descending degeneration, but the cause of these changes is unknown. Nervous heredity, concussion of the spine, exposure to cold and wet, and possibly influenza are predisposing causes. Syphilis has been present in a small minority of cases. Spastic paraplegia is sometimes congenital, owing to bilateral meningeal hæmorrhage over the central convolutions following injury during birth (*see Cerebral Palsies of Infancy*). A *family* or *hereditary* form is also known.

Morbid Anatomy.—Unless other tracts are implicated, the disease does not cause death. Changes limited to the upper efferent neuron are therefore seldom found.

Symptoms.—

1. Weakness and stiffness of the lower limbs, of very gradual onset
2. Exaggerated knee-jerk, and presence of ankle-clonus.

Babinski's sign is generally present, *i.e.*, when the sole of the foot is stroked by a pointed instrument, the toes, especially the great toe, are *over-extended* towards the dorsum of the foot, and abducted one from the other.

3. Spasm and rigidity, causing forcible *adduction* and extension of the limbs, and rendering the gait characteristic (*see Gait*, p. 494).

The rigidity is nearly continuous, and when relaxations take place, the slightest stimulus causes spasm.

Though the legs are the limbs usually attacked, still the muscles of the trunk, and the arms occasionally, may be first involved.

The disease runs an extremely chronic course, as, until it becomes widely spread, the muscles remain plump, sensation unaffected, and the sphincters unimpaired. Finally, there may be complete paralysis of the affected parts, or the lesion may extend to other tracts of the cord.

Diagnosis.—The *syphilitic spinal paralysis* of Erb presents similar symptoms, but other tracts are involved at the same time; the bladder suffers, and there may be disordered sensation. For diagnosis from other spinal diseases, *see Table*, p. 516. It should be remembered that similar symptoms may be secondary to disease or injury of the vertebræ, or to myelitis; and that many cases beginning as spastic paraplegia develop other symptoms of disseminated sclerosis at a later stage. The diagnosis should therefore not be made until such conditions can be definitely excluded. The Wassermann reaction should always be taken, both in blood and cerebrospinal fluid.

Treatment.—Spastic paraplegia is to be treated mainly by general tonics such as arsenic and iron. Strychnine is unsuitable because it tends to increase spasm and rigidity. If syphilis is suspected, specific treatment may be employed. Massage and passive movements are valuable in the treatment of rigidity, and warm baths also promote relaxation of spasm. Electricity applied to the limbs tends to increase spasm, but galvanism to the spine may be of benefit. Excess of every kind must be avoided.

PROGRESSIVE MUSCULAR ATROPHY

Progressive muscular atrophy, sometimes called chronic anterior poliomyelitis, results from chronic degenerative changes

in the anterior grey horn and motor roots (lower efferent neuron). The site of the lesion leads us to expect abolition of reflexes, atrophy, and deficient muscular power; and these are the principal symptoms. But in many cases, the changes come to implicate the upper as well as the lower neuron, and the disease then becomes identical with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. It is homologous with bulbar paralysis, in which the lower efferent neuron (nuclei of cranial nerves) is affected at a higher level.

Etiology.—Males are more often affected than females. The disease is one of adult life. It is often associated with exposure to cold and wet, but is not limited to the labouring classes. Often no cause can be found.

Morbid Anatomy.—Sclerosis of the anterior horn, anterior roots and nerve trunks, with changes in groups of muscles.

1. The anterior grey horns are pale, but not much altered in shape.
2. Great increase of neuroglia.
3. Obliteration of nerve cells.
4. Later, in many instances, sclerosis of the pyramidal tracts.

Anterior nerve roots are markedly atrophied.

Nerve Trunks.—Changes are not so marked as in the roots, for the sensory fibres in the mixed nerve trunk are unaffected, and frequently *some* of the motor fibres escape.

Muscles.—Pale and flabby, as in acute anterior poliomyelitis. Fatty and granular degenerations are also present.

Symptoms.—The disease usually begins in one or both of the upper extremities with atrophy of—

1. Thenar and hypothenar eminences.
2. Interossei.
3. Forearm muscles, and those of the shoulder.

Paralysis of the interossei, with unopposed action of their opponents, produces the claw-like hand (*main en griffe*)—i.e., the first phalanges are *hyper-extended*, while the middle and distal phalanges are flexed on the first. The muscles of the back are early affected, but the upper third of the trapezius escapes until quite late. After this, the extension is extremely gradual, and years may pass before both arms, both legs, intercostals, or diaphragm are attacked. The legs are usually affected late, but the disease may commence in them. The

affected muscles generally exhibit the peculiar *fibrillary twitchings* of dying or exhausted muscle. These twitches can be readily produced by a gentle tapping; they are often visible to the patient, lasting two or three minutes, and starting without any apparent stimulus. Sensation is unaffected. A partial reaction of degeneration is often present, *i.e.*, ACC is greater than KCC, but the galvanic response is not increased. It may be absent in many instances, owing to the escape of some of the fibres of the motor nerve, so that degenerated and healthy muscle fibres are intermixed. There is then diminished irritability, both to faradism and galvanism. The disease may cease spontaneously, usually at a late stage, or may end fatally from complication with bulbar paralysis or intercurrent pneumonia, etc.

The peroneal type of muscular atrophy differs from the above description. It is a family or hereditary disease, beginning in late childhood, affecting first the peronei and the muscles of the feet, and spreading to those of the thighs. The knee-jerks are lost. Club-foot is a common consequence. After some years, the disease spreads to the arms, commencing in the intrinsic muscles of the hands. Degenerative changes have been found in various sections of the peripheral motor neuron.

Treatment.—The disease is progressive and incurable, but its advance may be retarded by maintaining the nutrition of the muscles by means of gentle massage, moderate electrical stimulation, and avoidance of fatigue. The only drug of much value is strychnine, given hypodermically in doses of $\frac{1}{80}$ th to $\frac{1}{40}$ th of a grain (grm. 0.001-0.0015) once daily. It is contraindicated if spastic symptoms are present, as in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. General tonics may also be used.

We have seen, then, that lesions limited to the pyramidal tracts present the characteristic symptoms of spasm, rigidity, and exaggeration of the deep reflexes, while those limited to the anterior cornua are characterised by muscular atrophy and loss of reflexes. And we shall see, under locomotor ataxia, that the distinguishing features of lesions limited to the posterior columns and roots are inco-ordination, paræsthesia, and loss of reflexes.

But system diseases are not always so strictly limited, and the degeneration may simultaneously affect more than one

system, so that combined lesions are the result. Of these the following are the most common forms :—

1. Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
2. Subacute combined degeneration (ataxic paraplegia).
3. Hereditary ataxia.

AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS

Although this disease was described by Charcot as distinct from progressive muscular atrophy, the lesions in the cord are in the two affections practically identical, the pyramidal fibres being affected in both cases. The difference between them is that, in the one case, the degeneration affects first and principally the lower motor neuron, thereby preventing the development of spastic symptoms, while, in the other, the affection of the upper (cortico-spinal) neuron is more prominent, and colours the clinical picture. There are many cases which present intermediate stages between the two typical forms, which may be regarded as "extreme examples at the opposite end of a series." Provided the essential pathological similarity is understood, it is still desirable to describe separately the two sharply contrasted types.

Etiology.—The causes—exposure to cold and wet, fatigue, nervous worry—are similar to those of progressive muscular atrophy. The age of onset is from twenty-five to fifty, and both sexes are liable. Syphilis is rarely a factor, although the two diseases may coexist.

Morbid Anatomy.—Sclerotic degeneration of—

1. The crossed pyramidal tracts, extending upwards sometimes to the pons and medulla, sometimes even to the cortex.
2. The anterior cornua, with their nerve cells, the anterior roots, and the motor nerve fibres. The muscles also degenerate.

Symptoms.—1. Weakness and wasting of the *upper* extremities, coming on very slowly. Paræsthesiæ are sometimes present, but not anæsthesia. Electrical excitability of the muscles is lessened for both galvanic and faradic stimuli.

2. *Increase of reflexes with spasm* (until the wasting is profound; then, the anterior multipolar cells being extensively diseased, the reflexes *may be abolished*). In typical cases, the

spasm and rigidity cause a characteristic deformity, with the following features :—

The arm is extended close to the body.

The forearm is semiflexed and pronated.

The wrist is strongly flexed ; and the fingers are bent into the palms.

3. Later, in the second stage, spastic paralysis commences in the *lower extremities*. It is accompanied by exaggeration of the reflexes, and followed by atrophy. Babinski's sign is usually present. The sphincters are not affected.

4. Finally, in the third stage, there occur symptoms dependent on *extension of the disease to the motor nuclei of the medulla*. The tongue or lips may be affected, the palate paralysed, the speech nasal. Jaw jerk can often be elicited. Dysphagia may follow. Septic pneumonia, or cardiac or respiratory paralysis, may end the scene.

The disease runs a quicker course than the chronic lesions of the cord already described, and death usually occurs in from one to three years. The bulbar symptoms may sometimes develop early, and in these cases the duration is short.

The beginner is frequently puzzled to understand why, in this disease where *the anterior horn* is involved, reflexes are increased instead of lost. The explanation is, that this affection *begins*, in many cases, in the upper efferent neuron. Cerebral inhibition is therefore cut off, and as the reflex loop is still intact, there is exaggeration of reflexes. When the anterior horn becomes affected the reflexes corresponding to the site of the lesion disappear.

Treatment is similar to that of progressive muscular atrophy, but strychnine is contra-indicated.

SUBACUTE COMBINED DEGENERATION

(ATAXIC PARAPLEGIA)

The term ataxic paraplegia covers a number of diseases of the cord, presenting at one or other stage of their progress very similar symptoms, and due to combined disease of the posterior and lateral columns. Such changes may occur in subacute combined degeneration, disseminated sclerosis, Friedreich's ataxia, spino-cerebellar ataxia, and some cases of syphilis of the cord. A primary ataxic paraplegia is of doubtful occurrence.

Subacute combined degeneration is a degenerative affection of the posterior and lateral columns of the cord, accompanied or followed by a severe anæmia, presenting in most instances all the characters of pernicious anæmia.

Etiology.—The disease is most common between the ages of fifty and sixty, but it may occur as early as the thirtieth year. In many instances gastro-intestinal symptoms have preceded it. The true etiology is not known, but the anæmia and the spinal degeneration may possibly both derive from a gastro-intestinal toxæmia.

Morbid Anatomy.—The cord is normal in size, and the grey matter is unaffected. The nerve fibres of the posterior and lateral columns show degeneration, beginning in the myelin sheaths and spreading to the axis cylinders. There is little affection of the neuroglia. The change is earliest and most marked in the dorsal region, but similar changes occur later in the lumbar and cervical enlargements. Ascending and descending degenerations follow, and ultimately the whole white matter of the cord may be affected. The cerebrospinal fluid is normal. Degeneration of the nerve cells is secondary to that of the axons.

The blood shows the characters of pernicious anæmia, with a high colour index.

Symptoms.—The first symptoms may be those of tiredness and weakness of the limbs, with some degree of stiffness. Sensations of numbness and tingling of the hands and feet are early. There is also some loss of sensation in these parts, and this gradually extends up the limbs to the trunk. Lightning pains may be present. The gait gradually becomes more spastic, while some degree of ataxia is also present, as shown by difficulty in walking in the dark, Romberg's sign (*see* Locomotor Ataxia), etc. The deep reflexes are exaggerated, and Babinski's sign is present. Later the paraplegia becomes complete, the paralysis assumes a flaccid type, the deep reflexes are diminished or absent, Babinski's sign however persisting, there is muscular wasting, and the faradic excitability of the muscles is diminished. The cutaneous reflexes are active throughout. Towards the end the sphincters are involved, and incontinence is followed by cystitis and bed-sore.

Anæmia of the pernicious type may be present from the

outset, but often follows the nervous symptoms after a considerable interval, and in some cases may be absent throughout.

The duration is from a few months to six years, two years being about the average.

Treatment consists in maintenance of the general health, attention to the anæmia, and in the bedridden stage prevention, where possible, of cystitis and bed-sore.

HEREDITARY ATAXIA

(FRIEDREICH'S DISEASE)

Etiology.—The disease may or may not be hereditary. It is strictly rather a family disease, tending to affect several brothers or sisters. It begins as a rule in childhood or about the age of puberty, and affects both sexes. There is seldom any obvious cause, but a congenital want of vitality in the tracts affected is commonly assumed.

Morbid Anatomy.—Sclerosis involving principally the neuroglial element in—

1. The lateral columns: the direct cerebellar tract, the antero-lateral tract of Gowers, and part of the crossed pyramidal tract.
2. The posterior columns, and the posterior nerve roots (partially or completely).
3. Clarke's columns in the grey matter (to a slight degree).

Symptoms.—

1. Inco-ordination of a jerky, staggering kind, affecting first the lower extremities, and extending to the trunk.
2. Inco-ordination of the *arms* (somewhat later).
3. Hesitation in speaking, or a jerky manner in delivery of speech, due to ataxia of the facial muscles.
4. Unsteadiness of the *head*, and *oscillatory movements of the eyeballs* (nystagmus).
5. Slight impairment of sensation in most cases.
6. Absence of knee-jerk, but often presence of Babinski's sign.
7. *Pes cavus*, with retraction of the great toe, and other deformities, especially curvatures of the spine (scoliosis and often kyphosis).

The cerebrospinal fluid is normal.

Note *absence* of lightning pains, gastric crises, trophic changes, and the Argyll-Robertson pupil, and also the early age of onset, to distinguish this disease from locomotor ataxia. The marked inco-ordination and nystagmus render the diagnosis from spastic paraplegia easy. In disseminated sclerosis optic atrophy is generally present, but not in hereditary ataxia.

In spite of treatment the disease is slowly progressive, the duration being from ten to thirty years. Death is due to intercurrent affections.

SPINO-CEREBELLAR ATAXIA

This is a rare disease, hereditary and familial, in which the conspicuous change is degeneration of the spino-cerebellar tracts, the cerebellum itself escaping. The pyramidal tracts are not affected, but there is slight involvement of the posterior columns. The clumsy, reeling ataxia and the speech defects resemble those of Friedreich's disease, but the disease begins after puberty, and sometimes late in life. The knee-jerks are increased, and the plantar reflex is flexor. There is optic atrophy, and there may be ptosis and other ocular palsies, but there is no nystagmus as a rule. Deformities, whether of foot or spine, are absent. The disease is slowly progressive.

DISSEMINATED SCLEROSIS

Disseminated, multiple, or insular sclerosis is a disease characterised by scattered patches of sclerosis throughout the central nervous system. It may be limited to the brain, or to the spinal cord; but the *cerebrospinal* variety is much more common.

Etiology.—The disease begins most commonly in early adult life, and affects both sexes. Exposure to cold, injuries, and mental worry are possible predisposing causes. The real cause is not known. It may be a toxic agent, and the disease has frequently been noted to follow upon one or other of the specific fevers; or it may depend upon congenital abnormality of the nervous tissues. Some of its symptoms are transmissible to a certain proportion of animals (rabbits) inoculated with the blood or cerebrospinal fluid from a case of the disease. About 30 per cent. of the inoculated animals suffer, and spirochæte-like organisms have been found in the internal organs of some of

Differential Diagnosis of the Chief Chronic System Diseases of the Spinal Cord

TABLE I

| | LOCOMOTOR ATAXIA. | SUBACUTE COMBINED DEGENERATION. | HEREDITARY ATAXIA. |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <i>Age</i> - - - - | Middle-aged men. | Late or middle life. | Childhood or early youth. |
| <i>Causes</i> - - - | The late effects of syphilis; rarely other toxins. | Possibly gastro-intestinal toxæmia. | Occurs in many of the same generation. Neurotic predisposition. |
| <i>Ocular symptoms</i> - | Various muscular paralyses or palsies. | | |
| (<i>Argyll-Robertson pupil</i>) | Present. | Absent. | Absent. |
| (<i>Nystagmus</i> - -) | Absent. | Absent. | Present. |
| <i>Tendon reflexes (knee-jerk)</i> | Lost. | Increased. | Lost. |
| <i>Disorders of sensation</i> | Lightning pains prominent; girdle sensation; numbness of feet. | Numbness and tingling: partial anæsthesia. | Absent usually; occasional paræsthesiæ. |
| <i>Inco-ordination</i> - | Characteristic gait; lower limbs chiefly affected, upper limbs later. | Ataxia marked; spasm and rigidity also present, and tend to increase. | Marked, but irregular and jerky; may affect upper limbs. |
| <i>Speech</i> - - - | Unaffected. | Seldom affected. | Often affected. |

TABLE II

| | PROGRESSIVE MUSCULAR ATROPHY. | AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS. | PRIMARY SPASTIC PARAPLEGIA (LATERAL SCLEROSIS). |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <i>Limbs most affected</i> | Upper — atrophy begins in thenar and hypothenar eminences. Unilateral at first. | Upper — atrophy may begin in muscles of forearm or deltoid. May be unilateral at first. | Lower— <i>no atrophy</i> : but rigidity and spasm are present. Bilateral. |
| <i>Deformity</i> - - | The “claw-like” hand. | Flexion of elbow, pronation of hand, flexion of wrists, and fingers into palms. | Adduction of legs. They may cross each other. |
| <i>Tendon reflexes (knee)</i> | Unaffected. | Unaffected. | Exaggerated on both sides. |
| <i>Electrical changes</i> - | Reaction of degeneration sometimes present. | Partial R.D. or diminished excitability. | Normal as a rule. |

these. The spirochæte differs from that of syphilis, being coarser and thicker, with more irregular spirals. The disease has, however, no connection with syphilis, and the Wassermann reaction is constantly negative, although the colloidal gold reaction in the cerebrospinal fluid is of the type of that found in neuro-syphilis.

Morbid Anatomy.—Patches of sclerosis, sharply defined, and varying in colour from pink to ashy grey, some hard and leathery, others soft, are found scattered throughout the white matter of the cord and the substance of the medulla and cerebrum, and sometimes the cranial nerves. The ganglion cells are not affected, and the degeneration of the nerve fibres is partial, the medullary sheath disappearing while the axis-cylinder persists. Hence there are no extensive ascending or descending degenerations. In the earlier stages there is round-celled infiltration about the smaller vessels, and occasionally capillary hæmorrhages.

Symptoms.—In the presence of widespread morbid changes of which the site is variable, it is evident that the symptoms must also vary, but in a typical case some or all of the following symptoms are to be found :—

1. *Impairment of Speech.*—The patient has a slow monotonous way of pronouncing each syllable separately (scanning or staccato speech), or in other cases there is a slurring of the ends of words. Typical staccato speech is a late symptom, and may be absent throughout. More often the voice is monotonous and somewhat toneless.

2. *Nystagmus* or oscillation of the eyeballs, best seen on voluntary movement of the eyes. Other ocular symptoms, such as impairment of vision and partial optic atrophy, may be present. Transitory diplopia may occur, and is often early.

3. *Muscular tremor*, absent when the muscles are at rest, and excited by voluntary movement ("*intention tremor*"). The tremor is coarse and jerky in character, increases during the continuance of movement, and affects the hands first and chiefly; but the whole body, including the head, may suffer.

4. *Paresis* at first of one or both lower limbs, with *spasm* and *exaggerated reflexes*. This symptom may improve or disappear in one limb while developing in another. Rigidity of the lower limbs in the position of extension may follow later. The

abdominal reflex is usually absent, and this may be an early sign.

5. *The gait* may be that of spastic paraplegia, or this may be combined with ataxia. When walking, the patient may shoot suddenly forward or to one side, and may fall, or bruise himself by bumping against various obstacles.

Disturbances of sensibility are often absent, but there may be paræsthesiæ and occasionally girdle sensation. The mental faculties may be impaired and memory may suffer. In some cases there are intercurrent apoplectiform or epileptiform attacks, from which the patient recovers in one or two days. The sphincters are not seriously affected until late, though dysuria or precipitate micturition may occur early.

The onset of the disease is insidious, and its course is protracted, the *average* duration being from three to six years. It begins most commonly with spinal symptoms—those, namely, of spastic or ataxic paraplegia, and cerebral symptoms may be long deferred. But even comparatively early there is usually some indication—nystagmus, optic atrophy, transitory diplopia, absent abdominal reflex, for example—that the malady has a wider spread than a system disease of the cord. In some cases cerebral symptoms appear first, and the spinal cord is affected later. Temporary improvement is not unusual, but the general direction is downwards. In the last stages dementia is common. Death may be due to an apoplectiform attack, to extension of the changes to the grey matter, leading to paralysis of the bladder, bed-sores, etc., or to intercurrent disease.

Diagnosis.—The combination of nystagmus, intention tremor, temporary diplopia, or staccato speech, with spasticity of the lower limbs, is characteristic. The diagnosis between disseminated sclerosis and general paralysis sometimes offers difficulties, and depends on the recognition of the peculiar mental symptoms in the early stages of the latter disease, and on the presence of the Wassermann reaction, which is absent in disseminated sclerosis. In young women hysteria may cause confusion, but a diagnosis of hysteria should never be made unless organic disease can be definitely excluded.

Treatment.—The main principles of treatment are to secure *rest* and avoid over-fatigue, and to maintain the general nutrition. Tonics are of some value, but the drug which has most influence is iodide of potassium. Arsenic is also useful, and

in view of the possible spirochætal origin of the disease it has of late been used in the form of salvarsan or its derivatives, in some instances with considerable success. Gentle massage and warmth to the limbs are of use in spastic conditions, and the galvanic current applied along the spine is also beneficial. Electricity to the limbs is contra-indicated, as tending to aggravate rigidity.

IV. SYPHILIS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

It is customary to divide the syphilitic affections of the nervous system into two forms, parenchymatous and interstitial syphilis, the former, as in locomotor ataxia and general paralysis, affecting primarily the nervous elements, the latter affecting primarily the blood-vessels and meninges. But the distinction is not absolute, for in both locomotor ataxia and general paralysis lesions of the vessels and meninges are to be found, and in nearly all forms the increased cell content of the cerebrospinal fluid shows the participation of the meninges.

The so-called parenchymatous forms will be first described.

LOCOMOTOR ATAXIA

(TABES DORSALIS)

Definition.—A degenerative disease of the lower afferent neuron, characterised by an indefinite onset, and a chronic but progressive course, and attended with marked symptoms of inco-ordination, trophic changes, and disturbances of special sense.

Etiology.—The disease is most common in men between the ages of twenty and fifty. It may occur before the age of twenty (juvenile tabes), chiefly in congenital syphilitics. Sexual excesses, long-continued exposure, and injury may act as determining causes, but syphilis is the essential factor in the etiology. Until comparatively recently it was taught that locomotor ataxia was a *parasyphilitic* disease, *i.e.*, that the syphilitic toxæmia led to a change in the structures of the spinal cord, not directly syphilitic, but favouring degenerative change. But the application of the Wassermann reaction to the cerebrospinal fluid, and still more emphatically the discovery of spirochætes in the affected nervous tissues, have shown that the disease is directly due to syphilis in the vast majority of cases,

and must be regarded as a parenchymatous form of syphilis of the nervous system. It is a late manifestation, the interval between infection and the onset of symptoms being usually from five to fifteen years.

Morbid Anatomy.—The changes are those of sclerosis (*see* p. 495) affecting—

1. The posterior nerve roots and posterior root ganglia. The primary degeneration is in the nerve fibres, and the thickening of the neuroglia is secondary to it. Sensory fibres of the peripheral nerves may also degenerate. Some degree of thickening of the meninges is frequently present.
2. The posterior columns, beginning in Bürdach's and affecting secondarily the column of Goll. Lissauer's tract often suffers.

The cerebrospinal fluid contains excess of albumin and globulin, and the number of its lymphocytes is increased. The Wassermann reaction is positive in 80 per cent. of cases.

The disease begins, as a rule, in the lower levels of the cord, and extends upwards. Thus, below, the whole of the posterior columns are affected, while above, the lesion may be limited to the column of Goll.

In advanced cases, the cells of Clarke's column and the fibres of the ascending antero-lateral and direct cerebellar tracts may be implicated. *In the brain*, the most common change is optic nerve atrophy, but the nuclei of other cranial nerves may also be affected.

Infection of the cord probably takes place by the lymph stream ascending along the peripheral nerves and nerve roots towards the central nervous system.

Symptoms.—Consideration of the seat of the morbid changes will show that while the symptoms may vary much in individual cases, sensory changes, inco-ordination, and changes in the visual apparatus must be common to all.

For descriptive purposes the disease may be divided into three stages—

1. Pre-ataxic.
2. Ataxic (stage of inco-ordination).
3. Paralytic.

PRE-ATAXIC STAGE

The onset of symptoms is often insidious. Taking a typical case, the following symptoms are to be found :—

1. *Changes due to irritation of sensory roots—*

- (1) Lightning pains over the body: hot, burning, and tingling in character; lasting a few seconds, but recurring at brief intervals for several hours or days; and usually affecting the lower limbs.
- (2) Girdle pains (from the upper margin of sclerosis), the patient complaining of constriction, as if an iron band were around him, and hyperæsthesia in the same situation.
- (3) Paræsthesiæ, such as numbness of the feet, may occur, but are often a later symptom.

2. Early loss of knee-jerks and of Achilles-tendon jerks. The latter may be absent while the knee-jerks are still preserved.

3. Symptoms in connection with the optical apparatus—

- (1) Argyll-Robertson pupil (reflex iridoplegia). The pupil fails to react to light, but accommodation remains unaffected. Inequality of the pupils is often present.
- (2) Ptosis, double or single.
- (3) Primary optic atrophy, with contraction of the visual field.
- (4) Paralysis of ocular muscles, causing diplopia.
- (5) Extreme contraction of the pupils (myosis).

May occur early or late.

4. Priapism is occasionally present in the early stages; later, *sexual desire is abolished*.

5. Not infrequently imperfect control of micturition, or retention.

It should be noted that the early appearance of optic atrophy means late development or absence of ataxia. The ptosis and other ocular paralyses are often transient.

ATAXIC STAGE

Sometimes the first sign of inco-ordination is tumbling forward into the basin on closing the eyes during the morning wash, while there is no unsteadiness when the eyes are open. Difficulty in walking in an imperfect light may follow, and once

begun, the inco-ordination often rapidly develops into the characteristic "ataxic gait." The patient feels and is unsteady on turning round or standing with his eyes shut, and fails to walk on a straight line, etc. (*see* Gait, p. 494).

Romberg's sign is the usual test for ataxia. If the patient is made to stand with his feet together (heels and toes), and to close his eyes, he sways from side to side, and may fall if not supported.

Anæsthesia of the soles of the feet soon comes on. There is complaint of numbness, or of a sensation of walking on wool or india-rubber. The anæsthesia may be tactile, thermal, muscular, or painful. Thus the patient may fail to distinguish with his feet the difference between a hot and cold body, or between heavy and light weights, provided they are similar in appearance. A partial anæsthesia may extend to the limbs or trunk. *Delayed sensation* is common.

Ataxia may affect the hands as well as the feet, making it difficult to unfasten the clothing, etc.

It should be noted particularly that the muscular *power* is not diminished, for the sufferer can resist movement or push away a heavy weight. Atrophy of muscles is not present. There is, however, a condition of muscular *hypotonus*, permitting an increased range of movement of the joints which may lead to subluxation.

Often at this period, but sometimes in the early stage, occur peculiar visceral disturbances, termed crises. The best known are—

1. Gastric crisis—intense epigastric pain, hyperacidity, and vomiting.
2. Laryngeal crisis—noisy stridulous breathing, with great dyspnœa, and often with a cough resembling whooping-cough.
3. Vesical crisis—severe renal and vesical pain, often with dysuria.
4. Rectal crisis—tenesmus, etc.

Such crises occur in about one-fifth of the cases, and last for a few hours or days.

The other most marked changes are the so-called "trophic" alterations—

1. The skin becomes dry, or shiny and glossy with absence of hair; nails crack, etc.
2. *Joints*.—Charcot's disease (tabetic arthropathy). The

cartilages are eroded, the ends of the bones wasted, and the ligaments ossified. There may or may not be effusion into the joint.

3. Perforating ulcer of the foot.

4. Brittleness of bones, ulceration of cartilage, etc.

PARALYTIC STAGE

The ataxia increases to such a degree that the patient can neither walk nor stand. Though real paraplegia is absent, he is emaciated and weak, and ultimately becomes bedridden, and liable to grave intercurrent diseases. Hemiplegia, pneumonia, or gangrene, etc., ushers in a fatal ending. Vesical troubles are aggravated; cystitis may set in, and end in an ascending pyelo-nephritis.

Some cases run an extremely lengthened, others a more rapid course. There is no distinct margin between the stages, though for descriptive purposes it is convenient to separate them. In many cases the disease becomes apparently arrested before the third stage is reached. When optic atrophy is an early symptom, ataxia often develops late or imperfectly.

Treatment.—The demonstration of the syphilitic nature of locomotor ataxia strengthens the position of those who advocate specific therapy in its treatment. But even the most modern methods of administering salvarsan (intrathecal injection of salvarsanised serum) appear at best to have only a temporary effect, and to show little advantage over efficient mercurial inunction, combined with intravenous injections of salvarsan. The best cases for specific therapy are those in which the ataxia has rapidly followed the initial lesion (two years or so), and where the case is seen early. Other methods of treatment are largely symptomatic. The general health must be maintained by tonics, especially iron; diet should be nutritious; and rest, or exercise stopping short of fatigue, must be ordered according to circumstances. Lightning pains may be treated with antipyrin, phenacetin, or aspirin; chloride of aluminium, 3-4 grains (grm. 0.2-0.3) thrice daily may be given where these fail, and morphia is often necessary. Similar treatment must be used in the various crises, and in the gastric form gastric sedatives may also have some effect. Where they make life intolerable, division of the appropriate posterior nerve roots has been practised with some success. For the ataxia the best

treatment is a systematic re-education of the muscles under the control of sight, on the system introduced by Fränkel, beginning with the simplest exercises and movements, and passing gradually to the more complex. Massage is also of considerable use.

GENERAL PARALYSIS OF THE INSANE

(PARALYTIC DEMENTIA)

A chronic degenerative disease of the cortex and meninges, accompanied by progressive derangement of the mind and by progressive paresis.

Etiology.—The disease seldom occurs before twenty years of age, although a *juvenile form* is occasionally found in the subjects of congenital syphilis. It begins most frequently in the thirties, and the average age at death is forty. It affects all classes, but chiefly those living in large towns. Men are much oftener attacked than women. *Syphilis* is the essential cause of general paralysis. Supposed until recently, like locomotor ataxia, to be a parasyphilitic affection, it is now shown to be due to the presence of spirochætes in the tissues of the brain. The Wassermann reaction is positive in the cerebrospinal fluid in about 95 per cent. of the cases. Mental worry or overwork, alcoholism, and injury to the head are predisposing causes.

Morbid Anatomy.—The following are the most important changes :—

1. Thickening of the membranes, with hæmorrhages between the brain and dura mater. The pachymeningitis extends to the cord, where there may also be lateral or posterior sclerosis.
2. Atrophy of the frontal and central lobes, with wasting of the convolutions.
3. Degeneration of cerebral blood-vessels.
4. Distension of the ventricles by fluid.

Microscopically, the following changes are found :—Thickening of the pia arachnoid, overgrowth of the neuroglia, partial or complete destruction of the nerve cells. The association fibres are absent or greatly diminished. These changes, in Mott's view, are the late result of cortical irritation and meningo-encephalitis with perivascular infiltration, conditions which lead to chronic necrosis of nerve cells and proliferation of the

neuroglia. Bolton holds that syphilis is not the sole essential cause of general paralysis, but that it occurs in such syphilitics as possess "cortical neurons of subnormal durability," and would, if uninfected, develop in any case a moderate degree of non-syphilitic dementia.

Symptoms.—The disease begins insidiously, sometimes a few years, sometimes as long as twenty years, after infection, the average interval being about ten years. Its characteristic symptoms are progressive loss of intelligence, defect of speech, paralytic attacks, and pupillary changes. In the early stage headache, irritability, and alternating excitement and depression are frequent. The finer qualities of the intelligence are the first to go—a man of previously correct behaviour becoming untidy, careless of his person, neglectful of ordinary politeness, or heedless of decency. *Memory*, especially of the immediate past, is always markedly impaired, and the power of mental calculation is much affected. The facial expression in repose is often vacant. The mental state varies; in many instances there are *hallucinations of grandeur*, in which the patient imagines himself enormously powerful or enormously rich, disposing, under the latter impression, of much of his capital if the disease is not early recognised; in other instances there is from the first a state of apathetic dementia, or there may be hypochondriacal delusions. Excitability, in the early stages, may approach mania.

The *Argyll-Robertson* pupil is present. This sign appears early, and may precede mental change. The pupils are often unequal.

The *speech* is slurring or blurred, and there is a tendency to drop syllables out of long words. *Tremor of the lips and tongue* is frequent, and there is often tremor of the hands. Writing is at first tremulous, afterwards syllables are omitted, and finally the script becomes meaningless.

Symptoms of implication of the posterior columns are often present (absent knee-jerks, lightning pains, optic atrophy, etc.); but even more commonly affection of the lateral columns with exaggerated tendon jerks and slight paresis. This may even precede the mental change. Fatigue is readily induced.

At a later stage, as a rule, *paralytic attacks* appear. They may be either apoplectiform or epileptiform in character, and leave behind them transitory monoplegia, hemiplegia, or

aphasia, and a deteriorated mental condition. The last stage is one of complete imbecility and paralysis, with loss of control of the sphincters. Death may be due to bed-sores, inanition, cystitis, or other inflammatory complications, or it may occur in one of the paralytic seizures. The average duration is two or three years, but some cases last for ten. Remissions are frequent and deceptive.

There are many departures from the typical course, and, as we have seen, motor symptoms may precede the mental defect, or indications of ataxia may be very prominent. The tremor of the lips and tongue is an important element in the diagnosis, and, along with the Argyll-Robertson pupil and the altered mental condition, leaves little room for doubt. Where the mental symptoms are slightly marked, the diagnosis may be aided by lumbar puncture, the cerebrospinal fluid showing lymphocytosis, an increase of globulin, and a positive Wassermann reaction.

Treatment.—The patient must in some instances be confined to an asylum; in other cases careful supervision, hygiene, and diet may retard the progress of the disease. If the case is recent, specific treatment should be employed, and salvarsan has been credited with good results; but it must be remembered that nerve cells once lost are never replaced, and that remissions are apt to simulate improvement. Cold to the head, bromides, or hyoscine may be used for the maniacal excitement.

A new treatment, by the inoculation of the patient with tertian malaria, has given good results. Malaria develops in such cases from eight to thirty-two days after inoculation, and is allowed to run its course during several attacks. It is then arrested by the usual anti-malarial remedies. A marked improvement in the symptoms of general paralysis takes place in 75 per cent. of the cases, the improvement being greater the earlier the treatment is employed. The new infection appears to retard or arrest the development of the original disease.

CEREBRAL AND SPINAL SYPHILIS

Syphilis affecting the brain may give rise to vascular lesions (obliterative endarteritis), and gummata, or to degenerative diseases. The vascular lesions may occur early—and some-

times quite early—the degenerative conditions (*see* General Paralysis) much later. The severity of the attack of syphilis has little influence on the development of nervous lesions, and they may follow even prolonged and careful treatment.

Morbid Anatomy.—Obliterative endarteritis causes a uniform narrowing of the lumen of the cerebral arteries and arterioles, the basilar and vertebrals, and the middle cerebral and its branches being chiefly affected. The arteries of the basal ganglia do not suffer so often. The lumen of the affected artery is ultimately obliterated by thrombosis. There is usually periarteritis, with formation of gummatous nodules. Complete occlusion of course leads to cerebral softening.

Isolated gummata—single or multiple—may be found over the cerebral convexity, at the base, on the cranial nerves, or in the substance of the brain. A diffuse gummatous meningo-encephalitis may also occur, especially at the base.

Symptoms are similar to those produced by other cerebral lesions, but they may be combined in a suggestive way. Signs of double or multiple lesions, a tendency to improvement and relapse, and a tendency to improvement under treatment, are all significant. Headache, usually worse at night, vertigo, insomnia, apathy, epileptiform convulsions or fits, amnesia, mental confusion, are frequent prodromata. From *vascular occlusion*, hemiplegia and aphasia may arise. The onset is gradual, generally without unconsciousness, the paralysis is often, but not always, temporary, and it may be followed by another attack on the same or the opposite side. From *cortical gummata* arise localised convulsions (Jacksonian epilepsy), with only incomplete unconsciousness, and often monoplegia. The paralysis comes on slowly, and is persistent. Optic neuritis sets in early, and is very intense. From *gummatous meningitis of the base* arises paralysis of the cranial nerves. All of these may be affected, but most frequently the third or sixth, or both of them. Optic neuritis is exceptional, but bi-temporal hemianopia from gummata in the interpeduncular space may occur. There are usually other signs of intracranial mischief (headache, vertigo, etc.). From *diffuse arterial and meningeal lesions* arises syphilitic dementia, which may be accompanied by local or general convulsions, aphasia, affections of cranial nerves, and more constantly by amnesia, mental confusion, somnolence, and melancholia or sometimes mania.

Prognosis depends upon the stage of the cerebral affection. If vascular occlusion has led to softening, or if fibrous transformation has occurred, there will not be much improvement; while early cases may be immensely improved, or even cured, by energetic treatment.

Treatment.—In cerebral syphilis the more vigorous forms of treatment are chiefly employed. Mercury is of the first importance. It may be given by inunction either of the ordinary Ung. Hydrargyri, or of Ung. Hydrargyri Oleat., which is cleaner and less irritating; or intramuscular injection of a soluble salt of calomel, or of mercurial cream, may be practised. Salvarsan, if given, must be given cautiously, the initial dose being small. Iodides may be given alone or in combination with mercury. The doses should be large—15-30 grains (grm. 1·0-2·0) of the iodide of potassium thrice daily. Such doses are less likely than smaller doses to produce iodism. Sulphur baths aid the elimination of mercury from the system, and thus permit the use of larger doses.

Spinal syphilis most commonly takes the form of a chronic meningo-myelitis, with pains in the area of the spinal roots, implication of the sphincters, partial or complete paraplegia, partial anæsthesia, increase of tendon jerks, and Babinski's sign. The cerebrospinal fluid shows the characters of neuro-syphilis, and the Wassermann reaction is positive. The mid-dorsal region is most commonly attacked, and the onset is usually gradual. An acute myelitis of rapid onset may also occur, and is of grave prognosis. In meningo-myelitis the prognosis is variable. Some cases recover completely under treatment, but more recover partially, with persistent weakness and stiffness. In fatal cases death may be due to bed-sore, cystitis, or inter-current diseases. Treatment is as for cerebral syphilis.

V. DISEASES OF THE MEDULLA OBLONGATA

Much that has been said about the spinal cord may be also said about the medulla oblongata, or bulb. It is a conductor of impulses to and from the brain, and it also contains the principal reflex centres. The more important points may be summed up as follows :—

1. It contains the deep origin of all the cranial nerves after the fourth. The nuclei of motor cranial nerves are homologous with the spinal motor nuclei in the anterior cornua, and may be affected simultaneously.

2. The *motor fibres* decussate to form the crossed and direct pyramidal tracts in the cord.

3. The upper *sensory* decussation (decussation of the fillet) also takes place in the medulla.

4. It contains the following centres :—(a) *Centres essential to life* ; respiratory, cardiac, and vasomotor centres : (b) *Centres connected with the alimentary canal* ; those concerned with the acts of sucking, mastication, deglutition, and vomiting : (c) *Centres connected with the eye* ; those for winking and for the dilator pupillæ : (d) *Centres for secretion* ; those for salivation, lachrymation, and perspiration.

It will be seen from the above table that even a small lesion may be attended by grave and diverse symptoms. A lesion such as an extensive hæmorrhage is incompatible with life. But the medulla is often the seat of degenerative changes, which may form a part of the phenomena of disseminated sclerosis, or may represent the terminal stages of progressive muscular atrophy or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. When such changes affect the motor nuclei of the medulla before the pyramidal tracts or cells of the anterior cornua, they constitute *bulbar paralysis* ; but even in such cases the disease may ultimately implicate the spinal cord.

PROGRESSIVE BULBAR PARALYSIS

(GLOSSO-LABIO-LARYNGEAL PARALYSIS)

An affection characterised by progressive paralysis and atrophy of the lips, tongue, palate, pharynx, and larynx, accompanied by difficult articulation and deglutition, and ending fatally.

Etiology.—It occurs most frequently in old people, and is rarely seen in persons under forty years of age. Men are more frequently attacked than women. A nervous heredity can sometimes be traced, and prolonged exposure, or injuries such as blow on the neck, have been assigned as causes. The disease is often associated with chronic diseases of the spinal cord (progressive muscular atrophy or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis).

Morbid Anatomy.—1. *Sclerotic* changes are found in the—

- (1) Motor nerve *nuclei* of the medulla.
- (2) Motor nerve *roots* and fibres directly connected with the bulb.

2. Degenerative changes are found in the trunks and motor endings of the facial, glosso-pharyngeal, spinal accessory, and hypoglossal nerves. There is atrophy of the tongue, lips, and muscles supplied by the above nerves. The muscular fibres are in a state of fatty degeneration, or may be replaced by fat.

The lesions originate in the motor nerve nuclei, the cells of which show shrivelled processes, shrunken cell bodies, absence of Nissl's bodies, and shrinkage or absence of the nuclei. The total number of cells is lessened. The changes extend throughout the neuron to the nerve endings. The white substance of the medulla is often unaffected, but it may also undergo change; and degenerative lesions of the pyramidal tracts or anterior cornua may be found.

Symptoms.—Obviously, with lesions so widespread, the symptoms must vary with the nuclei involved; and if spinal or basal disease be present, the symptoms of these will be super-added. Yet, in spite of these facts, a fairly typical picture of glosso-labio-laryngeal paralysis may be presented. Tabulated, the principal symptoms are—

1. *Impairment of articulation (dysarthria)*, due at first to defective movements of the tongue, but later to the atrophy of the lips; consequently, defective pronunciation of the letters involving the tip of the tongue is first most marked—*i.e.*, the letters T, K, D, or the exclamation SH!; later, there is difficulty in pronouncing the letters U, O, OO, W, P, B, M, owing to implication of the lips. Finally, *speech may become unintelligible*, but phonation is rarely entirely lost.

2. *Difficulty in Swallowing.*—The food may accumulate between the lips and gums, from paralysis of the lower segment of the facial nerve, but the dysphagia is increased by involvement of the pharyngeal muscles.

3. *Symptoms indicative of paralysis of the palate*—*i.e.*, nasal twang of voice, regurgitation of fluids through the nose. The palatal and faucial reflexes are lost.

4. *Dribbling of Saliva from the Mouth.*—This is a most marked symptom, and the patient is continually wiping the secre-

tion away. Possibly more saliva is secreted than normally, but this symptom may be due to deficient deglutition, so that saliva is not *swallowed*. The lower lip is pendulous.

5. *Symptoms indicative of paralysis of the larynx* are lowering of the pitch of the voice, aphonia, imperfect cough, etc. When the superior laryngeal nerve is paralysed, particles of food may get into the lung and excite a fatal pneumonia.

6. *Symptoms indicative of paralysis of the cardiac centre* are paroxysmal attacks of dyspnoea, a sensation of tightness across the chest, tachycardia and irregular action of the heart, etc.

The patient has usually a sad expression, which may contrast with his often buoyant spirits. There is impairment of emotional control. Tears or laughter are readily excited, though the intellect is unaffected. The condition of the tongue is very characteristic when the disease is well marked. Its muscular tissue is much atrophied, and the mucous membrane hangs in sack-like folds, wrinkled and covered with a dirty yellowish fur. It is tremulous, lies helpless in the mouth, and is only moved with great difficulty; hence the collecting of food between the teeth and cheeks. Sometimes, however, the tongue may be broad and flabby, from the accumulation of interstitial fat. The muscles of mastication may be also involved (showing implication of the fifth nerve).

The electrical reactions are usually little altered, but in the later stages R.D. is often present in the affected muscles.

In some cases there is no wasting, and in these the degeneration is probably confined to the upper neuron. In such cases, the palatal and faucial reflexes are retained, and may be excessive.

Prognosis.—Invariably fatal. Death may occur from emaciation, but is more often due to the various complications that arise, especially pneumonia.

Treatment.—Careful attention to all the details of health, with the administration of tonics, such as arsenic or strychnine, are the usual measures. Electricity has been tried, without much benefit. The greatest care is essential in feeding, to avoid passage of food into the larynx. Feeding by the œsophageal tube may be required. If there is any evidence of syphilis, specific treatment must be adopted.

Acute Bulbar Paralysis of the apoplectic type is of vascular origin, and most frequently follows thrombosis. It occurs in

old people with marked atheroma, but may follow syphilitic endarteritis in the young. Its onset is rapid, being accompanied by vomiting, vertigo, and sometimes loss of consciousness. There follow partial or complete loss of articulation (anarthria, *not* aphasia); dysphagia, with regurgitation of fluids through the nose; paralysis of the lower half of the face; and paralysis of the tongue, larynx, and pharynx. The paralysis may extend to the limbs, when the tendon reflexes are exaggerated, and Babinski's sign is found. Dyspnœa or Cheyne-Stokes breathing may occur; the pulse may be rapid, and the temperature raised. In fatal cases, death ensues in a few days, weeks, or months.

Treatment is mainly palliative—attention to feeding, etc. In cases where syphilis is even suspected, energetic specific treatment should be undertaken, and may bring about partial recovery.

VI. DISEASES OF THE BRAIN

INTRODUCTORY

Before beginning the study of cerebral disease, we shall first consider a few of the elementary anatomical and physiological facts, without a knowledge of which brain diseases cannot be understood.

The brain proper consists of two large hemispheres, partly separated from each other by the great longitudinal fissure; but bound together below by various commissures.

Externally, each hemisphere is covered with grey matter, named the cortex, which is mapped out by furrows into a series of folds, termed convolutions. These convolutions become gradually more prominent as the animal scale is ascended, and reach their fullest development in the highly educated adult human brain.

Of the *fissures* of the hemispheres the largest and most evident subdivide the surface of the cerebrum into lobes, and may be called *interlobar*; the smallest fissures—*intralobar*—divide the lobes into convolutions, which have received definite designations.

The *Interlobar Fissures* are three :—the *fissure of Sylvius*, or *lateral fissure*; the *fissure of Rolando*, or *central fissure*; and the *parieto-occipital fissure*.

The *lobes* of the cerebrum are five in number; four are

bounded by the interlobar fissures, and take their names from the bones of the skull in relation to which they lie. These are the *frontal*, the *parietal*, the *occipital*, and the *temporal* or *temporo-sphenoidal* lobes.

The fifth lobe—the *central lobe* (*insula* or *island of Reil*)—is not in contact with the bones of the skull, *but is hidden within the fissure of Sylvius*, the margins of which must be separated in order to see it.

The *external* convolutions of these lobes are :—(1) Of the frontal lobe—the *superior*, *middle*, and *inferior* frontal convolutions, and the *ascending frontal* or *anterior central* convolution ; (2) of the parietal lobe—the *superior* and *inferior* convolutions or lobules, the latter divided into the *supra-marginal* and *angular* gyri, and the *ascending parietal* or *posterior central* convolution ; (3) of the temporal lobe—the *superior*, *middle*, and *inferior* convolutions ; and (4) of the occipital lobe—the *superior*, *middle*, and *inferior* convolutions or lateral occipital gyri.

The convolutions on the mesial surface of the brain are separated from each other by the *calcarine*, *parieto-occipital*, and *calloso-marginal* fissures, the last being also known as the *sulcus cinguli*. These convolutions are :—the *gyrus fornicatus* or *gyrus cinguli*, the *marginal gyrus* or mesial aspect of the *superior frontal* convolution, the *paracentral lobule*, the *præcuneus*, the *cuneus*, the *dentate gyrus* or *fascia*, and the *hippocampal* and *uncinate* gyri.

Interior of the Cerebrum.—Internally the cerebrum consists of white matter, and ganglionic masses of grey matter. The solid mass of white matter *above* the corpus callosum is termed the *centrum ovale*.

Below the corpus callosum is an irregular and somewhat T-shaped cavity, divided by septa into smaller spaces, termed ventricles. The ventricles communicate with each other by variously named canals—thus, the lateral ventricles communicate with each other and the third ventricle by the foramen of *Monro* ; the third and the fourth ventricles by the “*iter*” or aqueduct of *Sylvius* ; the fourth ventricle and the subarachnoidal space by the foramen of *Majendie*.

The *Basal Ganglia* are masses of grey matter situated at the base of the brain, viz. :—

1. The *Corpora Striata*, consisting of two portions—
 - (1) Caudate nucleus :—intra-ventricular portion.
 - (2) Lenticular nucleus :—extra-ventricular portion.

2. The *Optic Thalami*, containing sensory and optic fibres. The *upper* part of each thalamus appears in the lateral ventricles. The *under* surface rests upon the crura cerebri. Between the lenticular nucleus externally, and the caudate nucleus and optic thalamus internally, lies the mass of white matter termed the *Internal Capsule* (see p. 488).

3. The *Clastrum* is a narrow band of grey matter outside the lenticular nucleus. Its function is unknown.

4. The *Corpora Geniculata* are masses of grey matter forming rounded swellings on the lateral and median portions of the optic tracts.

5. The *Corpora Quadrigemina* contain sensory fibres, and are also implicated in the movements of the eye.

6. *Pineal Gland*, apparently concerned with the regulation of growth in early life.

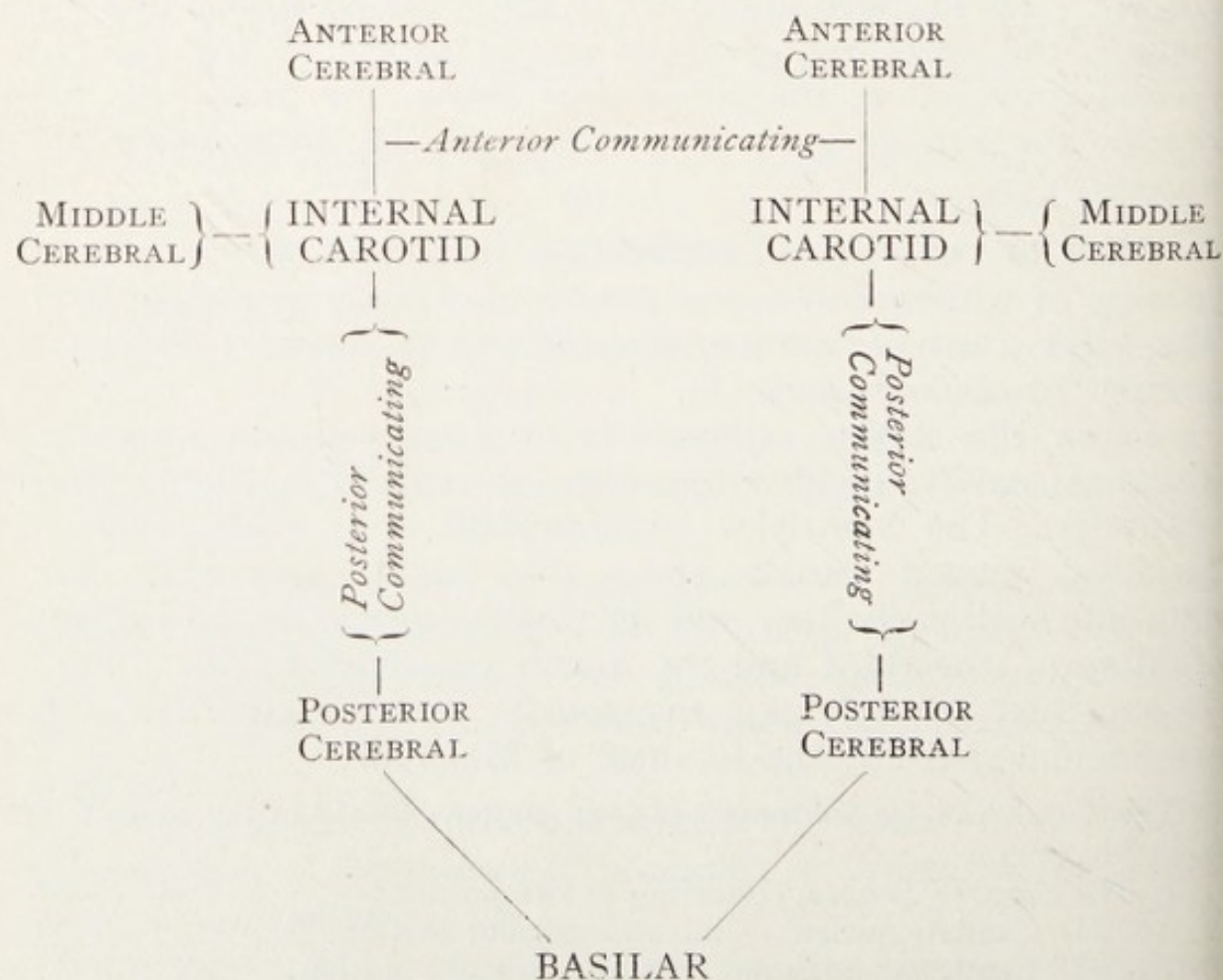
Blood Supply.—The arteries of the brain are derived from the two internal carotids, and from the two vertebral arteries, which unite to form the basilar artery.

The branches are practically arranged in two sets, viz. :—

The Cortical group (anterior, middle, and posterior cerebral arteries).

The Basal group—comprising the circle of Willis, and the central arteries passing from it.

The circle of Willis may be represented by a diagram :—



So many pathological conditions result from cerebral hæmorrhage, that special attention should be directed to the course of the middle cerebral artery, branches of which so often rupture, that it is really *the* artery of hæmorrhage.

The Middle Cerebral or Sylvian Arteries are the largest branches of the internal carotid, and pass upwards and outwards in the fissure of Sylvius till they reach the surface of the island of Reil, where they ramify in the pia mater, forming part of the cortical system of arteries. These branches supply the

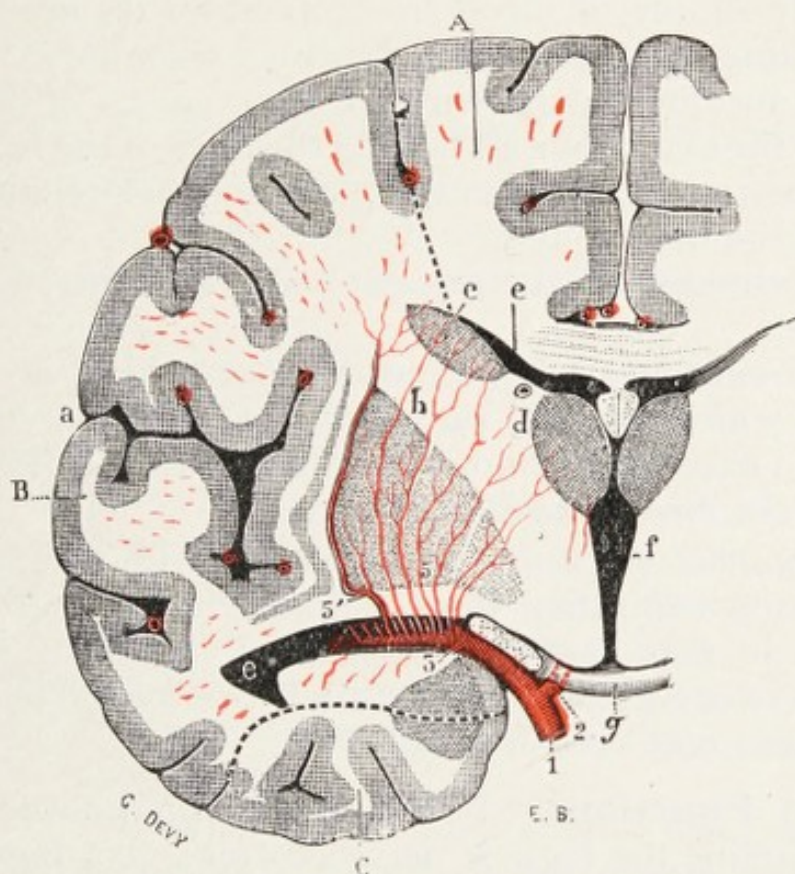


FIG. 24.—SCHEME OF THE BLOOD SUPPLY OF THE INTERNAL CAPSULE (TESTUT).

5, The lenticulo-striate system of vessels; 5', the artery of cerebral hæmorrhage; c, caudate nucleus; b, lenticular nucleus; d, optic thalamus.

under and outer surfaces of the frontal lobe (in part), and the ascending frontal convolution, the outer surface of the parietal lobe, and most of the outer surface of the temporal lobe. They anastomose freely with the anterior and posterior cerebral arteries. Other branches, furnished through the anterior perforated spot to the corpus striatum, are all terminal arteries and belong to the "ganglionic system" of branches. They are (1) the lenticular; (2) the lenticulo-striate; (3) the lenticulo-optic. The lenticulo-striate arteries are the most frequently ruptured in cerebral hæmorrhage (see Fig. 24).

Cerebral Veins.—The veins do not accompany the arteries, but open into the various sinuses in the dura mater. They are arranged in two sets—

1. *The Superficial set*, which open into the superior longitudinal, the lateral, and cavernous sinuses.
2. *The Deep set*, which gather the blood from the *interior* of the brain, and empty into the straight sinus.

“*The special characters of the cerebral circulation are—*

“1. The free anastomosis at the circle of Willis, which provides a ready supply of blood from other vessels in case of the sudden blocking of any of the more direct channels.

“2. The tortuous course through bony canals of the arteries as they enter the skull, thus mitigating the force of the heart's beat.

“3. Their ramifications in the pia mater before entering the substance of the brain.

“4. The thinness of the arterial walls, and the smallness of the capillaries.

“5. The existence of venous sinuses which are without valves, and which do not run with the arteries; the larger arteries, in fact, having no companion veins.” (Whitaker's *Anatomy of the Brain and Spinal Cord*.)

6. *The marked influence of respiration*, the brain dilating more with each expiration than it does with the cardiac beat. It is worthy of note that this respiratory rhythm of the brain was a discovery of Swedenborg's, entirely overlooked by medicine in his time, and only recently reaffirmed.

Cerebral Functions.—It has long been known that the cerebrum contains the highest nerve centres—viz., those centres whose activity is associated with volition, intelligence, thinking, consciousness, and analysis of sensation, etc.; but it was not proved until 1882 that the cortex is sensible to *direct* excitation. Hitzig and Fritsch in Germany, Ferrier, Horsley, and others in England, have not only proved that the *cortex* itself is sensitive to irritation, but, in addition, they have shown that the brain does not act as a whole in all its various functions, but that certain parts have special duties allotted to them; in other words, *stimulation of certain areas causes definite and particular movements, sensations, etc.*

The localisation of such areas is briefly—

1. *The Frontal lobes*, which are concerned in the higher psychical functions, and contain an anterior centre for *eye movements*.

2. *The Rolandic area* (*anterior central convolution*), associated with motor functions. In the anterior central or ascending frontal convolutions are situated, in order from above downwards, the motor centres for the *legs, arms, face, lips, and tongue*. The motor centre for *speech* is in the *left inferior frontal convolution* (Broca's convolution). If the person be *left-handed*, the speech centre is in the *right convolution* (see Aphasia).

Sensory Centres

3. The cortical centres for *common sensation* are in the ascending parietal (*posterior central*) convolution.

4. The centres for *sight* are in the occipital lobe and angular gyrus (see Optic Nerve).

5. The centres for *smell* are in the hippocampal region (uncinate gyrus) in the temporal lobes.

6. The centres for *hearing* are in the superior temporal convolutions.

The results of stimulation of motor centres are seen on the *opposite* side of the body, though sometimes the resulting movements are bilateral (especially as regards movements of the eyes, trunk, and mouth).

In the case of speech, originally bilaterally innervated, the *habitual training* of the left side of the brain in right-handed people causes the government of the intricate movements of the mouth and throat to be assumed by the left centre only, and the right centre may actually lose its power of function. Cases have been frequently recorded where, through disease of the *left frontal lobe*, speech *for a time* has been entirely abolished, but has been regained in time *through the right centre reacquiring its function*. In these cases the patients have had to learn language as a child does.

To render comprehensible the general features of brain diseases, it only remains to consider a few simple facts.

Note that *irritation* causes increased action; *paralysis* abolishes the functions of the centres. It must also be remembered that, though the *cerebral cortex alone* has to do with perception of sensation and with voluntary movement, these functions may be abolished by interrupting the afferent and efferent fibres to and from the cortex. The cortex, in fact, is the commander-in-chief; it receives its information by means of inferior officers—basal ganglia, afferent nerves, etc.; and then issues its *orders through a similar efferent mechanism*. The functions of the basal ganglia will now be readily understood. They are subordinate centres conveying and receiving orders from the cerebrum, but they are also able to act, as it were, on their own responsibility as regards certain complex reflexes and

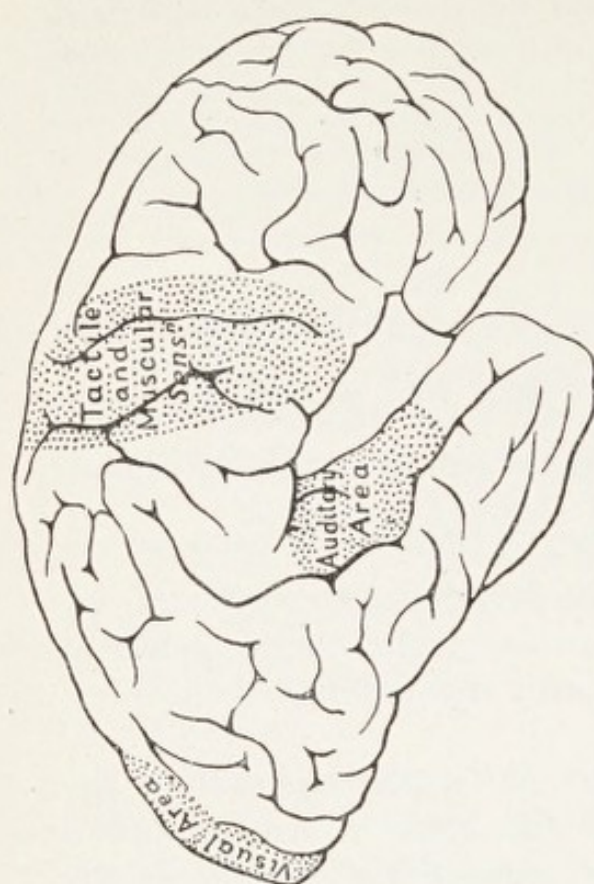


FIG. 26.—SENSORY AREAS ON THE OUTER ASPECT OF THE CEREBRUM (FLECHSIG).

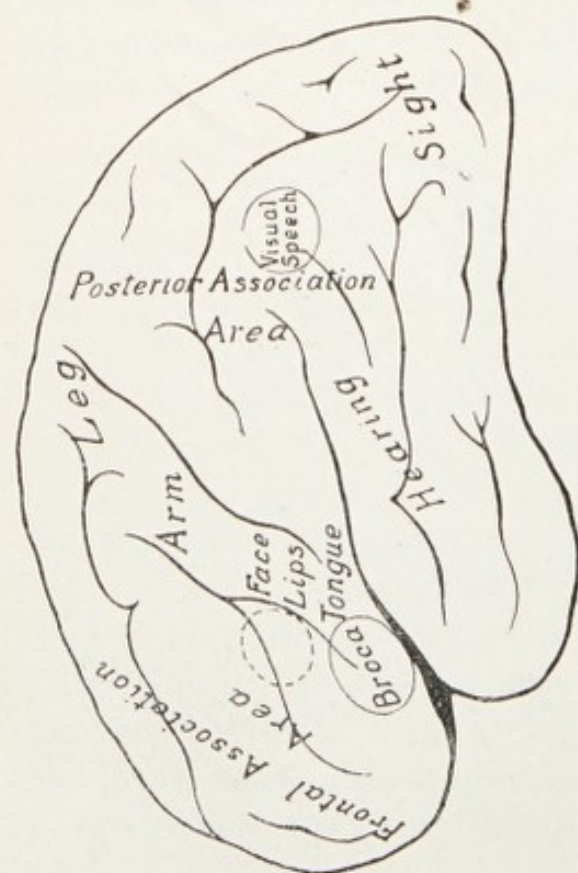


FIG. 25.—MOTOR AREAS IN THE ASCENDING FRONTAL CONVOLUTION (FARQUHARSON).

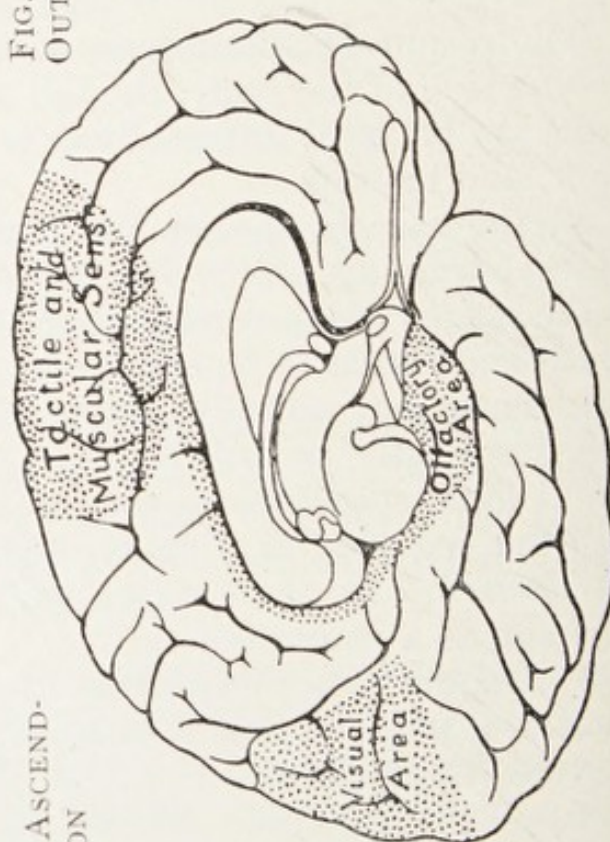


FIG. 27.—SENSORY AREAS ON THE INNER ASPECT OF THE CEREBRUM (FLECHSIG).

co-ordination of movements; thus, the optic thalami contain a large number of sensory fibres passing to the brain, and also a number of *filaments in connection with vision*. Lesions of the optic thalamus or of the corpora striata do not necessarily produce *entire* loss of sensation, but only a loss *proportionate to the number of sensory fibres interrupted en route to the brain*. Owing to the close relationship of the optic thalamus to the internal capsule (*see* Figs. 18, 22), anæsthesia due to such a lesion is usually accompanied by hemiplegia, and, from the implication of visual fibres, by hemianopia.

Effects of Lesions of the Cortico-Spinal Motor Path

(a) *The Cerebral Cortex*.—Destructive lesions produce paralysis of the opposite muscles of the body; and the motor fibres, cut off from the first trophic realm, undergo degeneration. The paralysis may be either flaccid or spastic, the former being more suggestive of a cortical lesion. When the inhibitory impulses generated in the optic thalamus and conducted by the rubro-spinal tract are not interfered with, muscular tonus is not increased; but in lesions affecting the thalamus and internal capsule the interference with these impulses leaves uncontrolled those proceeding from Deiter's nucleus through the vestibulo-spinal tract, which increase muscular tonus, and so produce rigidity. *Note* that in the cortex the fibres are spread out in a fan-like manner, and a lesion may therefore affect only a few fibres going to one or more groups of muscles.

The effects of *irritative* lesions are described under Jacksonian epilepsy.

(b) *Centrum Ovale*.—A lesion will involve a larger number of fibres than in the cortex, and the paralysis of muscles on the opposite side will consequently be more extensive.

(c) *Internal Capsule*.—The motor and sensory fibres here converge to the *posterior limb*. A lesion usually produces *typical* hemiplegia of the opposite side and of a spastic type (*see* Hemiplegia).

(d) *Crura Cerebri*.—A lesion produces a similar hemiplegia, but owing to its relations with the *third nerve*, the *ocular* muscles may be paralysed on the *same* side as the lesion.

(e) *Pons*.—Note that here the sixth and seventh nerves may be paralysed in the resulting hemiplegia. Remember the crossed nature of the paralysis (*see* Seventh Nerve).

Clinical Considerations.—*Lesions of the cranial contents* cause either *irritation* or *paralysis* of the nervous apparatus, motor, sensory, or reflex. Irritation of motor structures is shown by *muscular twitchings* or *spasms*; irritation of sensory parts

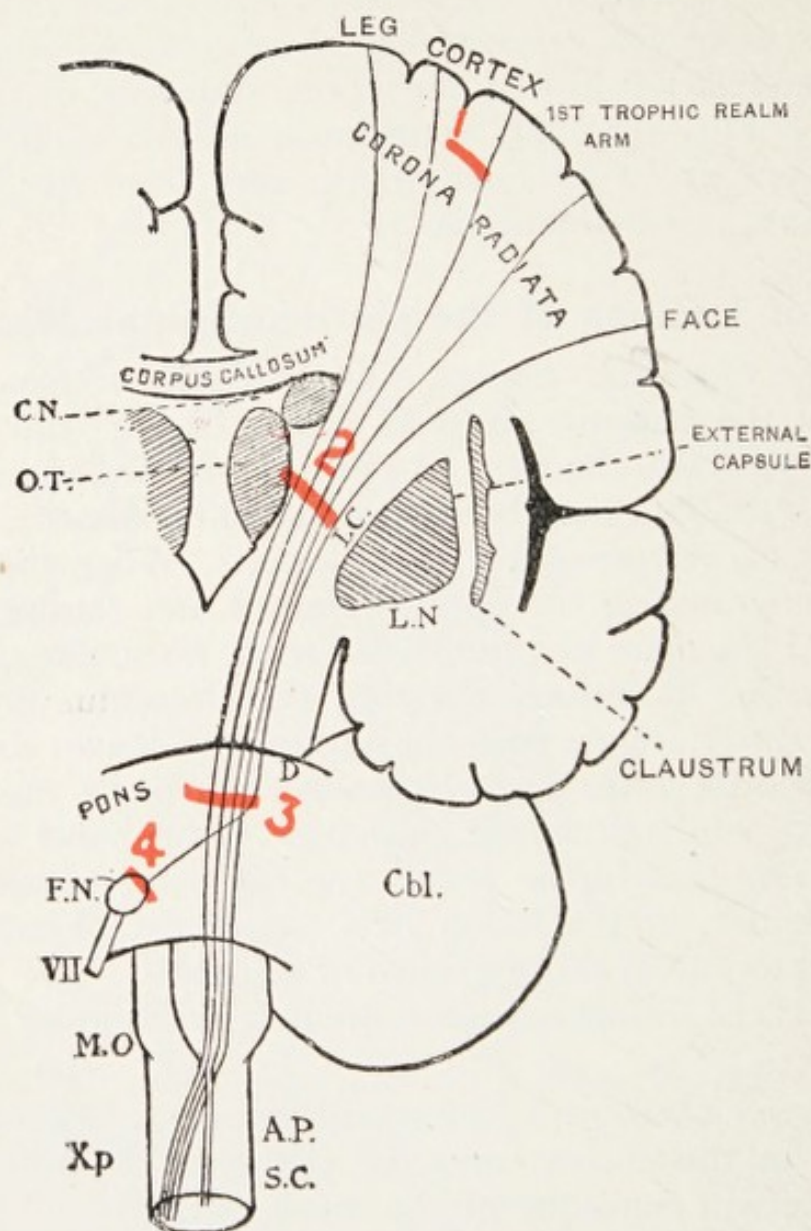


FIG. 28.—DIAGRAMMATIC DRAWING intended to show the effect of lesions interrupting the motor fibres at various levels. Observe a lesion at 1 involves but few fibres; at 2, a much larger number. Note the relations of the facial nerve at 3 and 4 (see Hemiplegia and Bell's Paralysis).

causes *pain* and *hyperæsthesia*; irritation of reflex nerve centres leads to *increased reflex action*.

Motor Paralysis is estimated by noticing the position of the limbs, the absence of all resistance to passive movements, and the presence of stertorous breathing, or flapping of the lips and cheeks with respiration.

Sensory Paralysis is recognised by the insensibility of the patient to all external impressions, such as sound, light, pinching, pricking.

Reflex Palsy is specially indicated by a fixed condition of the pupils, and the failure of contraction of the orbicularis palpebrarum when the conjunctiva is stimulated.

We have thus seen that the brain is the initiator or starter of impulses on the one hand, and exercises a controlling or inhibitive power on the other hand. In other words—on the normal exercise of brain function depends the healthy activity of every organ and structure in the body; but the carrying out of this function *is dependent on a perfect maintenance of the anatomical and physiological relations of the component parts*. Lastly, remember that just as the commander-in-chief of an army may be temporarily absent without any great disadvantage, so life may continue, and a fair standard of bodily health may for a time persist, after the cortical *centres have been injured or destroyed by disease*. Such a condition, however, can only last for a limited period.

CEREBRAL MENINGITIS

Apart from the specific forms already described (*see pp. 61, 64*), and from syphilitic inflammation, cerebral meningitis may assume one of two forms:—

1. The *simple form*, usually suppurative, and attacking most frequently or most extensively the convexity of the brain.
2. The *tubercular form*, which principally affects the base of the brain, and is frequently part of a *general* tuberculosis, and always secondary to tuberculosis elsewhere.

THE SIMPLE FORM

Simple meningitis is again divided into *pachymeningitis*, which may be either internal or external, and *leptomeningitis*. *External* pachymeningitis, being generally due to injury or disease of the bones of the skull, is chiefly of surgical interest.

Pachymeningitis interna hæmorrhagica (*hæmatoma of the dura mater*) is a rare affection, occurring in elderly people with degenerated arteries, especially in general paralytics and chronic alcoholics. On the inner surface of the dura is found, unilaterally

or bilaterally, a thin vascular membrane, in one or several layers, into or between the layers of which small hæmorrhages may occur, or larger hæmorrhages producing a laminated clot. Whether inflammation or hæmorrhage is the primary factor is still a disputed point. Symptoms are variable. They commence with convulsions deepening into coma. Recovery usually follows, although hemiparesis may persist for some time. There may be other symptoms of cerebral compression. *Fresh attacks occur with each fresh hæmorrhage*, the mental state deteriorates, and dementia develops. Death may occur in an apoplectic seizure. *Treatment* is that of cerebral hæmorrhage.

Acute Purulent Leptomeningitis is due to a variety of causes. It may be primary, and is then usually due to a pneumococcus infection; or it may be secondary to cerebral abscess or disease of the bones of the skull (*otitis media*), to the various specific fevers among the complications of which it has already been mentioned, to ulcerative endocarditis or the septic states, and it may occur as a terminal infection in the course of chronic diseases. The pneumococcus, various specific organisms, and the pyogenic cocci are the most frequent infecting agents.

Morbid Anatomy.—1. Hyperæmia of the meninges, which become swollen and injected.

2. Exudation of fibrin.

3. Effusion, which rapidly becomes purulent. The convexity is most affected, as a rule, but in children the effusion may be basal. The disease may extend in a lesser degree to the spinal meninges.

Symptoms.—In cases secondary to the specific fevers, the onset of meningitis may be difficult to diagnose.

The older division of the symptoms into stages of irritation and succeeding compression is only very roughly tenable. In some instances there may be a premonitory stage, characterised by headache, occasional vomiting, or restlessness; but often the onset is sudden. The early symptoms are those of fever, usually moderate, and often with rigor at the outset, great intolerance of light, contracted pupils, exaggerated reflexes, rigidity of the limbs, and convulsions. Dulling of consciousness is early evident, and there are often periods of wild delirium. Kernig's sign may be present. The patient lies curled up in a characteristic manner, and the head is sometimes markedly

retracted. The pulse, which may be at first rapid, becomes slow and *irregular*. Headache is very violent, and *persists through the delirium*. Emaciation is rapid. In the later stages the temperature tends to fall, irritability is replaced by stupor, and convulsions by paralysis. The pupils now become uneven or dilated, and ocular palsies, monoplegia, or even hemiplegia may occur. Optic neuritis is present in basal meningitis, but is less common when the convexity is attacked. The peculiar cephalic cry is a frequent symptom. Cheyne-Stokes breathing, involuntary escape of fæces and urine, and stertorous breathing, usher in death, which often takes place within a week of the onset of grave symptoms.

Lumbar puncture is of great diagnostic value. The fluid, which escapes under pressure, is turbid, and there is a polymorphonuclear leucocytosis. The causative organism may also be identified.

THE TUBERCULOUS FORM

("ACUTE HYDROCEPHALUS")

Tuberculous meningitis occurs most frequently in children, but is not uncommon in adults. While it is almost invariably either part of a miliary tuberculosis, or secondary to tuberculosis elsewhere, the primary focus is sometimes very difficult to find.

Morbid Anatomy.—After the invasion of the meninges (pia mater) by the bacilli, tubercles are formed, and their presence gives rise to inflammatory changes. The tubercles themselves may undergo caseation and liquefaction, or may in rare instances become sclerosed and calcified. The exudate is never frankly purulent, but is of a gelatinous fibrino-purulent character, and has a somewhat characteristic greenish hue.

The changes begin in, and principally affect, the perivascular tissue of the Sylvian and other arteries at the base of the brain, hence the *ventricles are often distended*, and the brain substance flattened up against the skull. Hydrocephalus is thus produced by obstruction of the veins of Galen.

Symptoms.—The symptoms may be divided into three stages, which are usually better marked than in simple meningitis.

1. *Prodromal.*—The child usually shows more or less definite symptoms of the tubercular diathesis, such as emaciation, want of appetite, or constipation alternating with diarrhœa. Irrita-

bility of temper and headache are perhaps the most common features previous to the onset of *definite* symptoms of the meningeal affection. Cerebral vomiting may be present. Such a condition may last a week or two, or sometimes a month.

2. *Irritative Stage*.—The symptoms are similar to those described under the simple variety, but the head is usually more retracted and the neck more rigid; the abdomen is hollowed out or boat-shaped; the temperature oscillates; internal strabismus or other paralysis of cranial nerves may be present, and there is

| SIMPLE MENINGITIS. | TUBERCULOUS MENINGITIS. |
|--|--|
| <i>Age</i> .—Any age. | <i>Age</i> .—Young children and young adults. |
| <i>Cause</i> .—Injury or local causes, fevers, etc. | <i>Cause</i> .—No local cause, but symptoms of tubercle elsewhere. |
| <i>Course</i> .—Short. | <i>Course</i> .—Longer than simple, especially the prodromal stage. |
| <i>Convulsions</i> .—May be present. | <i>Convulsions</i> .—Common, even during the compression stage; often precede death. |
| <i>Abdomen</i> .—Nothing marked. | <i>Abdomen</i> .—Markedly retracted. |
| <i>Morbid Changes</i> .— | <i>Morbid Changes</i> .— |
| 1. Those of simple or suppurative inflammation. | 1. Those associated with the presence of tubercle, and formation of peculiar greenish pus. |
| 2. Attacks convexity of brain. | 2. Attacks the base of brain. |
| 3. Ventricles not distended. | 3. Ventricles are distended, and hydrocephalus may follow. |
| <i>Lumbar Puncture</i> .—Fluid turbid; polymorphonuclear leucocytosis. | <i>Lumbar Puncture</i> .—Fluid much less turbid or almost clear; lymphocytosis. |

often marked vasomotor paralysis, manifested by the *tache cérébrale* (a red line upon the skin rapidly following a stroke of the finger nail). This, however, is not diagnostic. Vomiting is very constantly present, and may or may not be related to food. Headache and somnolence are marked. Children often start out of stupor with a shrill *hydrocephalic cry*, and in them grinding of the teeth is a frequent symptom. The pulse is irregular and slow. This stage continues for a week or so.

3. *Compression Stage*.—The pulse becomes more rapid, feebler, and often irregular, various paralyses may appear, optic neuritis is pronounced, coma develops, and death may take place in from ten days to six weeks from the onset of acute symptoms.

In the adult, delirium may take the place of convulsions. The course of the disease is more rapid than in children, as the skull cannot expand, and hence intracranial pressure develops more quickly.

Diagnosis.—Lumbar puncture yields a cerebrospinal fluid which escapes under pressure, but is less turbid than that of simple meningitis, and may be almost clear. There is lymphocytosis, and not an increase of the polynuclear cells. On careful examination tubercle bacilli may be found in the fluid. (The table on p. 544 may help to distinguish the two conditions.)

Treatment of Meningitis.—

1. *Simple Meningitis.*—Whenever possible, remove any obvious cause by surgical measures. The room must be darkened and absolutely quiet; ice should be applied to the head; and leeching or venesection may be practised in the full-blooded. A saline or mercurial purge should be given, and for the headache, convulsions, and other nervous symptoms, bromides, chloral, or phenacetin. The diet must be fluid; in the later stages preventive treatment must be used for bed-sores, and the distended bladder must be relieved. Lumbar puncture, to relieve pressure, may be repeated daily or every second day, and urotropin in large doses may be tried. If the organism can be discovered, a serum may be injected.

2. *Tuberculous Meningitis.*—This form demands similar treatment after symptoms are developed, and in addition mercurial inunction may be tried, as it has sometimes produced at least temporary improvement. During the prodromal stage, everything should be done to combat the tuberculous condition by careful hygiene and diet, by the administration of cod-liver oil, and by fresh air.

HYDROCEPHALUS

Acute hydrocephalus, as we have seen, is the older synonym for tuberculous meningitis. *Chronic* hydrocephalus, to which the term is now usually restricted, may be—

1. *Congenital.* The causes are not known, but there is sometimes a family proclivity to the affection. Spina bifida, meningocele, or other deformities may be associated with it, and in some cases congenital syphilis.

2. Mechanical or acquired ; due to obstruction of the veins of Galen, as by the pressure of a tumour, or to blocking of the foramen of Magendie, as by meningitis, or of the iter.
3. "Idiopathic." This form is due to serous effusion into the ventricles, and may occur at any age. A serous meningitis and an angioneurotic condition have both been invoked to explain it.

Morbid Anatomy of Congenital Hydrocephalus.—

Skull.—The sutures fail to unite, and the skull as a whole does not ossify as in health. A characteristic deformity thus develops ; the brow overhangs, the circumference of the cranium is greatly increased, and is *disproportionate to the size of the face*, and the fontanelles remain open. The circumference of the head may reach thirty inches or even more.

The Ventricles are distended, and one, two, or more of them may be affected. Their lining membrane is thickened and granular. The clear fluid contains a trace of albumin and salts. Its quantity varies, sometimes reaching as much as fifteen pints.

The Brain Substance is much compressed, the convolutions flattened out, and the cortex much thinned.

Certain Cranial Nerves may be pressed upon, and subsequently atrophy, especially the *optic* nerves.

Symptoms.—The size and shape of the head sufficiently indicate the nature of the disease, even at an early period ; later, the symptoms that develop are :—

1. General arrest of development.
2. Impaired digestive functions, and distension of the abdomen.
3. Walking power is slowly gained, or not at all.
4. Mental deficiency, sometimes complete idiocy.
5. Convulsions, and sometimes blindness.
6. Condition of apathy, coma, and death, usually in from five to seven years. Cases have been known to attain the age of thirty years.

Treatment is very unsatisfactory, if not hopeless :—

1. Pressure by strips of plaster or elastic bands.
2. Puncturing at fortnightly intervals, and drawing off the fluid. The ventricles may be tapped, and direct

drainage established, or the fluid may be more slowly removed by puncture of the subarachnoid sac in the lumbar region.

SINUS THROMBOSIS

This is the formation of blood-clot in one or other of the intracranial sinuses. It may be simple or infective. The *simple form* occurs in ill-nourished children, and in the debilitating diseases of adults (phthisis, cancer, fevers, anæmia). The superior longitudinal sinus is most often affected. Its walls are not inflamed, but the lumen is filled with adherent clot, which tends to become organised and absorbed. *Infective thrombosis* follows middle ear disease, caries of other parts of the skull or of the teeth, retropharyngeal abscess, erysipelas of the scalp, etc. The lateral sinus is oftenest affected. Its walls are inflamed; the clot breaks down and becomes purulent, and meningitis or cerebral abscess may occur.

Symptoms may be absent in simple thrombosis. There are generally headache, vomiting, convulsions or delirium, and drowsiness deepening into coma. There may be epistaxis from engorgement of the nasal veins. In children the fontanelle may be prominent. In thrombosis of the cavernous sinus, the orbital veins are engorged, there is protrusion of the eyeball, and the eyelids are œdematous; the fundus shows retinal hæmorrhages and engorged veins; and there may be paralysis of ocular muscles. In thrombosis of the lateral sinus, the mastoid region is œdematous and tender; the thrombosis extends to the jugular vein, which can be felt in the neck as a hard, tender cord; there is local meningitis, and possibly optic neuritis. There is a purulent discharge from the ear.

In infective thrombosis, symptoms of general sepsis are superadded—vomiting, rigors, profuse sweating, remittent fever, and rapid, irregular pulse. Septic pneumonia, due to pulmonary infarction, may follow, or an abdominal type of infection—dry tongue, vomiting, diarrhœa, and meteorism, ending in a typhoid state. Meningeal symptoms are also present, and death is preceded by coma.

Treatment.—In the simple form treat the constitutional state, and favour free circulation through the brain, particularly avoiding constriction of the neck by clothing. In the infective form the treatment is surgical.

ENCEPHALITIS

Encephalitis is an inflammation of the substance of the brain, which may be either hæmorrhagic or suppurative, active or chronic. The acute form may be focal or diffuse; in the chronic form there are scattered inflammatory patches. The hæmorrhagic form is associated with infective diseases, such as enteric, influenza, diphtheria, syphilis, and with the exanthemata. It may follow injury to the head. The suppurative form follows suppuration of the accessory cranial cavities—ear, orbit, nose.

Acute Hæmorrhagic Encephalitis (focal) attacks the grey and white, but especially the grey matter of the mid and hind brain and of the cortex. The nuclei of cranial nerves are thus involved. The condition, analogous to acute poliomyelitis (*q.v.*), receives the name of *polioencephalitis*. The affected parts are found to be softened, and show engorgement and thrombosis of vessels, hæmorrhages, and proliferation of leucocytes, the nervous elements being destroyed.

Symptoms.—Sudden onset; headache, vomiting, convulsions, fever, drowsiness, leading to coma and death, or partial recovery. Optic neuritis is sometimes seen. Local symptoms are sudden ophthalmoplegia with reeling or staggering gait (*polioencephalitis superior*), or sudden bulbar paralysis (*polioencephalitis inferior*). The nuclei of the fifth and seventh nerves may also suffer.

Acute Diffuse Encephalitis is rare. It is oftenest seen in children, when it may follow infections or be caused by traumatisms. In the adult it is associated with syphilis. Large areas of the brain on one or both sides are involved in the inflammatory process, which leads to softening (*red softening*). Later, the affected portions may become atrophied or cystic (*porencephaly*). The disease may be fatal, but more often ends in recovery, leaving behind it, however, paralysis of a cerebral type—infantile hemiplegia or diplegia—and in some cases epilepsy.

Lethargic or Epidemic Encephalitis, first prominently noticed in Vienna in 1917, has since then become diffused over Europe. Though not directly transmissible from man to man, it is probably of microbic origin, and Strauss and Loewe describe a globoid organism like that of acute poliomyelitis, though not identical with it. The brain is congested, its smaller vessels are

infiltrated and surrounded by lymphocytes, and there are localised degenerations of nerve cells, especially in the basal ganglia and brain stem. The cerebrospinal fluid is clear, but in about half the cases contains excess of lymphocytes.

The initial symptoms are those of fever in general, fatigue gradually increasing to lethargy, drowsiness, and headache. The lethargy may increase to complete stupor with passage of the dejecta in bed, but when the patient is roused his brain is clear, and he answers questions intelligently. Should the lethargy go on to coma the prognosis is bad, but in cases going to recover it passes away gradually within about three weeks. In some cases there may be no lethargy, but restlessness, irritability, and insomnia from the outset. Ocular palsies come on early—bilateral ptosis, diplopia and strabismus, ophthalmoplegia interna, inequality or irregularity of the pupils. These palsies may be nuclear or peripheral in type. Unilateral or bilateral facial paralysis may also occur, and occasionally monoplegia or even hemiplegia. The face is mask-like, the gait, when the patient can walk, weak, slow, and stiff. Irregular movements of the limbs are common, and there may be a tremor like that of paralysis agitans. Recovery is gradual and often incomplete, the mind being either less alert than usual or some paresis remaining. In some cases, after apparent recovery, all the symptoms of paralysis agitans may gradually appear, and may remain permanently.

Treatment consists in the use of large doses of urotropin, repeated lumbar puncture, nasal feeding if necessary, and after the acute stage massage and passive movements.

SUPPURATIVE ENCEPHALITIS (Abscess of the Brain)

The causes of cerebral abscess are to be found chiefly in disease of the accessory cavities, especially the *middle ear*; but disease of the cranial bones, fracture, or gun-shot wound of the skull, may give rise to it, and also infection from a distance (metastatic abscesses), as in septic pneumonia or peritonitis, osteomyelitis, or pyæmia. The temporal lobe is most often affected, and next the cerebellum. Any part of the brain may suffer, according to the seat of the causative disease.

Morbid Anatomy.—The abscess is usually situated in the white matter, and may be separated from the surface by healthy

brain tissue, the infection having been carried by the venous sinuses and perivascular lymphatics. Usually there is a localised meningitis, the dura adhering to the brain. If the abscess is acute, the pus is not encapsulated, but surrounded by broken-down nervous tissue ; if chronic, there is a definite capsule.

Symptoms of Acute Abscess.—Pain in the ear, radiating over the side of the head ; cessation of aural discharge ; rigors, and slight fever ; vomiting. After a few days, lassitude, drowsiness, inability to fix the attention or to answer questions ; temperature normal or subnormal ; pulse slow and full ; respirations slow, tending to Cheyne-Stokes type ; optic neuritis in the later stages ; sometimes cerebral palsies ; convulsions *uncommon* unless the Rolandic area is involved. Ultimately the l  thargy deepens into coma and death, which may be sudden from rupture into the lateral ventricles. *Localising symptoms* :—

1. *Temporal Lobe.*—Paralysis of the third nerve on the side of the ear disease. Hemiplegia on the opposite side, most marked in the face, least in the leg. Word-deafness when the left first temporal convolution is affected.
2. *Cerebellum.*—Giddiness and staggering gait, tendency to fall to the side ; retraction of the head and stiffness of the muscles of the neck ; nystagmus, deviation of the eyes *away from* the side of the abscess ; sometimes hemiparesis *on the same side* as the abscess with variable intensity of the knee-jerk, which is sometimes exaggerated.
3. *Frontal Lobe.*—Localising signs may be absent, or there may be paralysis of the limbs (arms especially) and the face on the opposite side, with aphasia if the abscess is on the left side.

Remember that abscess may be entirely latent, or lead only to a more or less transitory irritability, inertia, and headache. After these have passed off, injury to the head, or relapse of a previous ear trouble may, even years afterwards, light up acute symptoms and lead to death.

Treatment.—Attend at once to all chronic suppurative conditions of the ear, nose, or frontal sinuses (prophylaxis), and employ strict antiseptic precautions in dealing with erysipelas or scalp wounds. When abscess is actually present, immediate operation is the only treatment, even in the absence of localising

symptoms. A clue to the site of the abscess will be found in the seat of the primary disease.

CEREBRAL PALSIES OF INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD

These affections are caused by pathological changes occurring before or during birth, or in the early years of childhood. Maternal disease or injury during pregnancy, injury during birth, and after birth the infectious diseases of childhood, are among the chief causes. Recent work has shown that in many instances in which no obvious cause had hitherto been found, there was a positive Wassermann reaction either in the mother or the child. The satisfactory results of specific treatment in such cases confirm the view that they are of syphilitic origin.

Morbid Anatomy.—Only the late changes are well known, as death rarely occurs in the early stages. The probable antecedent conditions are mal-development, meningeal or cerebral hæmorrhage, arterial thrombosis, encephalitis, and changes due to maternal or congenital syphilis. It is always the cerebrum that is affected, and lesions may be found on one or both sides. These conditions lead in after years to (1) sclerosis of the convolutions (*microgyria*), in which the convolutions are small and the cortical cells atrophied; (2) cavity formation (*porencephaly*), which follows upon vascular thrombosis or encephalitis.

Symptoms.—*Hemiplegia*—In this type, of which encephalitis is the commonest cause, are found paresis, rigidity, contracture, and often tremors of one side of the body. There may be convulsions at the onset. The affected side is ill-developed, and shows marked atrophy. There may be athetosis, or choreiform movements. This form arises within the first two or three years after birth, and may occur as a complication of infectious diseases, or may be due to a primary encephalitis.

Diplegia and paraplegia (Little's disease) constitute the more usual "birth palsies." There is often a history of difficult labour, which has given rise to *meningeal hæmorrhage*. There are paresis, rigidity, and contracture of the legs, with adductor spasm; there may or may not be paresis of the arms, which show athetoid or choreiform movements. Sometimes the lower segment of the face is implicated. The tendon reflexes are

exaggerated. The gait is spastic, and there may be cross-legged progression from the adductor spasm. Deformities, such as club-foot, are frequent. Strabismus or optic atrophy may occur.

In all these forms some degree of mental impairment, which may even amount to idiocy, is commonly present. Epilepsy may also follow, particularly in the hemiplegic form, the paretic side being specially affected. This may not occur till many years have passed.

These palsies are not dangerous to life, but seriously affect growth and mental development. They are to be *treated* on general principles. The child should be educated separately, and much attention should be given to physical training. Deformities may require surgical treatment, and epilepsy prolonged treatment by bromides. If the case is seen soon after birth, the clot may be removed by operation. When there is a positive Wassermann reaction in either mother or child, energetic specific treatment should be instituted, as it often leads to remarkable improvement.

PROGRESSIVE LENTICULAR DEGENERATION

A rare disease, sometimes occurring in families, and characterised by rigidity, stiffness and tremor of the limbs, dysarthria, emotionalism, and mental impairment. These symptoms are invariably accompanied by a symptomless cirrhosis of the liver. The disease begins between the ages of ten and twenty-five, the average age being about fifteen. No other causal factor is known. The cerebral changes are limited to the lenticular nucleus of the corpus striatum; they are bilateral, symmetrical, and affect the putamen more than the globus pallidus. They are degenerative in nature, shrinkage, atrophy, and vacuolation being found, with overgrowth of the glia. The associated cirrhosis of the liver suggests a toxæmic origin, the toxin exerting its effects particularly upon the corpus striatum. The tremors are rhythmical, and increased by voluntary movement. There is some weakness of the limbs, and as the case progresses rigidity increases to fixation of the limbs and trunk, and is followed by contractures. Dysarthria and dysphagia follow, the patient emaciates, and he becomes stupid, emotional, and childish. There is no nystagmus nor ocular paralysis, and the optic discs are normal. Sensation is unaffected, and the deep reflexes

are not exaggerated. The disease progresses steadily to death within from two to seven years, treatment being unavailing.

Kinneir Wilson attributes the symptoms to the loss of the restraining influence of the fibres of the lenticulo-rubro-spinal tract upon the cells of the anterior cornua

PARALYSIS AGITANS

(SHAKING PALSY. PARKINSON'S DISEASE)

An affection characterised by rhythmical tremors of certain muscles, progressive weakness, and later a peculiar gait and attitude.

Etiology.—It affects men more than women, and is rarely found in patients under forty years of age. It is commonest after fifty. The influence of heredity is not marked; anxiety, shock, traumatism, are the usual causes assigned, while specific infections appear to have little influence. The resemblance of the symptoms to those of progressive lenticular degeneration, and the occurrence of the Parkinsonian type of encephalitis lethargica suggest an origin in the extra-pyramidal fibres of the basal ganglia, which in later life may be affected by arterio-sclerotic degeneration.

Morbid Anatomy.—No constant changes are known. In a rare *juvenile* form of the disease, Ramsay Hunt has recently found atrophy of the motor cells of the corpus striatum (putamen, globus pallidus, and caudate nucleus), and he suggests that the usual form is due to vascular and degenerative changes in the same region; and Gordon Holmes has found degeneration in the cells of the red nucleus.

Symptoms are insidious in their onset. Insomnia, unnatural irritability, and general weakness of the limbs may precede the more characteristic symptoms, which are—

1. *Rhythmical contraction* of certain muscles of the fingers and arms; the fingers are flexed with the thumb resting against the forefinger; the alternating flexion and extension causes a movement like that of rolling pills. The tremors usually spread to the arm and then to the leg of the same side, and afterwards in the same order to the opposite side. The trunk and head are not often affected except by the transmitted tremor of the limbs. The movements at first are checked by voluntary effort

or support, but later, as in chorea, they are actually increased on attempting any voluntary restraint. They cease during sleep. The point of distinction between these and other tremors is that in paralysis agitans the tremor is continued during repose and in whatever position the patient may be, all through the waking hours. It may be confined to one side for several years.

2. *Weakness of the affected muscles.*

3. *Rigidity and contraction*, causing a characteristic attitude and gait, with a mask-like immobility of the face. Rigidity may precede the tremor, in some instances by a considerable interval. It is more marked in the face and trunk than in the limbs.

4. *Attitude*.—Owing to the rigidity, the body is bent forwards, the head bowed and held stiffly, and the “vertebra prominens” stands out in bold relief. The arms are flexed at right angles at the elbows, and adducted, while the elbows stand out from the sides. The fingers are flexed at the metacarpo-phalangeal joints, extended at the others. The legs are slightly flexed at the hip and knee, and the thighs are slightly adducted.

5. The *gait* is very characteristic. The first steps are hesitating and slow, but become quick, and the patient appears to trot rather than walk. If he be gently pushed forwards or backwards he continues walking in the direction of the push and may be unable to stop. The forward movement is known as *festination*, the backward as *retropulsion*. Although there is marked weakness of the muscular actions, the muscles do not waste, nor are the electrical reactions altered. Complete paralysis occurs only late in the disease. The knee-jerks are sometimes increased, but there is no ankle-clonus. Rigidity of the facial muscles leads to an expressionless appearance, the face becoming fixed and mask-like.

6. *Defect of Speech*.—The speech may be slow and monotonous, or slow at first and afterwards hurried, but articulation is not interfered with.

7. *Subjective symptoms*, such as formication, flushes of heat, and perspiration.

The disease runs a very chronic course, and is fatal usually through some intercurrent complication.

Treatment is unsatisfactory. Arsenic and sedatives, attendance to hygiene and diet and avoidance of alcohol, are the main indications. Gowers finds *Cannabis indica*, combined with

arsenic, the best drug treatment. Hyoscine hydrobromide, in doses of gr. $\frac{1}{150}$ thrice daily, increasing to $\frac{1}{50}$, may check the tremor for a time. Galvanism and passive movements of the limbs may sometimes be of use. When rigidity is marked, the patient should be assisted to turn in bed.

CEREBRAL HÆMORRHAGE

Etiology.—Hæmorrhage into the brain occurs most frequently in men between the ages of forty and sixty, but may occur at any age. Amongst the more important predisposing causes are :—

1. A certain type of build. It is frequent in stout, plethoric men, with short, thick necks.

2. Certain occupations, among which are those of (1) butchers and publicans, owing to arterial changes produced by excessive consumption of nitrogenous food and alcohol; (2) carters, hammermen, etc., as the result of vascular strain.

3. Certain blood diseases—leukæmia, pernicious anæmia, scurvy.

4. Vascular degeneration, due to *chronic renal disease*, the rupture being aided by the forcible pulsations resulting from cardiac hypertrophy. *Syphilitic* degeneration may lead to hæmorrhage, but more frequently causes thrombosis.

5. Removal of the natural *support* of the vessels, as in cerebral softening.

6. Injuries from without the cranium, etc.

The most important exciting causes are :—

1. Disease of the vascular walls.

(1) Miliary and other aneurysmal dilatations.

(2) Arterio-sclerosis and atheroma, whether due to gout, renal disease, alcoholism, or other causes. Independently of renal disease, the blood-pressure tends to rise with advancing years.

2. Vascular strain, as from exercise, or causes such as straining at stool, or violent coughing. It will be remembered that the brain expands during expiration, and expiration *with a closed glottis* very greatly increases the intracranial pressure.

Site of the Hæmorrhage.—The most common form of cerebral hæmorrhage is *into the substance* of the brain, and is usually due to rupture of the lenticulo-striate and lenticulo-optic branches of the middle cerebral artery, which supply (as we

have seen) the basal ganglia. These arteries are the most frequent seats of miliary aneurysm, and the reason why they are so frequently ruptured is probably that they are the most direct branches of the middle cerebral, which is in turn the most direct branch of the internal carotid. Meningeal hæmorrhage may also take place, as in depressed fracture of the skull or pachymeningitis hæmorrhagica.

Anatomical Changes.—If the hæmorrhage be severe, it tears up the brain tissue, or it may destroy the basal ganglia, and bursting into the lateral ventricles distend them, and flow through the aqueduct of Sylvius into the fourth ventricle. The effects of a limited hæmorrhage are naturally less extensive, but some degree of laceration of the brain substance always follows. The effused blood subsequently undergoes the following changes :—

- (1) Retraction of the clot, and separation of the serum, which is partially absorbed.
- (2) Discoloration of the clot, and formation of hæmatoidin crystals.
- (3) Formation of a *serous cyst*. Occasionally there may be complete absorption, when only a fibrous cicatrix is left.

The surrounding tissues also undergo change :—

- (1) The irritation of the clot produces an inflammatory reaction, leading to—
- (2) Connective tissue proliferation, forming a capsule around the clot.

In large hæmorrhages there is much compression of the healthy side.

The fibres of the motor path, interrupted by the hæmorrhage, are thus cut off from the first trophic realm (cortex). Secondary descending degeneration therefore occurs, and involves the motor tracts on the affected side, and after the decussation in the medulla, on the opposite side (crossed pyramidal tract).

Summary.—It will be apparent that if the patient survives the primary shock (the apoplectic fit) he will suffer from symptoms due to one of three causes :—

1. Motor paralysis (hemiplegia) from interruption of the motor fibres.
2. Inflammatory reaction.
3. Secondary descending degeneration.

Symptoms.—There may be premonitory warnings of the attack, such as giddiness, headache, etc. The attack may occur when the patient is resting or asleep, but much more frequently it is directly attributable to an overloaded stomach, a severe strain, coughing, or the exertion in running to catch a train. Apoplexy is not synonymous with cerebral hæmorrhage; still, the condition which supervenes on such a lesion is generally summed up in the description of an—

Apoplectic Fit.—The patient is seized with severe pain in the head, feels faint or giddy, and soon becomes comatose. The attack may begin with a convulsion. Sometimes the loss of consciousness is more gradual, and may not be complete for some hours (*ingravescent apoplexy*). The face is flushed and bloated, the pulse full and tense, the breathing stertorous, and the cheeks puffed out. The snoring noise is due to the paralysed tongue and palate falling back, and impeding the entrance of air. The pupils are dilated or irregular, and do not respond to light. The limbs are at first flaccid, but may become rigid with the onset of reaction (so-called *early rigidity*). During the coma both the superficial and the deep reflexes are abolished; later they return, first on the sound side, and afterwards on the affected side, where they are exaggerated. There are inability to swallow, retention or involuntary dribbling of urine, and involuntary evacuations. The head and eyes are frequently turned to one side—*i.e.*, the patient looks *towards* the lesion and *away* from the paralysed side (*conjugate deviation*), owing to the balancing action of the associated muscles being lost from paralysis. When the case is going to end fatally, the coma increases, temperature falls, and Cheyne-Stokes respirations usher in the fatal end. In pontine hæmorrhage, however, which is usually rapidly fatal, the temperature *rises* even to hyperpyrexia, and the pupils are contracted. In favourable cases the primary disturbance is not so grave, and the patient may regain consciousness in a few hours, or even after one or three days. “Reaction” then sets in, the temperature rises, as does the pulse, perspiration occurs, and there is restlessness, with excitement amounting sometimes to delirium. In this stage, which may last from a few days to several weeks, trophic disturbances may occur, such as bed-sores on the paralysed side, and the case may end fatally; but recovery is more common. It is rarely complete, but usually attended by more or less paralysis or typical hemiplegia.

It is possible even in the comatose condition to make out the existence of paralysis. The cheek is more puffed out on the affected side, the naso-labial groove is obliterated, and the angle of the mouth is lower, while saliva trickles from it. If the limbs upon the two sides be raised alternately and then let fall, those on the paralysed side fall in an absolutely flaccid fashion, while upon the other side some tone is maintained. The cremasteric and abdominal reflexes are absent on the paralysed side, on which Babinski's sign is often present.

In *cortical* hæmorrhage—

1. Consciousness is seldom completely lost at the onset of paralysis.
2. The paralysis is of a monoplegic type.
3. The onset is attended with convulsions.
4. The prognosis is more favourable.

For localising symptoms, *see* p. 564.

Treatment of Cerebral Hæmorrhage.—An apoplectic patient should be moved as little as possible. An improvised couch should be made for him in the room where he fell, and if he must be moved to hospital it should be in an ambulance. The head should be slightly raised, and ice applied to the scalp on the side of the lesion, and a hot-water bag may be applied to the feet. The bowels should be moved by an enema, calomel grains v (grm. 0.3) on the tongue, or a minim of croton oil. Venesection may be performed if the pulse is full and the blood-pressure high; if, on the other hand, the pulse is weak, or if the symptoms are due to thrombosis or embolism it is best not to resort to bleeding. Relieve stertor by turning the patient on his side; draw off the urine by catheter; and feed by the rectum if the coma is prolonged. In the stage of reaction fever diet must be given, preventive treatment must be adopted for bed-sores, and headache and cerebral excitement must be treated by sedatives and cold applications.

EMBOLISM AND THROMBOSIS

(SOFTENING OF THE BRAIN)

Instead of a free extravasation of blood, we may get blocking of blood-vessels through detached clots (embolism), or a local clotting of blood (thrombosis).

Etiology.—*See* Table, p. 559.

Morbid Anatomy.—The changes following thrombosis or embolism will vary according to the site and size of blood-vessels affected. Briefly, the results are degeneration and softening of the parts supplied by the affected artery. Blocking of a terminal artery causes the affected area to look slightly paler at first; then extravasation from the engorged veins and distension of the capillaries may take place and cause an infiltration of blood. The resulting softening may be of the red, yellow, or white types, according to the amount of blood effused into the affected area, which undergoes changes similar to those described under hæmorrhage, with the ultimate formation of a cyst or a cicatrix. Two things the student must remember:—

1. If the clot be of a *septic* nature, an abscess is likely to form.
2. If *not* septic, it is surprising how slowly the softened area undergoes further change.

Thrombosis may follow upon embolism, a small branch being first blocked, and the thrombus extending backwards till it blocks a large branch or the main trunk of the middle cerebral artery.

The following table shows the main etiological factors and the symptomatic differences between the two conditions.

DIAGNOSTIC TABLE

| CEREBRAL EMBOLISM. | CEREBRAL THROMBOSIS. |
|--|---|
| <p><i>Causes.</i>—Most commonly associated with valvular lesions of the heart, aneurysms, or a suppurating thrombus.</p> <p><i>Age.</i>—Chiefly in young adults.</p> <p><i>Onset.</i>—Sudden—no prodromal symptoms.</p> <p><i>Convulsions.</i>—Rare.</p> <p><i>Paralysis.</i>—A sudden hemiplegia on the right side, <i>with aphasia</i>. The left middle cerebral artery is most frequently plugged.</p> <p><i>Consciousness.</i>—Not usually entirely abolished.</p> | <p><i>Causes.</i>—1. Arterio-sclerosis, atheroma and syphilitic disease of the arteries. Bright's disease and alcoholism therefore predispose.</p> <p>2. Pressure upon the veins or arteries (tumour or abscess).</p> <p><i>Age.</i>—In the old from vascular degeneration; in the young from syphilis.</p> <p><i>Onset.</i>—Gradual—with prodromal symptoms.</p> <p><i>Convulsions.</i>—Convulsive attacks are not uncommon, as the cortex is frequently affected.</p> <p><i>Paralysis.</i>—Paralysis is more gradual. Aphasia is not so common, as either the right or left side may suffer.</p> <p><i>Consciousness.</i>—Often not lost. Coma may come on gradually, after the hemiplegia.</p> |

Both these conditions cause softening of the brain in the area supplied by the obstructed vessels. The softened area is grey or milky in appearance, and may be diffuent. In some instances there are minute extravasations of blood, and a condition of *red* softening follows. Descending sclerosis takes place as in hæmorrhage. If the vessel is completely blocked, there is no recovery from the resulting paralysis. But an embolus may shrink, while adhering at one point to the vessel wall, and thus the circulation may be restored and the paralysis pass off. Or after shrinkage the embolus may be carried forward to a smaller vessel, with a corresponding limitation of the extent of the paralysis. More commonly thrombosis follows on the further side of the embolus, when the paralysis present at the outset remains permanent.

Blocking of particular arteries.

1. *Vertebral*.—Rare, left more common than right. The symptoms are those of acute bulbar paralysis.

2. *Basilar*.—Bilateral paralysis with *rise of temperature*.

3. *Posterior Cerebral*.—Affections of vision (hemianopia) and hemianæsthesia (posterior portion of internal capsule).

4. *Middle Cerebral*.—Hemiplegia, with aphasia if the lesion is on the left side.

5. *Anterior Cerebral*.—Grave interference with the higher intellectual faculties.

Lastly, when small cortical vessels are affected, there may be, as in hæmorrhage, convulsions at the onset, the paralysis is monoplegic, and it is often transitory, for a collateral circulation may be at least partially established.

Treatment.—In the apoplectic seizure, avoid venesection or free purgation, but see that the bowels are opened. If the heart be weak, ammonia or digitalis may be given. Where syphilis is the cause, iodide of potassium or mercurial inunction should be at once begun. The stage of reaction must be treated as in hæmorrhage.

HEMIPLEGIA

By hemiplegia is meant paralysis of the face, arm, and leg on one side of the body, resulting from a lesion of the opposite cerebral hemisphere. The movements of the muscles of the trunk (especially the respiratory muscles), and those of the

vocal cords, are not usually affected, inasmuch as they are bilaterally innervated, and the destruction of one centre means that the opposite centre assumes its functions.

Causes.—Hemiplegia is most commonly the result of embolism, thrombosis, or a free hæmorrhage. It may be caused by encephalitis or abscess, meningitis or meningeal hæmorrhage, or by depressed fractures involving the Rolandic area. It may be due to a tumour involving the motor fibres anywhere between the cortex and the medulla, in which case it develops gradually. In hæmorrhage the motor fibres are torn; in embolism or thrombosis there is softening of the cerebral tissues. Functional hemiplegia occurs in some cases of hysteria.

Symptoms.—When the hemiplegia is not preceded by an apoplectic fit, the patient often first becomes aware of anything wrong by finding on awakening from sleep:—

1. Loss of power on one side, or
2. Difficulty in speaking, or even loss of speech (dysarthria or anarthria). This is to be distinguished from *aphasia*, which may be present in right-sided hemiplegia, if Broca's convolution on the left side is implicated in the lesion, but is not present in left-sided hemiplegia.

In "ingravescent hemiplegia" (tumour), unconsciousness may develop slowly and pass into complete coma. In the ordinary forms coma may be present at the outset, and pass away, or there may be only a feeling of cloudiness or bewilderment, which may pass off or deepen into coma.

The arm is usually paralysed to a greater degree than the leg, and the face least. The face usually recovers before the leg, and the leg before the arm, while coarse movements of large joints are re-established before the highly specialised movements of small joints. Improvement is therefore least in the hand and fingers. Sensation is rarely affected to a marked extent. The paralysis of the face is most notable in its lower segment, thus differing from Bell's paralysis (*see Diseases of Cranial Nerves*). The tongue is not put out readily, and deviates towards the *paralysed* side. Whistling is impossible, and food accumulates between the gums and cheek on the paralysed side. The muscles of mastication are unaffected. In the limbs the muscles do not waste, and they respond normally to electricity. They are at first flaccid, but may

become rigid a few hours or days after the initial lesion has occurred ("early rigidity"). This may pass off, or persist till "late rigidity" appears some weeks afterwards, as a result of the secondary degeneration of the motor fibres cut off from their trophic centres. The limbs, before flaccid, now become rigid, and this late rigidity is always most marked in the arm, which is adducted, flexed at the elbow, and resists extension. Frequently the wrists and fingers are also flexed. Such *contractures* are often accompanied by pain. The tendon reflexes are exaggerated, and ankle-clonus is often obtained. The plantar reflex is of the extensor type (Babinski's sign). As the patient walks, the body is inclined to the normal side, and since the foot is dropped owing to weakness of its dorsiflexors, he either sweeps the affected leg forward in a circular arc, or flexes the knee unduly, to clear the toes from the ground. That any movement is possible after severance of the fibres from the cortical centre is due to the preservation of the subsidiary motor tracts, particularly the rubro-spinal, which controls stock movements such as those of sitting, standing, and walking. Inhibitory influences transmitted through it from the thalamus are, however, lost by damage to that ganglion. Hence the exaggerated reflexes, and also the spasm and rigidity, due, as has already been explained, to the increased muscular tonus produced by impulses from the vestibulo-spinal and other subsidiary tracts. After recovery from the initial coma, the sphincters are unaffected, and control over the urine and fæces is regained.

Later changes that may occur are—tremors of the affected limbs, inability to maintain one position of the fingers and toes (*athetosis*), and post-hemiplegic *chorea*. The two last are more common after infantile than adult hemiplegia. There may be vasomotor disturbances, arthritic pain and swelling, and sometimes muscular atrophy (chiefly in the hand), from nutritional disturbances of the cells of the anterior horn.

Alternate or crossed paralysis means paralysis of the limbs on one side, and of a cranial nerve or nerves on the other. It occurs when the lesion is in the crus, the third nerve of the same side being implicated, or in the pons, when the fifth, sixth, or seventh nerves may be affected (*see Diseases of Cranial Nerves*, and diagram, p. 540).

Treatment.—Endeavour to prevent the onset of rigidity and contracture by the prolonged employment of massage,

passive movements and galvanism. Massage may be begun within a fortnight, and the other measures as early as four weeks after the onset, at first while the patient is in bed. Later, "Swedish movements" may be employed. Faradism is to be avoided if there is any tendency to rigidity, and so also is strychnine, and for the same reason. Treat any general condition, such as Bright's disease.

TUMOURS OF THE BRAIN

These are of three kinds—(1) Infective granulomata—tubercle, gummata, actinomyces; (2) neoplasms—sarcoma, glioma, carcinoma, and benign tumours; (3) cysts.

The most important are:—

1. *Tubercle*.—The tumours may vary from the size of a millet seed to that of a small orange. Usually they are multiple, and most common in the cerebellum and about the base of the brain. They occur most frequently in youth. The histological characters have been already described under tuberculosis.

2. *Gummata* are common in adult life, and usually arise from the meninges or arteries (*see Syphilis of the Nervous System*, in the section on Cerebral Syphilis).

3. *Gliomata or neurogliomata*, which are the commonest tumours in adults, may be either dense, firm tumours, or *soft and vascular*. They consist of small cells with round or oval nuclei and branching processes in a network of delicate fibrils. Enormous, single-nucleated, spindle-shaped cells are often present. Gliomata infiltrate the substance of the brain, and cannot be sharply differentiated from the normal tissues. They are usually innocent tumours, and may remain for years without creating very marked symptoms, until hæmorrhage or thrombosis occurs in their substance.

4. *Endotheliomata* come next in frequency. They grow from the internal surface of the meninges, and become embedded in the cerebral substance. They grow slowly, and are encapsulated. They are common in the cerebellopontine angle.

5. *Sarcomata* attack the membranes and pons, but may be found in other parts of the brain. They may be large tumours, hard, fibrous, and encapsulated, or soft, infiltrating, and sometimes cystic.

6. *Carcinoma* is rare, and secondary to cancer elsewhere.

7. *Cysts* may be the result of hæmorrhage or softening, congenital defects, or hydatids.

Symptoms vary according to the site, size, and nature of the tumour. The more constant are—

1. *Headache*.—This may be diffuse and of a dull aching character, but is much more often acute, stabbing, persistent, and localised. There is sometimes tenderness over the seat of the tumour.

2. *Vertigo* is a marked symptom, especially when the tumour affects the cerebellar region.

3. *Vomiting* is very persistent, often painless, and occurs whether food be taken or not. It is most common when the cerebellum is affected.

4. *Double Optic Neuritis*.—"Choked disc" is almost pathognomonic. It may be slight in cortical tumours, but is present in 80 per cent. of all cases. It is followed by optic atrophy. Blindness is not necessarily present during the neuritic stage, but when atrophy appears visual acuity diminishes, and may be lost. The neuritis is often most marked on the side of the tumour.

5. *Mental Disturbance* is sometimes absent, but the patient is often, in the early stages, highly emotional, and later, dull and apathetic.

6. *Convulsions* may occur as the result of increased intracranial pressure. They may be epileptiform, or take the form of Jacksonian epilepsy (*q.v.*), in which case they are of localising value.

7. *Localising Symptoms* may be absent, but usually there are phenomena either of irritation or destruction of the affected part of the brain, the former leading to convulsions, paræsthesiæ, and subjective sense impressions, the latter to paralysis, anæsthesia, and defect of special sensation.

A. Prefrontal area. Lethargy, somnolence, stupor, dementia; often anosmia on the affected side.

B. Rolandic area. Jacksonian epilepsy followed by monoplegia; increased tendon reflexes on the paralysed side; motor aphasia if Broca's convolution is affected.

C. Angular region. Word blindness with or without hemianopia and hemianæsthesia.

D. Basal ganglia. Hemiplegia, hemianæsthesia, and hemianopia.

E. Cerebellum. General symptoms severe. Ataxia, with tendency to fall to one side; unilateral affections of cranial nerves (fifth and eighth usually); knee-jerks absent or exaggerated.

Diagnosis.—Headache, vomiting, and double optic neuritis are the classical symptoms of cerebral tumour, in the presence of which the diagnosis can be made with considerable certainty. The differential diagnosis between tumour, abscess, and tuberculous meningitis is given in the adjoined table.

Treatment.—*Medical.*—If syphilis is the cause, specific treatment (*see* p. 528) must be employed; other forms are practically unamenable to any known medicinal treatment. Mercury and iodide should nevertheless be given, as they often produce temporary benefit. Tuberculous tumours may be treated by the usual remedies. Pain and vomiting should be relieved by aspirin, phenacetin, caffeine, or if necessary morphine.

Surgical measures may be used for the relief of pressure, a decompression operation being done when headache is unbearable, or when the eyesight is seriously threatened. Extirpation of the tumour may be attempted in a certain proportion of cases, where an accurate localisation can be made, but often a partial removal is all that is possible, and the operation is attended by a considerable mortality.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

| TUMOUR. | ABSCESS. | MENINGITIS. |
|--|---|--|
| History indefinite. | Otorrhœa or other suppurative condition. | Tuberculous history or diathesis. |
| Onset gradual. | Onset usually abrupt. | Onset rapid. |
| Optic neuritis usually well marked. | Optic neuritis usually absent or late | Optic neuritis rare. |
| Monoplegia, hemiplegia, or localised convulsions, in definite order. | Focal symptoms indicative of cerebellum or temporal lobe. | Irregular palsies and convulsions. |
| Febrile symptoms absent. | Temperature sometimes subnormal. | Temperature irregular. |
| Duration, months to years; regular course. | Duration, variable with latent periods. | Duration of weeks, at times irregular. |

[ALDREN TURNER.]

APHASIA

Aphasia is a morbid condition consequent on a cortical or subcortical lesion, whereby speech, writing, or reading may become impaired, either from (1) an inability to co-ordinate the necessary movements involved in speech, or (2) from a defective interpretation of sounds or visual impressions.

To understand the various forms of aphasia it is necessary first to consider the factors employed in expressing our thoughts. Language is *gradually* learned. A child has first to become, through the auditory word centre in the first left temporal convolution, familiar with the memories of verbal sounds, and to associate them with particular objects. Attempts to reproduce the words open up a path through commissural fibres to the motor speech centre in Broca's convolution, and speech in response to speech now becomes possible. As the child is taught to read, a new centre for word memories—the visual word centre in the angular gyrus—comes into action, and the reproduction by writing of characters or words recognised by this route is effected through commissural fibres going to the writing centre in the posterior part of the second left frontal or ascending frontal convolution. Still later co-ordination of auditory and visual centres occurs in the process of reading aloud, where the printed word is recognised by the visual centre, from which impulses pass to the auditory centre and to Broca's convolution, and in that of writing to dictation, where the spoken sound is recognised by the auditory centre, from which impulses pass to the visual centre and to the centre for writing. Thus, intelligent and rational speech, though apparently simple, involves many complex processes. It requires—

1. The aid of memory to *co-ordinate the necessary ideas* formed by incoming impressions derived through hearing, seeing, and in the case of the blind, through the sense of touch.

2. A mechanism by which these ideas can be spoken and written.

In short, speech involves a healthy continuity between the chief motor centre in the left inferior frontal lobe and the visual and auditory centres on the one hand, and between the chief motor centre and the muscles employed in speech or reading aloud on the other.

Until quite recently the scheme above indicated was generally accepted as a probably accurate representation of the facts

in regard to localisation of the speech centres, and it is still the prevalent conception. The cortical centres referred to are motor and sensory, and are thus distributed: (1) a motor (*glosso-kinæsthetic*) speech centre in the third left frontal (Broca's convolution), or in left-handed persons the third right frontal convolution; (2) a motor (*cheiro-kinæsthetic*) centre for writing, in the ascending frontal or posterior part of the second left frontal convolution; (3) sensory centres: (a) the *auditory word centre*, in the posterior part of the first temporal convolution; (b) the *visual word centre*, in the angular gyrus. The motor centres connect with each other and the sensory centres by commissural fibres. The similar but subordinate centres in the right hemisphere have a limited capacity for taking over the functions of the left centres when these are destroyed. On the current assumption, the different forms of aphasia are to be explained by lesions of particular centres.

1. Lesions of the glosso-kinæsthetic centre cause *motor aphasia*—the patient is unable to express himself in words, although there is no paralysis of articulation, and he shows that he understands what is said to him.

2. Lesions of the cheiro-kinæsthetic centre cause *agraphia*—the patient cannot express himself in writing.

3. Lesions of the visual word centre in the angular gyrus cause *word blindness* or *alexia*—i.e., the patient can see print, but cannot read it.

4. Lesions of the auditory word centre in the temporo-sphenoidal lobe cause *word deafness*—the patient hears, but does not understand the words.

3 and 4 are both forms of sensory aphasia, 1 and 2 of motor aphasia. But the terms are loose, for word deafness is usually followed by motor aphasia, even if the lesion be limited to the auditory word centre, and word blindness is similarly followed by agraphia.

Of late, however, much doubt has been thrown on the existence of a separate visual word centre, and the tendency of Marie and his followers is to assume one large sensory speech centre (zone of Wernicke), including the left supramarginal convolution, angular gyrus, and base of the first and second temporal convolutions. Marie even denies, on post-mortem evidence, that a separate motor speech centre exists in Broca's convolution. In his view damage to the speech centre leads to varying

degrees of failure of speech as a whole, and in partial aphasia the most recently acquired and most complex elements of speech are the first to be affected. Motor aphasia is due, he holds, to a lesion of the cortical speech centre combined with interruption of the motor fibres below the cortex. The subject is highly controversial, but few go so far with Marie as to deny the part played by Broca's convolution in the production of speech.

A further distinction is drawn between *cortical* and *sub-cortical* aphasia. It is impossible here fully to describe the various forms, but the difference between the conditions can be made clear by an example. In *subcortical* auditory aphasia the communicating tract between the centre for hearing and the auditory word centre is interrupted, but the auditory word centre itself is intact. The patient therefore does not understand what is said, and cannot repeat words, but his auditory word memory is unaffected, and he can therefore speak spontaneously and read aloud. When the *cortical* centre is destroyed, his auditory word memory disappears, and he no longer understands his own speech, which therefore becomes an unintelligible jargon. Analogous differences exist in connection with the other varieties of aphasia. The following table indicates the chief distinctions between its motor and sensory forms :—

| MOTOR APHASIA. | SENSORY APHASIA (VERBAL AMNESIA). | |
|---|---|---|
| | WORD DEAFNESS. | WORD BLINDNESS. |
| Patient almost completely loses power of speech. Words like oaths, "yes," or "no," may be retained. | Can still speak, sometimes with little aphasia, but sometimes merely gibberish. | Speech little affected. |
| Understands what is said to him: | Does not understand what is said. | Understands what is said. |
| Cannot repeat words. | Cannot repeat words. | Can repeat words. |
| Recognises written words but cannot write them. Cannot copy print into writing, though he may copy letters (aphasia and agraphia). Rarely can write (aphasia) without agraphia. | May be some word blindness and agraphia, or patient may recognise and write words freely. | Cannot recognise written or printed words, or write them (agraphia). May recognise letters or his own name. If the damage is partial, may write wrong words or in wrong order (<i>paragrammia</i>). |
| Is aware of his errors—he can recall words but not utter them. | Is unaware of his errors of speech—auditory word memory is destroyed. | Is unaware of his errors in writing—visual word memory is destroyed. |
| Mental impairment is but slight. | Mental impairment is marked. | Mental impairment is slight. |

It should not be forgotten that although aphasia is most commonly due to organic lesions of the brain, and therefore permanent, *temporary* aphasia is not altogether uncommon. This occurs mainly in old people, and is held to be caused by disturbances of the cerebral circulation arising from anæmia, arterio-sclerosis, or possibly temporary spasm of the vessels.

APRAXIA

This is a condition in which, while the cortico-muscular apparatus is intact, there being no motor or sensory paralysis and no ataxia, the patient is unable to perform certain purposeful movements. The patient knows what he wants to do, but cannot do it. Thus if given a match he may recognise it but be unable to strike it. Apraxia may be unilateral or bilateral; movements may be correctly performed with the right hand, for instance, which are impossible to the left. The more complex movements are most affected. Apraxia is closely related to motor aphasia, which may be looked upon as a verbal apraxia. The lesion may be either in the upper frontal convolutions or in the anterior part of the corpus callosum.

Agnosia, which necessarily involves apraxia, is failure to perceive intelligently objects presented to any of the special senses. It has the same relation to sensory aphasia that apraxia has to motor aphasia. Objects presented to vision, for example, are seen, but not recognised for what they are. A match may be called a pen, a handkerchief a duster, and so on. The condition is met with in lesions of the occipital cortex.

VII. DISEASES OF PERIPHERAL NERVES

CRANIAL NERVES

All the cranial nerves have at least two origins, deep and superficial; all behind the fourth nerve may be said to have their deep origin in the fourth ventricle. The nerves of the special senses have in addition a special connection with the so-called "centres," situated in the cortex of the brain. For the normal perception of impressions derived from the special senses, there must evidently be a healthy continuity between *centre*, *nerve trunk*, and *special ending*; destruction of any of these will interfere with the carrying out of the function.

OLFACTORY OR FIRST PAIR

Anatomy.—The true olfactory nerves issue from the olfactory cells of the nasal mucous membrane, and ascend through the cribriform plate of the ethmoid bone to the olfactory bulbs. There they arborise round the dendrons of the so-called “mitral cells,” the axons of which pass along the olfactory tract to the cortical centre in the uncinate gyrus.

Physiology.—The nerves of smell. The appreciation of pungency should be carefully distinguished from the sense of smell, or the detection of odours. The perception of pungency is due to painful stimulation of the fifth nerve in the *lower* part of the nose.

Clinical.—Perversion of the sense of smell (parosmia), and increased delicacy of the sense (hyperosmia), are met with chiefly among the hysterical and the insane. *Total or partial* loss of the sense of smell (anosmia or hyposmia) may be due to—

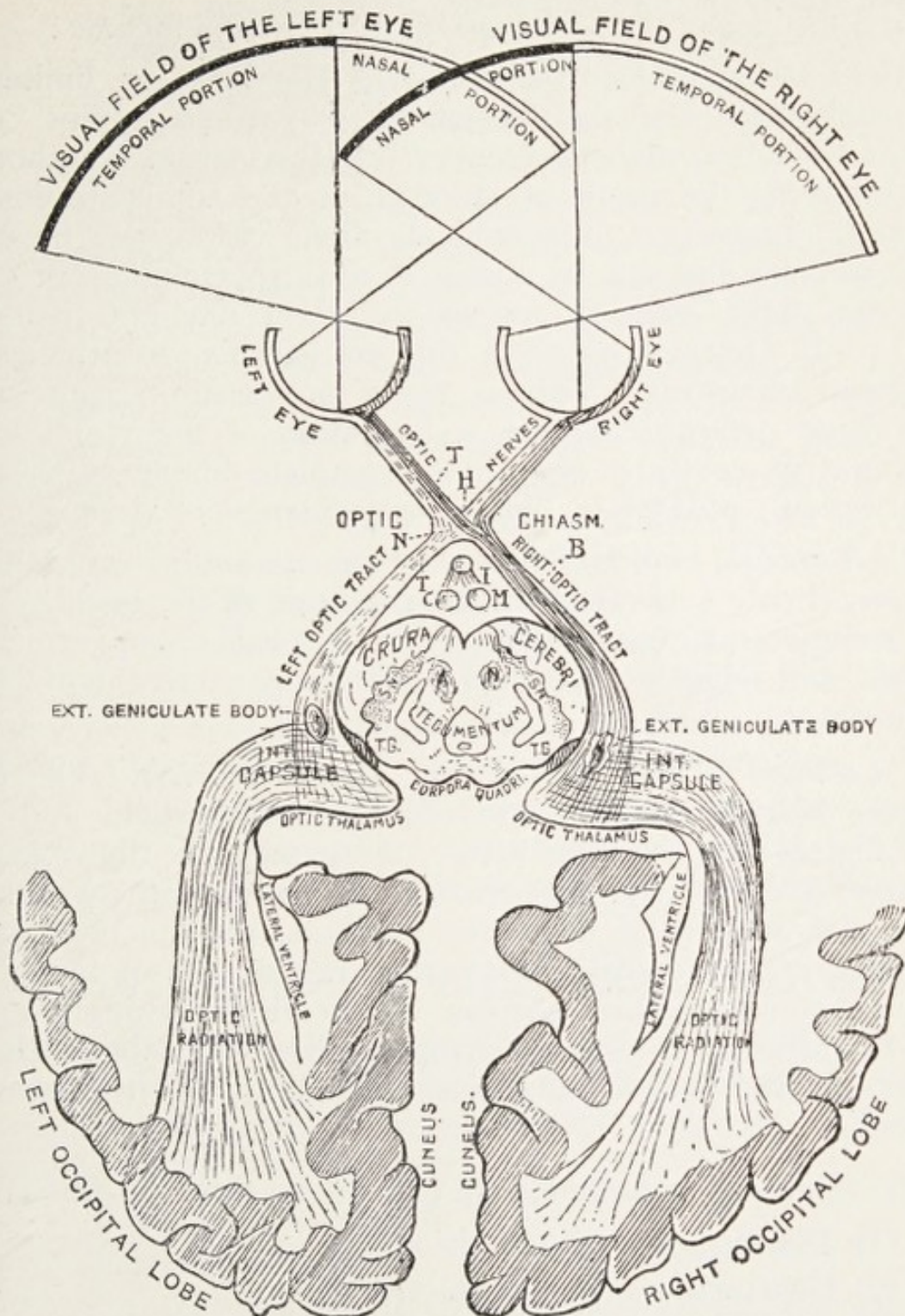
- (1) Affections of the *terminations* of the nerve (most often associated with nasal catarrh or polypi).
- (2) Lesions of the nerve *trunk*.
- (3) Lesions of the *centre*, in the uncinate gyrus.

OPTIC NERVES

Anatomy.—Commencing in the retina, the fibres pass backwards in the optic nerve through the choroid and sclerotic to the optic foramen, and thence to the optic commissure, where the nerve proper terminates. Thus we get, on tracing backwards—

1. Optic nerves.
2. Optic chiasma or commissure, where *partial* decussation takes place.
3. Optic tracts.
4. Ganglionic centres { Optic thalamus.
External corpora geniculata.
Anterior corpora quadrigemina.
5. Cortical centres in the occipital lobes, connected with the ganglionic centres by the optic radiation.

The fibres from the inner side of each retina cross in the commissure to the optic tract of the opposite side; those from the outer part turn backwards into the tract of the same side (*see diagram*).



THE OPTIC AND VISUAL TRACTS (STARR).

N, Lesion causing nasal hemianopia. *T*, Lesion causing temporal hemianopia. *H*, Lesion causing bilateral heteronymous hemianopia. *B*, Lesion of tract causing homonymous hemianopia.

Clinical—

1. Affections of the *terminations* in the retina include :—

(a) Functional Disturbances :—(1) Blindness or limitation of visual field due to the effects of various toxins, *e.g.*, uræmia, anæmia, diabetes, scurvy. Yellow vision (xanthopsy) may occur as the result of jaundice or the administration of santonin. In certain functional affections vision may be clear in the daytime but dim or absent at dusk (nyctalopia), or clear in a dim light, poor or absent in bright daylight (hemeralopia). (2) Defects of vision due to psychic disturbances—hysterical amaurosis. Various terms are used in connection with visual defect: *scotoma*, a limitation of the visual field, peripheral or central; *amaurosis*, complete blindness without ocular lesion; *amblyopia*, diminished acuteness of vision.

(b) *Retinitis*, which may occur in a number of general diseases, chiefly such as affect the condition of the blood. The most common are chronic Bright's disease, leukæmia, pernicious anæmia, and syphilis. Retinitis is sometimes present in diabetes and purpura.

2. Lesions of the *Nerve*. (a) *Optic Neuritis*.—The disc becomes blurred, swollen and red from congestion, and the physiological cup is obliterated; there may be slight extravasations of blood; finally, there is an increase in the fibrous tissue, and atrophy of the nerve elements, causing often total blindness. Optic neuritis is common in tumours of the brain and cerebellum, cerebral abscess, and cerebral meningitis, and may be present in chronic Bright's disease, diabetes, lead-poisoning, and severe anæmias, including severe cases of chlorosis.

The blindness is preceded by changes in three directions :—

- (1) Diminished acuity of vision.
- (2) Contraction of the visual *field*.
- (3) Contraction of the colour field.

There may be a considerable degree of optic neuritis before vision is materially interfered with.

Tobacco amblyopia is due to a *retrobulbar* neuritis. The loss of sight is gradual, and at first there is no change in the fundi, but if the condition persists, there may be *permanent* changes in the optic discs.

(b) *Primary Optic Atrophy* occurs in locomotor ataxia, and sometimes in disseminated sclerosis, general paralysis, and other nervous affections. The disc is white and flattened, and contrasts sharply with the surrounding retina. A partial atrophy may occur in those who smoke excessively.

3. Lesions of the *Chiasma*.—If the lesion is confined to the central portion, *i.e.*, the decussation, as in tumours of the pituitary body (acromegaly), the fibres passing to the *inner* or nasal portion of each retina will be involved, causing blindness of the *outer* half of each field—*temporal* hemianopia. If it is at the lateral part on one or other side, it will cause a unilateral *nasal* hemianopia, and if there is such a lesion on both sides, a bilateral nasal hemianopia results. If the lesion is more extensive there may be total blindness of the eye on the same side, with temporal hemianopia of the opposite side; or a more extensive lesion still may cause total blindness.

4. A lesion *behind the Chiasma*, whether in the optic tracts, optic thalamus, corpora quadrigemina, or geniculate bodies, causes *homonymous hemianopia*, that is, blindness of the *temporal* half on the same side, and the *nasal* on the opposite side.

5. A lesion in the occipital *Cortex* also causes homonymous hemianopia; but there may be, in addition, word blindness, *i.e.*, the patient *can see*, but fails to *read letters* (see Aphasia.)

THIRD, FOURTH, AND SIXTH NERVES

Anatomy.—The third nerve arises from the floor of the aqueduct of Sylvius, passes through the tegmentum of the crus on the inner side, and forwards through the outer wall of the cavernous sinus to be distributed to—

1. The sphincter pupillæ.
2. The ciliary muscle.
3. All the muscles of the eyeball except the superior oblique and external rectus. *It also supplies the levator palpebræ superioris.*

Physiology.—The nerve is concerned in the accommodation of vision and in certain movements of the eyeballs.

Clinical.—Symptoms due to paralysis or irritation of the third nerve are common in many intracranial affections; for

instance, the former condition is usually well marked in fractures of the base of the skull, the "*compression*" stage of meningitis, etc.; whilst *irritation* of the nerve may be brought about by tumours, and occurs in the *first stage* of meningitis, and sometimes in hysteria.

PARALYSIS.

1. Ptosis or drooping of the upper lid.
2. Divergent squint, with inability to move the eye inwards, downwards, or upwards.
3. Loss of accommodation.
4. Paralysis of sphincter pupillæ = dilatation of pupil (*mydriasis*).
5. Double vision, unless the ptosis prevents vision with the affected eye.

IRRITATION.

1. Convulsions or spasm of the muscles.
2. Convergent squint.
3. Contraction of pupil (*myosis*).
4. Great interference with field of vision.

It should be noted that only a *few* of the great number of fibres running in the third nerve may be affected, and the clinical phenomena will obviously vary with the number of fibres involved. We shall first consider the fibres to the iris:—

I. *Paralysis of the Iris* may be of three types—

1. Accommodative iridoplegia—failure to accommodate for near vision; commonly seen in diphtheritic paralysis.

2. Reflex iridoplegia—failure of reaction to light, while the response to accommodation is preserved. This constitutes the Argyll-Robertson pupil, a most important symptom in locomotor ataxia and in general paralysis of the insane. In this case, the lesion probably interrupts the fibres between the corpora quadrigemina and the centre for the sphincter iridis in the third nucleus.

3. Loss of the skin reflex—failure of the pupil to dilate when the skin of the neck is pinched—is due, not to involvement of the third nerve, but to paralysis of the sympathetic in the neck.

II. *Paralyses of the Ocular Muscles.*

1. Ptosis or paralysis of the levator palpebræ.
2. Strabismus or squinting.
3. Paralysis of the whole nerve.

The description of strabismus is deferred until the anatomy of the fourth and sixth nerves has been discussed. The

the nerve is paralysed on the side of the lesion, and the limbs on the opposite side (crossed paralysis).

Ptosis may occur independently of paralysis of the other parts of the nerve. It may be congenital or due to hysteria, it sometimes occurs in locomotor ataxia, and it may be a symptom of cerebral lesions.

Fourth Nerve.—The nucleus of the fourth nerve is almost continuous with the lower end of that of the third. The nerve runs thence to the upper part of the roof of the fourth ventricle, where it decussates with the opposite fourth nerve. It then runs round the outer side of the crus to the base of the brain, and through the wall of the cavernous sinus to the orbit, ending in the superior oblique, which turns the eyeball downwards and outwards.

Sixth Nerve.—Arising from a nucleus in the floor of the fourth ventricle, it runs through the pons, and appears in the groove between the pons and medulla near the middle line. In the cavernous sinus it lies close to the internal carotid. It ends in the external rectus, which turns the eyeball outwards. Fibres pass in the posterior longitudinal bundle from its nucleus to the opposite third nerve and internal rectus.

Squinting or Strabismus.—In order to have perfect sight, there must be perfect harmony between all the ocular muscles; for instance, when we look at an object to the right, we turn *both* eyes in that direction, and thus we call into action the *external* rectus (sixth nerve) of the *right* eye, and the *internal* rectus (third nerve) of the *left* eye. In other words, on looking to the right side, we employ the services of two nerves, the third and sixth. Other movements will involve other combinations, such as the third and fourth nerves, third, fourth, and sixth, etc. Obviously, then, there must be an arrangement for the harmonious or co-ordinated actions of the third, fourth, and sixth nerves; and their nuclei are in fact connected by means of fibres of the posterior longitudinal bundle beneath the aqueduct of Sylvius. Failure of this harmony through paralysis of any muscle leads to the following motor and visual disorders:—

1. Limitation of movement in certain directions.
2. *Strabismus*, or squinting; want of parallelism in the visual axes.
3. Diplopia or double vision—*i.e.*, the appearance of a *true* and *false* image of the same object. Diplopia is *homonymous* when the false image is on the same side as the affected eye (external rectus and the two obliques), *crossed* when it is opposite the sound eye (internal, superior, and inferior recti). It is useful to remember that in all cases of paralytic squint,

the *false image* is displaced *in the direction of traction* of the paralysed muscle, and the eye itself in the opposite direction.

4. Erroneous projection—*i.e.*, errors in judgment of the position of objects, which to be seen require the use of the weakened muscle. The greater energy exerted for its contraction causes an over-estimation of the distance.

5. Secondary deviation. If an object be fixed by the affected eye while the sound eye is covered, the latter makes a still wider movement in the same direction. The increased effort required to move the weakened muscle of the affected eye is responded to by an excessive movement of the muscles of the sound eye, which act in combination with it.

RESULTS OF PARALYSIS OF SPECIAL OCULAR MUSCLES WHEN THE OTHERS ARE SOUND

Paralysis of Rectus Superior: inability to raise the eyeball properly above the horizontal level; the pupil may diverge somewhat downwards, and a little outwards (from action of the rectus inferior and the obliqui).

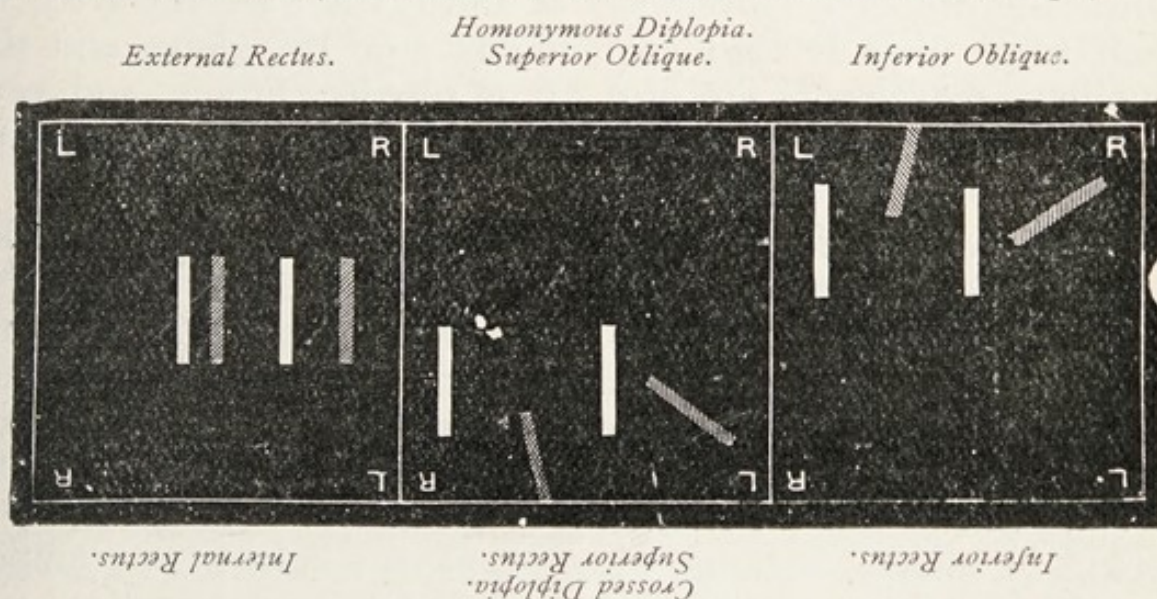


FIG. 30 (TAYLOR).—Images as seen in Diplopia from Isolated Paralysis of Ocular Muscles of the Right Eye. The patient is supposed to be in the position of the Reader. The true Image is White, the False Image Shaded. Two Positions in the Field are given for each form of Paralysis.

Paralysis of Rectus Inferior: inability to lower the eyelid properly below the horizontal level; the pupil may diverge somewhat upwards, and a little outwards (from action of the rectus superior and the obliqui).

Paralysis of Rectus Externus (sixth nerve): inability to turn the eyeball properly outwards; the pupil diverges inwards (from action of the rectus internus).

Paralysis of Rectus Internus: inability to turn the eyeball properly inwards; the pupil diverges outwards (from action of the rectus externus).

Paralysis of *Obliquus Superior* (fourth nerve): but little alteration in movements of the eyeball; slight deviation of the cornea upwards and inwards, or simply upwards.

Paralysis of *Obliquus Inferior*: but little alteration in movements of the eyeball; slight deviation of the cornea downwards and inwards. (Paralysis of the sphincter of the iris, giving rise to a moderate dilatation of the pupil, and paralysis of the accommodation, often accompany this form of paralysis; this depends on the branch to the lenticular ganglion being given off from that branch of the third nerve which goes to the inferior oblique muscle. Occasionally, however, the lenticular branch arises from the sixth nerve.)—Finlayson's *Manual*.

Strabismus is a frequent cause of headache, and many of the failures in the treatment of headache are due to the neglect of testing the visual apparatus, and thereby failing to rectify "eye-strain."

Nuclear ophthalmoplegia is a paralysis affecting the ocular muscles from causes implicating the nuclei of the nerves, and is therefore of central origin. It may be *internal* when the ciliary muscle and the sphincter pupillæ are alone affected, *external* when the ordinary movements of the eyeball are involved, or *total* when there is absolute immobility of the globe, and the pupillary movements are lost. It is usually chronic, and very frequently due to syphilis, but it may set in acutely as the result of hæmorrhage or inflammation.

Nystagmus is a clonic rhythmical contraction of the muscles of the eyeballs, giving rise to a rapid oscillatory movement, usually from side to side, but often also in a vertical direction. It is best seen on asking the patient, while keeping his head fixed, to follow with his eyes the movement of the examiner's finger. It occurs in childhood as the result of diseases of the eyeball interfering with vision; it is common in albinos; it is found in miners working with insufficient light in a cramped position, as the result of exhaustion of the ocular muscles; and it is a symptom of disseminated sclerosis, hereditary ataxia, and many varieties of cerebral disease, including tumours of the pons and cerebellum. The movement is usually bilateral, and it ceases during sleep.

The symptom has evidently no localising significance, as it occurs in lesions in many different situations, but it is of value in distinguishing between organic and functional disease. Nystagmus does not occur in hysteria.

Irregular spasm of ocular muscles may occur in lesions at the base of the brain (meningitis), and sometimes in hysteria. *Con-*

jugate deviation has been referred to under Apoplexy. When the lesion is destructive, the deviation is away from the paralysed side and towards the lesion; when it is *irritative*, on the other hand, as in epilepsy, the deviation is towards the side on which the convulsion is greatest.

FIFTH NERVE

Anatomy.—The fifth cranial nerve has a most extensive origin. The motor root arises from the floor of the fourth ventricle, and also from the outer wall of the aqueduct of Sylvius; the sensory arises from the Gasserian ganglion and ends in cells in the lower part of the pons and medulla. The nerve in front of the Gasserian ganglion divides into three sensory branches—

1. Ophthalmic.
2. Superior maxillary.
3. Inferior maxillary, with which the motor root becomes fused in the pterygo-maxillary region. The two first divisions, therefore, are entirely sensory; only the third is a mixed nerve.

By means of these branches, the fifth nerve has connections with four important ganglia—viz., the ophthalmic branch with the ophthalmic or lenticular ganglion, the superior maxillary with Meckel's ganglion, and the inferior maxillary with the optic and submaxillary or lingual ganglia.

The *ophthalmic branch* passes to the orbit through the sphenoidal fissure. It carries with it fibres from the sympathetic, which pass through the lenticular ganglion to innervate the dilator pupillæ. It is the sensory nerve of the skin of the upper eyelid and upper palpebral conjunctiva, forehead, front of the scalp to the vertex, mesial part of the skin of the nose; of the eyeball and lachrymal gland; and of the interior and upper part of the nasal mucosa.

The *superior maxillary branch* passes through the foramen rotundum to the infra-orbital canal, being connected in the spheno-maxillary fossa with Meckel's ganglion. From the ganglion the great superficial petrosal runs backwards to join the facial. The nerve supplies the skin of the cheek, upper lip, side of nose, lower eyelid, and lower palpebral conjunctiva; the mucosa of the upper lip, upper cheek, upper jaw, hard and soft palate, uvula, tonsil, upper part of pharynx; the upper teeth, part of the nasal mucosa, and that of the middle ear.

The *inferior maxillary branch* passes through the foramen ovale with the motor root. The motor and sensory parts become fused together, and the motor fibres of the trunk thus formed supply the temporal muscle, the masseter, both pterygoids, the anterior belly of the digastric, the mylo-hyoid (muscles of mastication), and the tensor tympani. The sensory fibres supply

the skin of the posterior part of the temple, part of the outer ear, the lower lip, lower cheek, chin, lower teeth and gums, tongue, floor of the mouth, and salivary glands. The lingual branch of the nerve is joined by the chorda tympani from the seventh. The auriculo-temporal is joined by a branch from the ninth (glosso-pharyngeal), which it sends to the parotid gland.

Taste Fibres.—The lingual branch of the inferior maxillary supplies the anterior two-thirds of the tongue, and until recently it was held by many that destruction of the Gasserian ganglion was followed by loss of taste in this area. The recent investigations of Cushing, however, have shown that in every case of excision of the Gasserian ganglion examined by him the sense of taste remained unimpaired. The taste fibres, therefore, must run from the tongue through the lingual nerve, chorda tympani and facial nerve, *via* the portio intermedia and fasciculus solitarius to the glosso-pharyngeal nucleus.

Paralysis of the *whole* nerve causes—

1. Loss of sensation to the parts supplied.
2. Paralysis and atrophy of all the muscles supplied, with R.D.
3. Diminished secretion of tears, absence of the corneal reflex, and sometimes inflammatory changes in the cornea, due to anæsthesia (irritating particles are not felt, therefore not removed).
4. There may be disturbance of the sense of taste, but this condition has been recently shown to be temporary, and is supposed by Cushing to be due to degeneration and swelling of the lingual nerve following the lesion.
5. Inability to detect pungent odours.

Paralysis may be due to—

1. Disease of the pons.
2. Injury or disease at the *base* of the brain, medulla, etc.
3. Pressure from tumours, etc., on the branches as they pass through their foramina.
4. Peripheral neuritis. Paralysis due to neuritis (inflammation of the ganglion) is attended by *trophic changes*, such as herpes and greyness of the hair. It is also associated with intense *pain*, which may persist for years.

A reference to the distribution of the nerve will give the symptoms attendant on paralysis of the whole nerve or of its different branches.

Neuralgia may occur in all the branches of the fifth nerve (*see Neuralgia*).

Progressive unilateral atrophy of the face (facial hemiatrophy),

a rare disease of childhood and youth, may be due to disease of the fifth, or to a sympathetic vasomotor affection.

SEVENTH NERVE

The seventh or facial nerve arises from a nucleus in the lower part of the pons, and emerges in the groove between the olive and restiform body. It enters the internal auditory meatus with the auditory nerve, passes through the Fallopian aqueduct, and leaves the skull by the stylo-mastoid foramen. At the geniculate ganglion it is joined by the great and small superficial petrosal nerves. Within the aqueduct it gives off a branch to the stapedius, and the chorda tympani, which contains the taste fibres from the anterior two-thirds of the tongue. The nucleus is connected by motor fibres with the cortex of the fissure of Rolando. Briefly, its distribution is as follows :—

1. *Motor to*—

- (1) All the muscles of the face except the levator palpebræ.
- (2) The stylo-hyoid, the posterior belly of the digastric, and the platysma myoides.

2. *Secretory* to the submaxillary and sublingual glands, and the glands of the mouth and tongue.

3. *Sensory*.—In the Fallopian aqueduct it is associated with the chorda tympani, and a lesion there will consequently destroy the sense of taste in the anterior two-thirds of the tongue.

Paralysis of the seventh nerve causes :—

1. Motor changes—

The face is drawn to the opposite side.
The eye is wide open and unwinking.
The cheek puffs out with expiration.
Food collects between cheek and teeth.
Absence of wrinkles.

2. Sensory changes—

Loss of taste in the anterior two-thirds of the tongue, if the nerve is affected in the aqueduct.

Clinical.—Paralysis may be due to lesions affecting—

1. The cortical fibres—supranuclear paralysis.
2. The nucleus itself.
3. The nerve trunk in its tortuous course through the pons and bony canals, or after its exit from the stylo-mastoid foramen (Bell's paralysis).

The causes of the *cortical* (supranuclear) form are those of hemiplegia ; of the *nuclear*, hæmorrhage, tumour, or extension of chronic spinal diseases ; and of the *peripheral*, extension of middle-ear disease, injury to the bones of the skull, exposure to draughts and cold, and "rheumatic neuritis."

The features of the paralysis will vary with the site of the lesion.

When the lesion is in the cortical fibres, the facial paralysis is associated with hemiplegia, and is on the *opposite side from the lesion*, that is, on the *same side* as the paralysed limbs ; but either because the upper branches of the nerve escape, or because movements habitually bilateral are but slightly affected in upper neuron paralysees, the orbicularis palpebrarum is *not* involved, and thus *movements of the eyelids are not affected*—i.e., winking is possible, and the eye can be closed.

If the lesion be in the *lower* section of the pons, it will involve the facial fibres *between* the nucleus and their emergence in the pons. Thus we get *crossed paralysis*—i.e., the face is paralysed on the *same* side as the lesion, the arms and legs (as before) on the opposite side.

Symptoms.—When the nerve is affected after it leaves the stylo-mastoid foramen (Bell's paralysis), the affected side is immobile, smooth, and expressionless. The eye cannot be shut, and usually waters freely. The brow cannot be wrinkled. The angle of the mouth is lowered, and the attempt to smile or to whistle brings out the contrast between the two sides. Articulation of labial consonants is defective. The food collects between the cheek and teeth, owing to buccinator paralysis. The skin of the neck cannot be voluntarily moved (paralysis of the platysma).

If the affection is *within the aqueduct*, there are in addition loss of taste in the anterior two-thirds of the tongue (chorda tympani), and hypersensitiveness to sounds (*hyperacousis*) especially of low pitch, from paralysis of the stapedius.

If the nerve is affected between *the pons and the geniculate ganglion* there is no loss of taste, but deafness on the same side is almost always present from paralysis of the auditory nerve. If it is affected *in the pons*, there is no deafness or loss of taste, but there is usually paralysis of the sixth, as the facial fibres form a loop around its nucleus.

The electrical reactions are highly important. When there

are *no polar changes, the case recovers rapidly*. If the reaction of degeneration be present, the prognosis is much more unfavourable, and recovery, which is incomplete, may be followed by contracture of the weakened muscles. To sum up—

In the *nuclear or subnuclear* form of paralysis the whole of the one side of the face is involved, and typical “Bell’s paralysis” results.

When the paralysis is of *cortical* origin, it is associated with hemiplegia, and—

1. *The upper part of the face escapes*, or is but slightly implicated.
2. *Voluntary* movements are more affected than *emotional* movements.
3. The paralysed muscles do not atrophy, nor are their electrical reactions altered.

When the lesion is in the lower portion of the *pons*, we get *crossed paralysis*, but of the nuclear type, as regards the facial muscles affected.

Treatment.—Remove if possible any pressure on the nerve by causing absorption of inflammatory products. Where the cause is syphilis, use specific remedies. Treat any ear disease, surgically if need be. In rheumatic cases, apply a blister over the point of exit of the nerve, and give diaphoretics and a smart purge. Maintain the tone of the paralysed muscles by massage and by a moderately strong faradic or continuous current applied for about a quarter of an hour several times daily, the positive pole being on the nape of the neck. Iodide of potassium may be given internally. The peripheral type is usually very amenable to treatment. In obstinate cases an anastomosis may be made between the spinal accessory or hypoglossal nerve and the distal portion of the facial; but the operation is a severe one, and the improvement produced is often only partial.

Facial spasm may be due to organic disease, but is more commonly idiopathic. It affects women oftener than men, and occurs in adult life. It is frequently associated with other signs of a nervous predisposition, such, for example, as hysteria or migraine. The spasm is generally clonic, but sometimes twitching may alternate with a tonic contraction. The orbicularis

palpebrarum alone may suffer, but usually there are repeated rapid twitchings of the muscles about the mouth, associated with a swift blinking movement of the eyelids. The affection is generally unilateral, and the prospect of cure is not good, though temporary improvement may take place. Treatment consists in removing any cause of reflex irritation, and in the employment of nerve tonics, sedatives, or electricity.

EIGHTH OR AUDITORY NERVE

Anatomy.—The eighth nerve has two divisions, associated with nuclei in the floor of the fourth ventricle. Its vestibular root, connected with the semicircular canals, enters the medulla internal to the restiform body, and passes backwards to the vestibular nucleus. The cochlear root passes, external to the restiform body, from the cochlea to the medullary striæ. It is the true auditory nerve; while the vestibular root is the nerve of equilibrium.

Physiology.—The nerve fulfils two functions—

Its cochlear part is the nerve of hearing, or that by which sound undulations are conducted from the labyrinth to the cortex, and there analysed. The nucleus of the cochlear nerve is connected, through the central auditory tract, with the posterior quadrigeminal and internal geniculate bodies. Thence fibres pass to the cortical auditory centre.

Its vestibular part, by means of its fibres in connection with the ampulla and semicircular canals, transmits impulses from the oscillations of the endolymph in those regions, to the *cerebellum*, with which through the nucleus of Deiters it is indirectly connected, and thus assists the co-ordinating function in the maintenance of the equipoise of the body.

Paralysis of the whole nerve causes total deafness, often attended by certain unpleasant subjective and objective symptoms.

Excitation causes unpleasant noises, often accompanied by intense giddiness, nausea, and oscillations of the eyeballs (nystagmus).

It is important to remember the close sympathy and relation that exist between the *cerebellum* and the optic, third, and auditory nerves.

Symptoms connected with the eighth nerve may be due to—

1. Functional disturbances. Such symptoms as noises, buzzing, or ringing of the ears (*tinnitus*), are often due to local causes—accumulation of wax, altered tympanic pressure, etc.

2. Lesions affecting the cortical centre, causing word deafness—*i.e.*, spoken words are heard as noises, and not understood. (This condition may be associated with "word blindness," *q.v.*)

3. Lesions of the nerve at the base of the brain, causing permanent deafness. These are generally associated with lesions of the seventh nerve.

4. Disease of the labyrinth of the ear. The symptoms will depend on the extent of the lesion. There may be—

- (1) Hypersensitiveness.
- (2) Diminished hearing.
- (3) Total deafness.

Affections of the nerve cannot always be distinguished from those of the labyrinth, as both may cause "nerve deafness." This is tested by the absence of bone conduction of sound.

The subjective symptoms are typically brought out in—

5. *Ménière's Disease*.—An affection characterised by sudden and intense nausea, vomiting, vertigo, noises in the ears, and partial nerve-deafness of one ear. As we have already mentioned, nystagmus is frequently present. The attacks occur paroxysmally. The symptoms are due to disturbance of intralabyrinthine pressure, caused by—

1. Hæmorrhage into the labyrinth or semicircular canals.
2. Inflammation of the labyrinth.
3. Pressure of basal tumours or gummata upon the nerve.

Treatment.—In any affection of this nerve first try to remove any discoverable cause. If the condition is associated with gout or syphilis, treat these diseases primarily. Keep the external meatus clean, as deafness, giddiness, etc., are often caused by dried wax pressing on the drum. During an attack of Ménière's disease, the patient should be kept quiet in a darkened room; a brisk purge may be administered; and antipyrin, with an effervescing mixture containing caffeine, may be prescribed. Blisters over the mastoid process, repeated once a week, should be applied. Bromide of potassium in full doses is often useful. Salicylates may also be tried, or quinine pushed to the stage of cinchonism. When the nerve is affected through disease of the bony canal, surgical measures may be necessary.

NINTH, TENTH, ELEVENTH, AND TWELFTH NERVES

These nerves arise from nuclei in the lower part of the floor of the fourth ventricle, the twelfth near the middle line, the rest laterally. The eleventh is connected with the anterior cornu of the grey matter of the cord as low as the fifth cervical nerve. Its "bulbar part" really belongs to the vagus or tenth nerve, as it arises from a continuation of the same nucleus, whilst the "spinal part" (the true spinal accessory) arises from cells in the cervical cord. The ninth, tenth, and "bulbar part" of the eleventh (really part of the tenth) leave the side of the medulla behind the olivary body. The spinal accessory enters the skull by the foramen magnum. The twelfth leaves the front of the medulla in front of the olivary body. They all lie in the lower part of the posterior fossa of the skull. The twelfth enters the neck by passing through the anterior condyloid foramen, the rest through the jugular foramen. As they enter the neck they all lie between the internal carotid and the internal jugular vein, and are connected by communicating branches. The ninth and tenth are mixed nerves, the others motor.

The ninth or glosso-pharyngeal is a sensory nerve for the posterior third of the tongue, soft palate, fauces, and pharynx; motor for the middle constrictor of the pharynx and stylo-pharyngeus; inhibitory for movements of deglutition. *The tenth, vagus, or pneumogastric*, supplies the pharynx, larynx, heart, lungs, œsophagus, stomach, and in part the intestines and spleen. It sends an auricular branch to the skin of the outer ear. Its lowest fibres of origin ("bulbar part" of the spinal accessory) are motor fibres for larynx and pharynx, and inhibitory fibres for the heart. Its pulmonary fibres are motor for the bronchial muscles, sensory for the respiratory passages. It is motor and sensory for the œsophagus, sensory for the stomach, partly motor for the stomach and intestines. *The eleventh or spinal accessory*, exclusive of its "bulbar part," supplies the sterno-mastoid and upper fibres of the trapezius. *The twelfth or hypoglossal* supplies the muscles of the tongue and depressors of the hyoid bone.

The **Glosso-pharyngeal Nerve** may suffer in disease at the base of the brain, thrombosis of the jugular vein, tumours and injuries external to the skull. Isolated paralysis of this nerve has not been observed in man. If it is affected above the petrous ganglion, anæsthesia of the pharynx and back of the tongue, and dysphagia, are observed; if at or below the ganglion, also loss of taste in the posterior third of the tongue.

The **Vagus Nerve** may be implicated in diseases of the cranial bones or of the meninges, and in vertebral aneurysm. In the neck injuries, tumours, or aneurysms; in the thorax mediastinal tumours, or aneurysms, may compress the nerve. Its recurrent laryngeal branch may be compressed on the right side by pleuritic apical adhesions, on the left by aortic aneurysms. The nerve may be paralysed in alcoholic paralysis, poisoning

by lead or arsenic, after diphtheria or influenza, in diseases of the médulla, and in disseminated sclerosis.

Symptoms vary with the seat of the lesion. Intracranial lesions may affect all the roots, or only the upper or lower. The hypoglossal is often also affected. If the whole nerve is implicated, there is unilateral paralysis of the soft palate, fauces, and larynx, with laryngeal anæsthesia. If both nerves are implicated, the paralysis is bilateral, and there are in addition frequency of the cardiac action, with irregularity; slow, irregular respiration; gastric pain and vomiting, and sometimes loss of the sensations of hunger and thirst. For details of the laryngeal paralysis, *see* p. 385.

The **Spinal Accessory Nerve** is affected by diseases at the base of the brain; it may suffer in disseminated sclerosis or progressive muscular atrophy, and in the neck it may be pressed upon by tumours or abscesses. It is sometimes attacked by "rheumatic" neuritis. Weakness and wasting of the sterno-mastoid and upper part of the trapezius, with R.D., are the result. The patient has difficulty in rotating the head to the opposite side, and the shoulder on the affected side can be only imperfectly raised.

The **Hypoglossal** suffers more frequently within than outside of the cranium. Weakness and wasting of one-half of the tongue, with R.D., are the chief symptoms. The mucous membrane of the tongue is wrinkled, and thrown into longitudinal folds. In facial hemiatrophy (*see* Fifth Nerve) one-half of the tongue may atrophy but there is no R.D.; in hemiplegia there is lingual paralysis, but neither atrophy nor R.D.

SPINAL NERVES

These nerves may suffer from disease or injury to their roots, to the plexus, or to the peripheral trunks. Lesions of the roots are associated with disease or injury to the cord or vertebræ, and, like lesions of the plexuses, result in grouped paralysis, while lesions of the peripheral trunks produce paralysis limited to the distribution of the affected nerve. Neuritis may occur in isolated nerves as a result of cold or of toxæmia (*e.g.*, the musculo-spiral in lead poisoning), or it may be generalised, when it is due to the causes mentioned under Multiple Neuritis. The symptoms of such lesions are paralysis and anæsthesia in the distribution of the nerves or roots, and, if neuritis is the cause

also pain and tenderness to pressure. Should the case be of long duration, muscular atrophy and altered electrical reactions (R.D.) will be associated with these symptoms.

It is impossible here to give an account of each individual paralysis, the symptoms of which may be inferred from a knowledge of the distribution of the nerve affected, but one or two illustrative examples may be selected.

The **Phrenic Nerve**, arising chiefly from the fourth cervical root, with fibres from the third and fifth, supplies the diaphragm, and sends fibres to the pleura, pericardium, inferior cava, and right auricle. It may be affected in fracture of the cervical vertebræ, spinal hæmorrhage, and tumours of the cord; in the neck by wounds or tumours; in the thorax by tumours or pleural affections. It may be involved in diphtheritic neuritis.

Symptoms.—When both nerves are affected, there is bilateral paralysis of the diaphragm. The epigastrium sinks in during inspiration, and the movements of the upper part of the thorax are excessive. Dyspnœa occurs on the slightest exertion. Respiratory diseases are rendered more grave by the existence of this condition. X-ray examination shows defective movement.

Unilateral paralysis can be recognised by careful comparison of the movements of the two sides. On the affected side the normal undulatory movements of respiration in the sixth to tenth interspaces in the axillary line are absent (Litten's sign).

Prognosis is good in rheumatic and post-diphtheritic paralysis, bad in central lesions.

Treatment.—In paralysis due to central lesions, treat the lesion; in peripheral paralysis stimulate the nerve by electricity, placing one pole deeply to the outer side of the clavicular head of the sterno-mastoid, the other over the epigastrium.

Lesions of the **Brachial Plexus** are of two types: (1) Erb's paralysis, or the upper arm type, in which the fifth and sixth cervical roots are involved. This causes paralysis of the deltoid, biceps, brachialis anticus, and supinator longus. The hand hangs by the side and is rotated inwards, while the movements of abduction of the arm and flexion and supination of the forearm are lost. Sensory disturbance is slight. (2) Klumpke's paralysis, or the lower arm type, in which the eighth cervical and first dorsal roots suffer. Paralysis of the intrinsic muscles of the hand and of the flexors of the fingers follows, with

anæsthesia of the inner side of the forearm and hand. Contraction of the pupil and narrowing of the palpebral fissure are also present, from implication of the cervical sympathetic fibres in the first dorsal root.

In some instances the whole plexus may suffer. The *causes* of brachial plexus palsy are injury to the neck, obstetrical palsy, dislocation of the humerus, fractured clavicle, and cervical rib.

The **Musculo-spiral Nerve** may be injured in the axilla from dislocations or fractures, or from the pressure of crutches. As it passes round the humerus it may suffer from sleeping with the arm over the back of a chair, or with the whole weight of the body on one arm. It is sometimes affected by neuritis from cold, and in lead palsy there is a bilateral affection of certain branches. A lesion high up causes paralysis of the extensors of the elbow and wrist, the long extensors of the fingers, and the supinators; in a lesion near the elbow joint the triceps and supinator longus escape. The characteristic symptom is wrist-drop with loss of extension of the fingers at the metacarpo-phalangeal joints. If the triceps is involved, the forearm cannot be extended on the arm; if the supinator longus, supination is absent, but can be effected by the biceps when the elbow is flexed.

The **Sciatic Nerve** may be affected by the presence of tumours or diseased bone in the pelvis, dislocation of the hip, and wounds or tumours of the thigh. It is frequently the seat of neuritis. In lesions high up the flexors of the knee and the muscles below the knee are affected; in those lower down the flexors of the knee escape. There is loss of sensation in the outer half of the leg and all the foot except a small area on the inner side of the dorsum.

Sciatica is in most instances due to a sciatic neuritis, but it may be caused by pressure of tumours within the pelvis, or by neuralgia. Exposure to cold or wet, gout, rheumatism, and in some cases syphilis, are associated with it, and prolonged pressure on the nerve may set it up. Its *symptoms* are unilateral pain in the course of the nerve (if bilateral suspect pelvic causes and examine the rectum) beginning in its upper part, but often spreading to the calf or even the sole of the foot, aggravated on walking or on sudden movement; tenderness on pressure, especially over the sciatic notch, down the back of the thigh, in the popliteal space, and behind the head of the fibula; and in severe cases anæsthesia on the outer side of the leg, with atrophy of

muscles and abolition of the gluteal fold. The subject walks on the toes, with the knee flexed, to avoid stretching the nerve, and he lies with the leg flexed. If the leg be flexed at the hip, with the knee extended, the pain is increased (Laségue's sign). The knee-jerk is active, but the ankle-jerk is absent in severe cases. The disease is often obstinate, and recurrences are common.

Treatment consists in attention to the cause, regular opening of the bowels, complete rest in bed, at first upon a long splint, heat or counter-irritants (blisters, cautery) in the course of the nerve, and measures for the relief of pain (aspirin, phenacetin, antipyrine, and, if necessary, morphia). Acupuncture of the nerve is often useful, and in recent cases cutting down upon the nerve and stretching it over the finger may lead to cure. Injections of warm normal saline into the nerve near the sciatic notch have also given good results. Massage may be of value in chronic cases.

NEURITIS

Inflammation of a nerve or of its fibrous sheath.

Etiology.—Neuritis may be due to exposure to cold, traumatism, prolonged pressure, or spreading of contiguous inflammation. Predisposing causes are gout, syphilis, *diabetes mellitus*, and also poisoning by lead or arsenic.

Morbid Anatomy.—In simple neuritis the sheath of the nerve and the interstitial substance are more affected than the fibres, which suffer only secondarily. The ordinary inflammatory changes are present.

Symptoms vary with the special nerve affected. There may be disturbed sensibility, pain in the peripheral distribution of the nerve, or tenderness in its course. Where a motor nerve is involved, twitchings of muscles and rapid atrophy follow, along with paralysis of function. If trophic fibres are involved, there may be "glossy skin," œdema of the extremities, herpes, etc.

Treatment.—Treat any specific cause by appropriate remedies; locally fomentations or fly blisters. If there be paralysis, galvanism or massage.

MULTIPLE (PERIPHERAL) NEURITIS

Inflammation affecting simultaneously or in rapid succession nerves in different parts of the body.

Etiology.—The disease is due principally to the action of poisons circulating in the blood on the terminations of peripheral nerves. These poisons are of various classes :—

1. Extrinsic : alcohol, arsenic, bisulphide of carbon, lead.
2. Microbic : as in the specific fevers (particularly *diphtheria*), septic states, beri-beri, malaria, influenza, etc.
3. Due to metabolic changes ; as in diabetes, gout, syphilis, etc.

General malnutrition is responsible for cachectic and senile cases.

Morbid Anatomy.—The changes are most extensive at the peripheral terminations of the nerves, and are usually symmetrical. They are both inflammatory and degenerative, but often only visible under the microscope. The degenerative changes affect the nerve fibres, in which the axis cylinders are atrophied and the medullary sheath broken up. The inflammatory changes are seen in the interstitial tissue, and are much less marked.

Alcoholic paralysis is one of the best examples of multiple neuritis, and will therefore be described as the typical form.

Etiology.—It usually occurs amongst *secret* drinkers, and for that reason women are more often attacked. Most cases occur after thirty-five years of age. Club-men and brewers furnish a number of cases.

Symptoms.—The manifestations of alcoholic neuritis differ much in individuals. There are at least four well-marked types : (1) That in which tremor predominates ; (2) the anæsthetic type ; (3) the paralytic type ; (4) the ataxic type.

The onset is as a rule insidious, but some cases begin acutely, with fever running up to 103° or 104° F., severe constitutional symptoms, and rapid extension of the paralysis from the limbs to the phrenic nerve (diaphragm) and vagus (tachycardia), and even to the muscles of the face. Such cases may end fatally in a few weeks. In the usual type of case, the onset is accompanied by tingling, like “pins and needles,” in the feet and hands, along with numbness of the fingers and toes. Vasomotor spasm may cause “dead fingers,” and muscular cramps are frequent. Progressive paralysis compels the patient to take to bed. The extensors are more implicated than the flexors, and consequently the feet and wrists are dropped (the

feet generally first). Other muscles are gradually involved, and phonation may be lost or much weakened. Atrophy of the affected muscles rapidly supervenes, and is especially well marked in the extensors below the knee and elbow. Partial or complete reaction of degeneration is present, and there is loss or diminution of the tendon reflexes. The atrophied muscles and the nerve trunks are often exquisitely tender. Anæsthesia may be present in the lower parts of the limbs, while thermo-anæsthesia and analgesia may extend higher. Hyperæsthesia is sometimes present. The mental state frequently suffers; memory, especially of recent events, may be almost lost, ideas of space and time are confused, and delusions are often marked (*Korsakow's syndrome*).

The ataxic form resembles tabetic ataxia in the numbness of the feet, absence of knee-jerk, and to some extent in the gait, which, however, differs from that of true ataxia, in that the patient not only throws out his feet brusquely, *but steps high in order to clear the ground with his dropped toes*. "Alcoholic pseudo-tabes" is, however, rare.

Treatment.—The supply of alcohol must be completely cut off, and the patient kept perfectly at rest in bed. To ease the pain, iodide of sodium, antipyrin, or morphia may be given, and hot applications used locally. The paralysis should be treated by strychnine hypodermically, and a mixture of strychnine and capsicum may help to relieve the alcoholic craving. Insomnia may be treated by bromides or trional. The gastric symptoms of alcoholics require careful dieting. General tonic treatment is also necessary. Afterwards good feeding, massage, and electrical stimulation are necessary.

In all cases of multiple neuritis, the special cause must be carefully sought out, and eliminated by appropriate treatment as speedily as possible.

VIII. FUNCTIONAL DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

NEURALGIA

This term means paroxysmal pain in the area of distribution of a sensory nerve, usually without discoverable structural change, although in a few cases such changes have been noted.

It is commonest in adult life, and affects females more than males. Women are specially liable during pregnancy and at the climacteric. It follows upon debilitating diseases, exposure to cold and damp, toxic influences, peripheral irritation (carious teeth, errors of refraction, etc.). The chief symptom is paroxysmal pain, slight or intense, arising spontaneously or from local stimuli, lasting a few seconds or several minutes, and sometimes recurring many times a day. Reflex motor spasms are frequent. Secretory disturbances (lachrymation, etc.) and vasomotor or trophic changes may occur. There are usually "tender points" over the points of exit of nerves through bony foramina, the points where they cross bones or fasciæ, and the corresponding vertebral spines.

Trigeminal Neuralgia or "tic douloureux" is very common and very severe. It may affect all the divisions of the fifth nerve, but much more usually one or two, most frequently the second. It is almost never bilateral. Exciting causes may be found in the mouth, nose, or eye. The symptoms are sudden onset of almost unbearable pain in the area of the affected branch, from which it may spread to other branches, involuntary spasm of the facial muscles, lachrymation, excessive secretion of nasal mucus, or salivation. During the attack the hand is pressed upon the affected part; in the intervals even a touch may set up the pain, or it may follow movements of the facial muscles, or washing the face. In long-standing cases the hair may fall out or become grey. "Tender points" are to be found at the exit of the branches from their bony foramina.

Other forms of neuralgia—cervico-occipital, intercostal, mammary, sciatic, etc.—require no special description here.

Treatment.—Remove any causes of peripheral irritation. Improve the general health by tonics and massage. In recent cases diaphoretic treatment—hot air, hot baths, etc.—is often useful. Quinine or gelsemium may be pushed till toxic symptoms appear. Relieve pain by one or other of the antipyrin group, salicylates, or iodides. If necessary, give morphia hypodermically, but do not allow the patient to treat himself herewith. Galvanism, the positive pole being over the tender point, is sometimes of use. The most successful drug in trigeminal neuralgia is gelsemium, but it must be pushed. If these measures fail, injection of absolute alcohol into the affected branch of the nerve or into the Gasserian ganglion is often

successful. Surgical treatment, in the last resort, comprises nerve stretching and nerve excision, from which relief is usually temporary, and excision of the corresponding ganglion—in the case of the fifth nerve, the Gasserian ganglion.

MIGRAINE

(HEMICRANIA. SICK HEADACHE)

An affection characterised by paroxysmal headache, nausea, and vomiting, and sometimes preceded by disorders of vision. It usually begins about puberty, rarely after thirty, and is somewhat more common in women. Hereditary tendency is very marked, and allied neuroses are often seen in other members of the family. In some epileptics, fits and migraine may alternate. An exciting cause for the first attack is often indiscoverable, but worry, overwork, disturbances of the general health, and especially eye strain and, in the young, adenoids, predispose to repetitions. Migraine is probably due to the action of alimentary or metabolic toxins either directly upon the cortical cells or upon the cerebral circulation.

Symptoms.—An attack usually begins with headache, but may be preceded by depression or visual disturbance. The pain, which begins over the forehead, very often in the early morning, is at first slight. It soon becomes severe and boring, is localised just above one eyebrow, and spreads thence till it involves the whole side of the head, and sometimes the neck and arm. The nerves of the scalp are tender on pressure. The attack lasts twelve to twenty-four hours or more; it is accompanied by increasing nausea, and ends in vomiting, which brings relief. In about half the cases there are visual disturbances either before or during the attack. Sometimes merely flashes of light may be noted, in other cases there may be partial or complete homonymous hemianopia, with "spectral" bright spots appearing in the blind side of the field of vision. Vertigo occasionally takes the place of the ocular symptoms. The disposition to migraine tends to pass off about the end of the first half of life.

Treatment.—In the attack, give a smart saline aperient at once. Absolute rest in a quiet and darkened room, warmth to the feet, evaporating lotions to the head, antipyrin or phenacetin, are the other elements of treatment. In the intervals, improve the general health by attention to the stomach and bowels,

correct eye strain, remove adenoids, etc. Tonics, such as iron or strychnine, may be given. A prolonged course of bromides with tincture of gelsemium often does much good; and Gowers recommends in the intervals a course of nitroglycerin.

EPILEPSY

A chronic paroxysmal affection characterised by sudden attacks of unconsciousness, with or without convulsions, and often by a tendency to mental deterioration. Attacks without convulsions are known as minor fits (*petit mal*), those with convulsions as major fits (*grand mal*).

Jacksonian epilepsy differs so much in etiology, treatment, and pathology, that it will be separately described.

Etiology.—The disease frequently begins in early childhood; probably one-fourth of the cases begins before the child is ten years of age, and *three-fourths* before twenty. *When it begins in adults* suspect in the first instance *cerebral syphilis*. Epilepsy in adults may also be due to chronic alcoholism. Uræmia due to chronic nephritis and hystero-epilepsy may cause similar convulsions, but these are not idiopathic epilepsy. Fits due to *local* causes are usually of the Jacksonian type.

Heredity is a most important factor, in so far as children of families in which there is a history of insanity, hysteria, alcoholism, neuralgic affections, etc., are prone to this affection.

The exciting causes usually assigned by relatives probably merely determine an attack, but do not cause the disease. Frights and falls or injury to the head are often mentioned. Reflex irritations, as from a tight prepuce, masturbation, worms, dentition, are also blamed, and any undue cause of nervous irritation, whether corporal or emotional, may lead to an attack. In women, attacks are often related to the menstrual period.

Pathology.—The structural changes which have been found are purely secondary. The symptoms are due to a functional disturbance of the cortical centres. Should an epileptic subsequently become hemiplegic from a lesion in the internal capsule, the convulsions do not affect the paralysed limbs, showing that they originate in the cortex, impulses from which are now cut off. Convulsions may be produced by excitation of any part of the cortex, and the nature of the aura may help to localise the seat. Thus a visual aura probably indicates the occipital lobe,

an auditory aura the temporo-sphenoidal, and a motor aura the Rolandic area. The actual muscular spasm is due to the sudden violent action or "discharge" of the cortical grey matter.

Symptoms.—

Grand Mal, divided into three stages :—

1. *Aura*, or warning. Vertigo is a very common form. The aura may be referred to the stomach (sinking or nausea), or to the heart (palpitation); it may be visual or auditory; it may be sensory—numbness, "pins and needles," etc., beginning distally and mounting up the limb; motor—twitchings or contractions; or psychical—a dreamy state, or a sense of terror. The aura of idiopathic epilepsy, in contrast to that of the Jacksonian form, is usually very brief. It is altogether absent in about half the cases.

2. *Fit*.—(a) The patient drops down suddenly, usually with a groan or piercing shriek (epileptic cry).

(b) *Tonic Stage*.—The head and eyes are *turned to the side* on which the convulsions are stronger, the hands clenched, the elbows flexed, the legs rigid and extended, and the muscles of the chest by their contraction interfere with the respirations, so that the preliminary pallor is succeeded by lividity. The pupils are dilated, the conjunctival reflex lost, the eyes fixed, and sensibility is abolished. This stage lasts from thirty to forty seconds, and then passes into the—

(c) *Clonic Stage*.—The convulsions of the face quickly extend to all the muscles of the body; the tongue may be pushed between the teeth and bitten severely; and the foam at the mouth is then coloured with blood. The face assumes a purplish hue, and the eyes seem to protrude from their sockets. Urine, semen, or fæces may escape involuntarily, and the pulse is often much embarrassed by the muscular contractions. This stage lasts about two or three minutes, and then the convulsions cease. The breathing gradually becomes easier, the features are less cyanosed, and consciousness may be quickly recovered; but more commonly the clonic convulsions are succeeded by—

3. *The Stage of Coma*.—The comatose condition is accompanied by congestion of the face and stertor, but gradually passes into a natural sleep, from which the patient wakes with a feeling of exhaustion.

During the attack the superficial and deep reflexes are abolished, while for a short time after it they are exaggerated. There is commonly a large excretion of urine after the fit. In the attack the temperature is slightly raised. One attack may be rapidly followed by another, with no recovery of consciousness in the interval, and this condition may persist for some hours ("status epilepticus"). In such cases the temperature rises even to hyperpyrexia, and death may result from exhaustion.

The first attacks of epilepsy are often nocturnal.

Petit Mal, or minor epilepsy :—

In this form the patient is suddenly seized with unconsciousness, the eyes become fixed, or the speech momentarily incoherent, but there *are no convulsions*. The attacks vary much in severity, and are sometimes so slight as not to be noticed by others than the patient. Yet, though they are often trifling, they may be the precursors of major epilepsy, or may be followed in some cases by automatism or mania.

Post-epileptic conditions are of two varieties :—

1. *Automatism* : a condition in which the patient performs actions, of which he is then and *afterwards entirely unconscious*. He may begin to undress, or may pocket objects in front of him, or offer violence to a bystander, etc.

During this stage the memory of *past* events remains, and thus people whom the sufferer dislikes may be attacked or killed, apparently deliberately. The condition is most common after *petit mal*.

2. *Post-epileptic mania*, in which homicidal impulses are often manifested.

Prognosis.—The frequency of epileptic attacks varies considerably, and the prognosis is more favourable the longer the interval between them, and the older the patient at the onset of the disease. Epileptics may be perfectly healthy between the attacks, and may finally recover completely ; but too often some mental weakness shows itself in a permanent form, and dementia is the ultimate result. Imbecility has developed after few fits in children. The dangers during the fit must not be forgotten—fatal falls, burns, or other injuries are common.

Diagnosis.—The distinctions between epilepsy and hysterical convulsions, uræmia, and malingering are shown in the following table :—

| | EPILEPSY. | HYSTERIA. | MALINGERERS. | URÆMIC CONVULSIONS. |
|------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| <i>Consciousness</i> - | Lost. | May be partially lost. | Normal. | Lost in later stages; coma is prolonged and deep. |
| <i>Pupils</i> - - - | Dilated during fit. | Normal. | Normal. | First contraction, followed by dilatation. |
| <i>Tongue</i> - - - | Often bitten. | Normal. | May be bitten to simulate real fit. | Normal. |
| <i>Restraint</i> - - | Necessary to prevent accident. | Necessary to control violence. | Not necessary. | Not necessary. |
| <i>Onset</i> - - - | Rapid and sudden, patient falls unconscious. | Usually after some mental excitement, patient may fall into a "dazed" condition. | Always under conditions where the fraud may hope to gain sympathy. He falls in a business-like manner, taking care not to sustain painful injuries. | Preceded by alterations in health, urine, etc. Patient is usually in bed before convulsions come on. |
| <i>Duration</i> - - | A few minutes. | Much longer. | Variable. | Prolonged. |
| <i>Recovery</i> - - | Moderately rapid. | Very variable. | Very rapid after object has been gained. | Slow, if not fatal. |

Treatment.—Any cause of reflex irritation should be searched for and removed, and the general health should be kept as perfect as possible. The diet should be light, and meat should be given in small quantity. Dangerous occupations must be avoided, and bathing forbidden. Stimulants are not allowed. Of drugs, bromides stand first; no permanent ill effects have been definitely traced to a very prolonged use of these drugs. The daily dose for an adult should be from gr. xlv to ʒiiss (gram. 3·0-6·0), and this should be continued for two years after the fits have ceased, and then only gradually withdrawn. If the fits are nocturnal, the whole daily dose may be taken before bedtime. The smallest dose should be given that will control the fits; and if symptoms of bromism (lethargy, drowsiness, cold extremities, feeble pulse) appear, it may be necessary temporarily to stop the drug. The bromides may be combined with arsenic to prevent the bromide rash. Should they fail, other drugs that may be used are borax gr. v-xv (gram. 0·3-1·0) thrice daily, zinc oxide in pill, and belladonna. Careful attention must be paid to the state of the bowels, menses, etc.

During the Fit.—Loosen the collar, corsets, etc., and put something between the teeth to prevent the tongue being

bitten; give an inhalation of nitrite of amyl; and protect the patient from injury through his convulsive movements. If there is a well-defined aura, as numbness or twitching in one hand or foot, the attack can often be prevented by prompt ligature of the limb above. If the attacks are nocturnal, the patient should sleep on a hard bed, and use a hard pillow. During the seizure he tends to turn on his face, and may be asphyxiated in the post-epileptic coma. Gowers states that when a person is found dead in bed, and lying on his face, there is a very strong presumption of death after convulsion.

In the status epilepticus a full dose of bromide gr. xl-lx (grm. 2.5-4.0) or chloral gr. xlv (grm. 3.0) should be given by the rectum, or hyoscine hypodermically. Chloroform is useful to check the convulsions until other drugs have time to act.

JACKSONIAN EPILEPSY

An affection characterised by epileptiform convulsions, often unattended with loss of consciousness, and dependent on a coarse lesion of the cerebral cortex. Although of organic origin, the affection is described here on account of its close relationship to other convulsive disorders.

Etiology.—Jacksonian epilepsy is very frequently associated with syphilis, and is therefore most frequently seen amongst adult men; but cortical fits may be due to other tumours, to abscesses, meningitis (especially pachymeningitis hæmorrhagica), and injuries.

Symptoms.—The attack begins with twitchings of a muscle or group of muscles in the arm, leg, or face. The spasms always begin in the same muscle or muscle-group, and the patient, being conscious, can often watch their progress from face to arm and leg, or from arm to leg and face, thus affording information which enables the physician to localise the lesion. The convulsions seldom become general, but may implicate the whole of one side. Consciousness may be lost late in the fit, which is usually followed by a transitory paralysis of the affected muscles or side.

Sensory disturbances precisely analogous to the motor fits may also occur, or may precede them as an aura.

Diagnosis.—The slow onset, absence or late appearance of unconsciousness, and the localised type of the convulsions,

sufficiently distinguish them from ordinary epilepsy. *The part which first shows rigidity during the convulsions* points toward the motor centre for *that part* as the *seat of the greatest irritation*. The sensory disturbances are of equal localising value.

Treatment.—

1. If syphilis is the cause, give iodide of potassium, mercury, or salvarsan (*see Cerebral Syphilis*).

2. If the case is not syphilitic, then trephine, explore, and remove if possible any discoverable source of irritation. Bromides may be used as in epilepsy.

INFANTILE CONVULSIONS

Etiology.—The main factor is the instability, and especially the reflex excitability, of the incompletely developed nervous system of the child, aided by such predisposing causes as—

1. *Rickets*. The chief exciting cause in this condition is reflex irritation, especially from gastro-intestinal irritation, and teething; round-worms, otitis media, and phimosis are also occasional reflex causes.

2. Infectious fevers. Convulsions take the place of the rigors of the adult.

3. Cerebral congestion or asphyxia, as is well seen in severe cases of whooping-cough, or after undue exposure to the sun in a perambulator.

4. Less often cerebral diseases, as at the onset of infantile hemiplegia or diplegia, and meningitis.

5. Congenital syphilis.

6. Hereditary predisposition.

Symptoms.—Infantile convulsions are most common before the eighteenth month. They may frequently recur, and may end in the establishment of epilepsy. The symptoms are less severe than those of true epilepsy, though the fit may last longer. The convulsions are bilateral, but often not universal.

Treatment.—During the fit: a few whiffs of chloroform, a warm but not hot bath, ice to the head, or small doses of chloral by the rectum. After the fit: a dose of grey powder or calomel, saline laxatives, and bromide in appropriate doses for a week or more. Remove any source of peripheral irrita-

tion; attend to the bowels, diet, and fresh air, and treat the general condition.

TETANY

A condition characterised by tonic muscular spasm chiefly in the distal parts of the limbs, with increased excitability of muscles and nerves.

Etiology.—Probably due to a toxin or toxins acting on the peripheral motor neurons. In childhood males, in adult life females, are more often affected. In children, rickets is almost always present; in adults, the disease occurs in connection with pregnancy and lactation, *gastric dilatation* and gastro-enteritis, extirpation of the thyroid, and after specific fevers.

Pathology.—The occurrence of tetany after thyroidectomy is due to simultaneous removal of the parathyroids, and it is therefore supposed that these glands neutralise a metabolic toxin, which, in their absence, may produce the symptoms. When tetany occurs in presence of the parathyroids, the toxin must, from other causes, be produced in such quantity that they are unable to neutralise it. Noël Paton and Findlay consider guanidine to be the causative toxin; Howland and Marriott find their evidence insufficient, and show that in tetany there is a great reduction in the calcium content of the blood, of which the cause is not yet known.

Symptoms.—Spasm commences in the hands, then attacks the feet, and may extend to the arms and legs, or even the trunk and face. The thumb is flexed and drawn into the palm, the fingers are flexed at the metacarpo-phalangeal joint, extended at the others, and adducted, so that the hand becomes cone-shaped ("accoucheur's hand"). The wrist and elbow are flexed, and the shoulder adducted. The wrist is drawn to the ulnar side, and the forearm is carried across the chest. In the feet the toes are flexed, especially the great toe; the foot is inverted and the ankle extended. If the trunk is affected there is usually emprosthotonos, less often opisthotonos. The spasm may last from a few minutes to a few days. It passes off slowly, and recurs after irregular but brief intervals. It is usually painful, and passive movement increases the pain. Between the spasms tapping on a muscle or its motor nerve (*e.g.*, the facial as it crosses the jaw) sets up a brisk contraction (*Chvostek's sign*).

Pressure on a nerve trunk, or compression of the limb impeding the circulation, will set up a spasm (*Trousseau's sign*). The electrical reactions in the motor nerves, galvanic and faradic, are increased in intensity (*Erb's symptom*).

In *tetanus* the spasm is more continuous, the muscles of the jaw are early implicated (trismus), and the fingers and hands escape.

Treatment.—Remove if possible any evident cause. Improve the general health, and keep the patient at rest. Subcutaneous or intravenous injection of a soluble salt of calcium often arrests the symptoms in tetany after thyroidectomy, and may be tried in other cases, but the treatment must be kept up. Of other drugs, bromides and chloral are the most serviceable. Parathyroid extract should also be given. In cases due to gastric dilatation, gastro-enterostomy should be performed.

HYSTERIA

A form of psychical disorder, characterised by alterations of character and disposition without failure of intellect, and by motor and sensory disturbances without organic disease of the brain or cord, and due to a lessened power of inhibition, and an excessive response to internal or external stimuli.

Etiology.—In civil life, hysteria is seen principally, but not exclusively, amongst women, but during the Great War it was very prevalent in men, as the consequence of severe and often prolonged nervous shock. Hereditary instability of the neurons is an important factor in its production, and there is often a neuropathic family history. Injudicious treatment by relatives is also important. The patients are chiefly young adults. The exciting causes, in those predisposed to the affection, are chiefly psychical—fright, shock, grief, etc.; but physical causes, such as sexual excess, are also operative, and the disease is not uncommon among prostitutes. Charcot considered it as a condition of which the symptoms are induced by fixed ideas, and showed that such symptoms could be induced by hypnosis. Babinski regards it as a disease of which the symptoms are produced by suggestion and can be made to disappear by suggestion, the subject of hysteria being unduly suggestible. There are thus no fixed symptoms or *stigmata*, and those which may be found in a given case are mainly the result of the methods

of examination employed. Freud regards it as due to mental traumata of a sexual nature, occurring before puberty. Such traumata may be repressed, and forced back into the sub-conscious mind, but may resume activity at a later stage, and cause the symptoms of hysteria. It must not be forgotten that hysteria and organic disease of the nervous system may coexist, and that the symptoms of the former may for a time mask those of the graver affection.

Symptoms present an extraordinary variety, and in some instances may closely simulate organic disease. The more common phenomena may be tabulated as follows—

1. Disturbances of the sensory apparatus :—

- (1) Anæsthesia of localised areas, or complete hemianæsthesia and hemianalgesia. The distribution never corresponds accurately to that of spinal segments, nerve roots, or nerve trunks, but rather to the *mental concept* of a hand or foot, a limb, or a side of the body. Thus in an anæsthetic hand the upper limit of anæsthesia may encircle the wrist as the top of a glove does, in a leg the anæsthetic area may correspond to that of a stocking, and so on. Complete hemianalgesia is excessively rare in *organic* hemianæsthesia. There may be unilateral loss of one or other special sense, *on the same side*. Anæsthesia may disappear during sleep, and in hypnosis.
- (2) Hyperæsthesia of the skin or special senses.
- (3) Loss of the muscular sense.
- (4) *Globus hystericus*, a sensation as of a “ball of wind” rising from the epigastrium to the throat.
- (5) Neuralgias. “Tender points” over the vertebral spines, the ovarian region, etc. Pressure on these may excite a convulsion (“hysterogenetic zones”).

2. Special senses. The ocular disturbances are the most important :—

- (1) Narrowing of the visual field.
- (2) Narrowing of the field for colours, the perception of red disappearing last (dyschromatopsia).
- (3) Amaurosis.
- (4) Conjunctival anæsthesia.

These affections may be unilateral or bilateral, but are most marked on the same side as the anæsthesia or paralysis.

Disturbances of speech may take the form of aphonia or stammering. Deaf-mutism may occur.

3. Disturbances of the motor apparatus :—

(1) *Paralytic*. Usually paraplegia of rapid onset, without wasting or electrical change. It may be partial or complete. Knee-jerks exaggerated, *true ankle-clonus and Babinski's sign absent*. Sphincters unaffected, though retention of urine may occur. Hemiplegia or monoplegia may occur, also aphonia.

(2) *Spastic*. Contractures of a limb or segment of a limb, entirely flexor in the arms; in the legs, toes flexed, foot dropped and inverted, knees and hips extended. Contracture of abdominal muscles may cause "phantom tumour," which disappears after chloroform.

(3) *Convulsive* (hystero-epilepsy). After an aura, tonic stage (opisthotonos), followed by leaping or struggling with *purposive* movements. Screaming, talking, or singing. Consciousness impaired, not lost. Tongue never bitten. Clonic spasms may also occur.

(4) Tremors or inco-ordinate movements.

4. Visceral and vasomotor disturbances :—

(1) Palpitation or tachycardia.

(2) Loud barking cough without pulmonary disease : paroxysmal tachypnœa.

(3) Vomiting, belching, etc. Anorexia nervosa.

(4) Retention of urine or anuria : polyuria after a fit.

5. Psychical disturbances :—

(1) Increased suggestibility.

(2) "Fixed ideas," referable to some previous shock or fright, and colouring the symptoms. These ideas are often latent, and only to be discovered by careful investigation, or in hypnosis.

(3) Hypnoid states—somnambulism, trance, or catalepsy. Sudden transitions of character, from joyousness to sadness, or from apathy to alertness.

(4) Morbid desire for sympathy, sometimes leading to wilful additions to the real symptoms—heating the thermometer, factitious skin eruptions, etc.

(5) Nymphomania may occur.

It is a notable feature of hysteria that the intelligence is not impaired. Melancholia or mania may exist as associated psychoses, but are no part of hysteria itself, and a true hysterical delirium is rare. The false statements so often made are due to a wrong interpretation of surroundings altered by disordered bodily sensations, and are not usually deliberately deceitful, although in some instances there is perversion of the moral sense and actual lying.

It will be seen from the above table that almost endless symptoms may occur in various forms of hysteria ; and it may so closely simulate organic disease that the best diagnosticians have been deceived. It is nevertheless possible to make the diagnosis in the majority of instances. Points in favour of hysteria are (1) the abrupt appearance and disappearance of symptoms after trifling causes ; (2) a collocation of symptoms not explicable by an organic cause ; (3) absence of symptoms to be expected in organic disease (optic neuritis, incontinence of urine, ankle-clonus, nystagmus, etc.). In cases of contracture or phantom tumour, an examination under chloroform may be necessary.

Treatment.—The successful treatment of hysteria depends upon the recognition of its psychical nature, and upon the discovery and removal of its cause. The search for the emotional or terrifying ideas which, though they have become subconscious, still dominate the clinical manifestations, is often laborious, and may require the aid of hypnosis or psycho-analysis in expert hands. Waking suggestion is of the utmost value in treatment. That it should be effective, the physician must first gain the patient's full confidence, and a combination of firmness and kindness with discretion is an essential part of his equipment. Change of air and scene, a quiet, well-regulated life, Weir-Mitchell treatment, massage, faradism to paralysed limbs, anti-spasmodic remedies in convulsions, are all of them adjuvants to the reintegration of the psychical condition. It should be remembered that in such cases the worst attendants are sympathising relatives, and the patient is therefore best treated in a hospital or nursing home. Frequent and exhaustive examinations are undesirable, as tending to suggest new symptoms.

NEURASTHENIA

A condition of nervous exhaustion, leading to altered bodily nutrition.

Etiology.—Neurasthenia may be due to a congenital weakness of the neurons, and then appears early. It is more commonly acquired, and is therefore a disease of adult life. Prolonged overwork, especially if associated with worry, or lasting grief, is the chief cause, but sudden shock or injury to the nervous system may also give rise to the disease, which is then spoken of as *traumatic neurasthenia*. Drug habits, especially the morphia habit, may produce the symptoms, or aggravate them if present. They may also follow *influenza* or enteric fever. Alcoholism is an indirect predisposing cause.

Symptoms.—The patient is of spare build, or distinctly wasted. His appetite is variable, his bowels irregularly costive or loose, and he suffers from insomnia or broken sleep. He is much depressed and broods continuously on his symptoms, which afford him a melancholy joy. He lacks concentration, and is unfit for mental work. He is restless, and unduly irritated by loud sounds or bright lights. He dwells upon his visceral sensations. Headache, tinnitus aurium, dimness of vision, and spinal irritation are frequent symptoms. Palpitation, præcordial pain, tachycardia, and vasomotor disturbances are common. The muscles are flabby, and may be wasted. Fine tremors in the hands are often present. The knee-jerks may be exaggerated. Dyspepsia is frequent, and flatulence very marked.

Diagnosis is mainly dependent on the presence of subjective symptoms, and the absence of signs of organic disease. The distinction between neurasthenia and hysteria is not always easy to draw, but in the former there are no paralyses, anæsthesiæ, or disturbances of the special senses; the symptoms do not appear and disappear abruptly; the onset is usually gradual, except in cases due to shock or injury; and the majority of patients are males.

Treatment.—The causes and definition of the disorder make the line of treatment evident, the main indications being complete change, rest, and tonics. The habit of introspection must be overcome by the substitution of light and varied occupa-

tions, or by the development of a hobby. As in hysteria, isolation and Weir-Mitchell treatment may be necessary.

CHOREA (ST VITUS'S DANCE)

A disease most common in childhood, characterised by spontaneous irregular movements of the limbs or the whole body, with a tendency to endocarditis and other rheumatic phenomena.

Etiology.—It is most frequently seen amongst female children between five and ten years of age, and also during the adolescent period. Girls are attacked three times more frequently than boys. It hardly ever occurs before the age of three. Emotional or excitable children are prone to this affection, and a neuropathic tendency is often traceable in the family history. Clinical records show a more or less constant relationship between chorea, endocarditis, and rheumatism. Although there are cases in which neither a history of rheumatism nor endocarditis can be traced, the *family* history very constantly reveals evidence of rheumatism. In the adult, chorea may occur during pregnancy, but chiefly in the first pregnancies of unmarried girls, where the influence of emotion counts for much.

The chief *exciting cause* is fright, shock, or emotion. Other alleged causes, such as excessive study or overstrain at school, are more apt to aggravate an existing chorea than to cause one. Eye strain is of only secondary importance, and imitation of choreic movements in another, formerly considered important, is of little or no significance. "No cases have arisen in this way at the Great Ormond Street Hospital during thirty years" (Colman and Collier).

Pathology.—No constant lesion is found in chorea. Many observers have noticed punctiform hæmorrhages in the cortex, and also embolic plugging of the small capillaries of the basal ganglia, with small foci of softening; but such conditions are infrequently found. They led to the theory that chorea is caused by detached bits of endocardial vegetations which become arrested in the cortical vessels, and there set up irritative changes. Endocarditis, however, is by no means invariably present, and this view is now generally abandoned. Various micro-organisms, chiefly streptococci and staphylococci, have

been found in the cerebral cortex and cerebrospinal fluid, and Poynton and Payne have isolated a diplococcus which produces chorea in animals, and can be recovered from their cortical arterioles. The modern view is therefore that chorea is of microbic origin, and is to be attributed essentially to "inherent instability in the sensori-motor sphere, together with a toxæmia or a shock sufficient to disarrange the customary association- or contact-areas in the cortex, basal ganglia, and cord." The disturbance is not in the region of the pyramidal system, for choreic movements do not occur where there is paralysis due to lesions of that tract. The evidence goes to show that it is due to functional affection of the cells in the neighbourhood of the red nucleus. Most probably both the endocarditis and the chorea are the result of the circulation in the blood of a toxin, which in the great majority of cases is of rheumatic origin.

Symptoms.—The onset is usually gradual. When the disease is fully developed, there are: 1. Irregular and purposeless convulsive movements of the limbs, trunk, face, and tongue, rendered worse on attempting to execute voluntary acts and in fine movements, such as picking up pins, conveying a cup to the lips, writing, or touching a particular point. The movements of the trunk, as the child lies in bed, may cause the body to be first twisted to one side, and then suddenly to the other. Sturges sums up the symptoms as "an extremely exaggerated fidgetiness." The movements cease as a rule during sleep, but may be so violent as to prevent it. The condition may affect one side only (hemi-chorea). Paresis may occur at the beginning or end of an attack.

2. Combined with the irregular movements there is inco-ordination, manifested in the movements of writing, in unsteady gait, and in irregular movements of respiration, the diaphragm and intercostal muscles failing to act together. Muscular weakness is a later symptom as a rule.

3. Irregular and rapid action of the heart, sometimes amounting to "delirium cordis."

4. Soft systolic murmurs at the apex of the heart due to endocarditis, or hæmic murmurs at the base, with slight dilatation. There may be other rheumatic phenomena.

5. Altered mental conditions are sometimes marked, the

patient laughing or crying in turns on being spoken to. Increased irritability is common and, in some cases, chiefly in adults, there may be maniacal excitement (*chorea insaniens*).

An ordinary case lasts from one to three months. Recovery is always gradual, and relapses are common.

Treatment.—1. *Rest in bed* is the first and essential point of treatment.

2. Arsenic in increasing doses, cod-liver oil, abundant food, and careful attention to the bowels. Antipyrin, phenacetin, or aspirin in increasing doses is also useful. Salicylates are chiefly of value where there are rheumatic complications. When the movements are very severe, chloral or hyoscine may be given. The child should be protected from injury by padding the sides of the bed.

As soon as convalescence seems established, allow the patient plenty of fresh air and gymnastic exercises.

SPASMODIC TORTICOLLIS

(SPASMODIC WRY-NECK)

A painful tonic or clonic contraction of the muscles of the neck, twisting the head to one side and upwards, or causing marked retraction.

Etiology.—The patient is of a neurotic type, and often of neurotic extraction. The disease occurs in middle life, and more frequently in women than males. Shock, anxiety, prolonged ill health, and local injury may precede the symptoms.

The *muscles* affected are (1) the sterno-mastoid, inclining the head forwards and towards the shoulder of the same side, and rotating the face to the opposite side; (2) the splenius of the opposite side, drawing the head backwards and turning the face to its own side; (3) later, the upper part of the trapezii, the trachelo-mastoids, and the other deep neck muscles, on both sides. The *nerves* supplying the sterno-mastoid and trapezii are the spinal accessory and the anterior primary branches of the second, third, and fourth cervical nerves; those for the splenii and other deep muscles the posterior primary branches of the first five cervical nerves.

No morbid changes, central or peripheral, have been found; but torticollis is probably due to functional disorder of the cortical centres governing the affected muscles.

Symptoms.—The spasm is either tonic or clonic. Sometimes both forms are combined. In the tonic form the head is retracted and the face turned to one side, the shoulder of that side being also raised. In severe cases the spasm is bilateral. There is no unilateral rotation, but the head is strongly retracted, and there is wrinkling of the forehead from over-action of the frontalis. In the clonic form there are jerking movements of the muscles, rotating the head from time to time into the position described. The spasm may spread to the facial and brachial muscles. It is aggravated by excitement, and disappears or diminishes in sleep. The affected muscles in time hypertrophy.

Treatment.—Drugs are too often of little use. Bromides and chloral may be of temporary benefit; morphia is very apt to induce morphinism. Bastian has produced permanent benefit in some cases by keeping the patient asleep for three or four weeks under the influence of chloral and bromide of sodium, 10 gr. (gram. 0.6) of each every four hours, waking him only for food and medicine, which should be given at the same time. Strict isolation must be observed during this treatment. Surgical measures are often necessary. The operation consists in resection of a portion of the spinal accessory nerve, and excision of the posterior branches of the first four or five cervical nerves.

RAYNAUD'S DISEASE

A disorder dependent on vasomotor disturbances causing constriction of the peripheral arterioles, and inducing changes of various degrees, known as (1) local syncope; (2) local asphyxia; (3) local gangrene. The changes are paroxysmal, and usually symmetrical.

Etiology.—The disease is most frequent between the ages of twenty and forty, and more frequent in females than in males. Hereditary nervous influence is sometimes apparent, and the patients are usually neurotic. Occasionally some of the specific fevers, malaria, syphilis, functional nervous affections, may be followed by Raynaud's disease. Exposure to cold is the most usual exciting cause.

Pathology.—The local condition is due to vascular spasm, with subsequent dilatation of the capillaries and venules, conditions which are supposed to be due to functional disturbance

of the vasomotor centres. Hyaline changes have been found in the arteries of the cord, and endarteritis obliterans in the arteries of the nerves to the affected limbs. In these nerves a parenchymatous neuritis has also been found. The symmetrical distribution suggests a toxic cause.

Symptoms.—

1. *Local Syncope*.—This condition resembles the dead fingers or toes produced by intense cold—one or more fingers, *or the whole hand*, may be affected. Often a severe reaction sets in, and the parts numbed before now become intensely red, hot, and painful. The syncope may last from a few minutes to several hours.

2. *Local Asphyxia*.—This condition is characterised by the fingers, toes, ears, and sometimes patches of skin on the arms and legs becoming intensely congested and livid, the capillary circulation being almost arrested. The congestion gives rise to swelling, stiffness, and pain; the latter is often succeeded by marked anæsthesia. The duration is similar to that of syncope.

These attacks may occur in winter time for many years as “chilblains.”

3. *Local or Symmetrical Gangrene*.—The parts asphyxiated become cold, insensible, and black in colour—*i.e.*, changes identical with necrosis elsewhere. Usually a line of demarcation forms and limits the necrotic condition.

In any given case, these three conditions may occur successively, but more often syncope or asphyxia occurs alone, and either may end in gangrene. Recurrences are frequent, and the paroxysms are markedly periodic.

Complications.—*Paroxysmal hæmoglobinuria* is frequently present (about 6 per cent. of the cases). Other complications are rare, but there may be hæmorrhages, skin eruptions, effusion into serous sacs (joints), delusions, partial coma, or convulsions.

Treatment.—Improve any obvious conditions of ill health. Locally, make the circulation more brisk by gentle friction, warmth, when it does not increase the pain as it may sometimes do, and galvanism, in the form of the galvanic bath. Soothe pain by sedatives, such as belladonna, morphia, conium, etc. Calcium lactate, gr. xv thrice daily, has sometimes given good results, and galvanism to the spine has also been successful. One electrode is placed upon the spine, and the other in a bowl of salt water in which the hand is immersed.



INDEX

- ABSCESS of brain, 549
 — of liver, 250
 — — tropical, 251
 — — — treatment, 252
 — of lungs, 420
 — retro-peritoneal, 212
 — subphrenic, 192, 275
 Acetone, tests for, 439
 Acetone bodies in diabetes, 145, 147, 149
 Achalasia of cardia, 180
 Achilles-tendon jerk, 491
 Acholuric jaundice, 353
 — — symptoms, 354
 Achylia gastrica, 204
 Acidæmia, 144
 Acidosis, 144, 145
 Acromegaly, 369
 — symptoms and treatment, 370
 Actinomycosis, 81
 — symptoms, 82
 — treatment, 82
 Adams-Stokes disease, 303
 Addison's disease, 365
 — — symptoms, 366
 — — treatment, 367
 Ægophony, 378
 Æstivo-autumnal fever, 86
 Agglutinins, 14, 16
 Agnosia, 569
 Agraphia, 567
 Ague, 85
 — varieties, 86
 "Ague-cake," 85
 "Air-hunger," 149
 Albumin, tests for, 436
 Albuminimeter, Esbach's, 437
 Albuminuria, 441
 — cyclic, 443
 Albuminuric retinitis, 452
 Alcohol, use of, in disease, 12
 Alcoholism, 164
 — chronic, 164
 — treatment, 165
 Alexia, 567
 Alexines, 15, 17
 Alimentary tract, diseases of, 173
 — toxæmia, 221
 Allen's treatment of diabetes, 151
 Amaurosis, 572
 Amboceptors, 15
 Amblyopia, 572
 Amœbiasis, 53
 Amphoric breathing, 377
 Amyloid disease of kidneys, 458
 — — of liver, 261
 Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, 511
 Anæmia, 340
 — aplastic, 345
 — general pathology, 341
 — in rheumatic fever, 130
 — murmurs of, 283
 — pernicious, 344
 — primary, 341
 — secondary, 341
 Anæsthesia dolorosa, 505
 Anaphylaxis, 18
 Aneurysm, 330
 — murmurs of, 283
 — of abdominal aorta, 337
 — of thoracic aorta, 331
 — — — physical signs, 333
 — — — symptoms, 332
 — — — treatment, 336
 Angina abdominis, 326
 — pectoris, 324
 — — pathology, 325
 — — symptoms, 326
 — — treatment, 327
 — — vasomotoria, 326
 — sine dolore, 326
 — Vincent's, 178
 Anisocytosis, 345
 Ankle-clonus, 491
 Ankle-drop, 169
 Ankylostoma duodenale, 235
 Ankylostomiasis, treatment, 236
 Anopheles in malaria, 83
 Anorexia nervosa, 203
 Anthracosis, 410
 Anthrax, 68
 — in cattle, 68
 — in man, 68
 — treatment, 70
 Anthrax-œdema, 69
 Antibodies, 14

- Antisera, 13
 - in pneumonia, 406
- Antitoxins, 14
- Aorta, aneurysm of abdominal, 337
 - — of thoracic, 331
- Aortic murmurs, characters, 282
 - regurgitation, 315
 - — prognosis in, 320
 - — pulse in, 320
 - stenosis, 315
 - — prognosis in, 320
 - — pulse in, 319
- Apex beat, palpation of, 280
- Aphasia, 566
 - types of, 567
- Aphtha epizootica, 132
- Aphthous stomatitis, 174
- Aplastic anæmia, 345
- Apoplexy, 557
- Appendicitis, 210
 - diagnosis, 213
 - etiology, 211
 - morbid anatomy, 211
 - perforation in, 212
 - symptoms, 212
 - treatment, 213
- Apraxia, 569
- Argyll-Robertson pupil, 521, 525
 - — 574
- Arrhythmia, cardiac, 292
- Arsenical poisoning, 170
- Arseno-benzol poisoning, 170
- Arteries, diseases of, 328
- Arterio-sclerosis, 328
 - morbid anatomy, 329
 - symptoms, 329
 - treatment, 330
- Arteriosclerotic kidney, 456
- Arthritis deformans, 475
 - gonorrhœal, 35
 - — treatment, 36
 - rheumatic, 130
 - rheumatoid, 475
 - scarlatinal, 117
- Arthropathy, tabetic, 522
- Ascaris lumbricoides, 233
- Ascites, 270
 - diagnosis, 272
 - physical signs of, 271
 - treatment, 272
- Ascitic fluid, characters of, 272
- Asphyxia, local, 611
- Aspiration pneumonia, 407
- Asthenia in Addison's disease, 366
- Asthma, 392
 - pathology, 393
 - symptoms, 393
 - treatment, 394
- Ataxia, hereditary, 514
 - locomotor, 519
 - spino-cerebellar, 515
- Atelectasis, congenital, 397
- Atheroma, 328
- Athetosis, 562
- Atony, gastric, 203
- Aurá, epileptic, 596
- Auricular fibrillation, 295
 - flutter, 294
- Automatism, post-epileptic, 597
- A.v. node, 293
- Axons, 480
- BABINSKI'S sign, 508
- Bacillus anthracis, 68
 - botulinus, 171
 - cholerae, 47
 - coli, 29
 - — infections due to, 29
 - diphtheriae, 38
 - dysenteriae, 50
 - enteritidis, 171
 - influenzae, 59
 - leprae, 78
 - mallei, 70
 - of Oppler-Boas, 196
 - pertussis, 57
 - pestis, 44
 - proteus X 19, 123, 125
 - tetani, 72
 - tuberculosis, 75
 - typhosus, 23
- "Back-pressure" in valvular lesions, 312
- Bacterial diseases, 22
- Banti's disease, 368
- Barlow's disease, 160
- Basal metabolism in exophthalmic goitre, 364
- "Beading" of ribs, 156
- Bell sound in pneumothorax, 429
- Bell's paralysis, 581
- Bence-Jones proteosuria, 438
- Benedikt's test for sugar, 439
- Beri-beri, 157
 - etiology, 158
 - morbid anatomy, 158

- Beri-beri, symptoms, 158
 — treatment, 159
 Bile formation, 242
 — in urine, test; for, 440
 Bile-ducts, diseases of, 263
 Bilharzia hæmatobia, 238
 — — treatment, 239
 Biliary colic, 266
 — — treatment, 267
 — fistula, 267
 Bilious remittent fever, 86
 Biskra button, 92
 Biuret reaction for proteoses, 184
 "Black vomit," 96
 Blackwater fever, 87
 — — treatment, 89
 Blood crises, 346
 — diseases of, 338
 — examination of, 338
 — in chlorosis, 343
 — in diabetes, 144
 — in leukæmia, 347
 — in pernicious anæmia, 344
 — in secondary anæmia, 341
 — in subacute combined degeneration of cord, 513
 — in urine, tests for, 444
 Blood-sugar in diabetes, 146
 Bones in rickets, 155
 Borborygmi, 202
 Botulism, 171
 Brachial plexus, 588
 Bradycardia, 296
 — paroxysmal, 303
 Brain, abscess of, 549
 — anatomy of, 532
 — basal ganglia of, 533
 — blood supply of, 534
 — cysts of, 556
 — diseases of, 532
 — embolism of, 558
 — functions of, 536
 — hæmorrhage into, 555
 — — cortical, 558
 — lesions at different levels, 539
 — softening of, 558, 560
 — thrombosis of, 558
 — tumours of, 563
 "Break-bone fever," 128
 Breath-sounds, amphoric, 377
 — bronchial, 377
 — broncho-vesicular, 377
 — vesicular, 377
 Bright's disease, acute, 447
 — — chronic, 451
 — — — treatment, 457
 Bronchi, diseases of, 387
 Bronchial breathing, 377
 Bronchiectasis, 391
 — treatment, 392
 Bronchiolitis exsudativa, 393
 Bronchitis, acute, 387
 — — symptoms and treatment, 388
 — chronic, 389
 — — treatment, 390
 — foetid, 390
 Bronchophony, 378
 Bronchopneumonia, 407
 — treatment, 408
 — in measles, 121
 Bronchorrhœa, 390
 Brood-capsules in hydatid cysts, 230
 Brudzinski's sign, 63
 Bruit du diable, 284
 Bruits, endocardial, 282
 Bubonic plague, 45
 Bulbar paralysis, 529
 — — acute, 531
 — — symptoms, 530
 CACHEXIA, malarial, 85, 88
 — strumipriva, 361
 Caisson disease, 163
 — — treatment, 164
 Calculus, renal, 462
 Cancer of gall-bladder, 265
 — of liver, 259
 — of œsophagus, 180
 — of pancreas, 269
 — of peritoneum, 278
 — of rectum, 218
 — of stomach, 194
 Cancrum oris, 175
 Carbohydrate metabolism, 240
 — — in diabetes, 146
 Cardiac arrhythmia, 292
 — contraction, mode of conduction, 293
 — cycle, events in, 280
 — dullness, limits of, 281
 — failure, 313
 — — symptoms, 313
 — lesions in rheumatic fever, 131
 — murmurs, 282
 Carpo-pedal spasms, 385
 Casts, urinary, 441

- Cavities in phthisis pulmonalis, signs of, 411
- Cerebral diplegia, 551
- embolism, 558
 - hæmorrhage, 555
 - — cortical, 558
 - — in chronic nephritis, 457
 - meningitis, 541
 - palsies, infantile, 551
 - sinuses, thrombosis, 547
 - syphilis, 526
 - — symptoms, 527
 - — treatment, 528
 - thrombosis, 558
 - tumours, 563
- Cerebrospinal fever, 61
- — symptoms, 62
 - — treatment, 64
- Cestoda, characters of, 223
- life history of, 224
- Chalk-stones in gout, 141
- Chancre, hard, 99, 100
- Charbon, 68
- Charcot-Leyden crystals, 394
- Charcot's disease of joints, 522
- Chicken-pox, 114
- "Child-crowing," 384
- Chlorides in urine, test for, 435
- Chlorosis, 342
- symptoms and treatment, 343
- Cholangitis, catarrhal, 264
- suppurative, 264
- Cholecystitis, 263
- Cholera, 47
- prophylaxis, 50
 - sicca, 49
 - symptoms, 47
 - treatment, 49
 - infantum, 209
 - nostras, 209
- Chorea, 607
- insaniens, 609
 - post-hemiplegic, 562
 - symptoms, 608
 - treatment, 609
- Chvostek's sign, 601
- Chyluria, 237
- Circulatory system, diseases of, 279
- Cirrhosis, diabetic, 144
- of kidneys, 451, 456
 - of liver, 252
 - — biliary, 256
 - of lungs, 408
- Claudication, intermittent, 325
- Climatic treatment of phthisis, 418
- CO₂ percentage in alveolar air, 147
- Cocainism, 167
- "Coffee-ground" vomiting, 197
- Colic, biliary, 266
- renal, 464
- Colitis, mucous, 210
- ulcerative, 210
- Collapse of lungs, 397
- Colles' law, 99
- Colour index, 339
- Coma, diabetic, 149
- Comma bacillus, 47
- Compensation, failure of, 312
- Complement in serum, 15
- Compression paraplegia, 504
- Condylomata, 100
- Congenital syphilis, 102
- Congestion of lungs, hypostatic, 399
- Conjugate deviation, 557
- Constipation, 220
- treatment, 221
- Convulsions, infantile, 600
- Cor villosum, 289
- Cough, varieties of, 379
- "Cracked-pot sound" in phthisis, 414
- Craniotabes, 155
- Creatorrhœa, 268
- Crepitations, 378
- Crepitus, pneumonic, 403
- Cretinism, 360
- treatment, 361
- Crisis, 3
- "Crises" in locomotor ataxia, 522
- Crossed paralysis, 562
- Croup, 43
- catarrhal, 381
 - membranous, 40, 43
- Curschmann's spirals, 394
- Cysticerci, 224
- Cytodiagnosis in pleurisy, 425
- Cytoryctes variolæ, 109
- "DANDY FEVER," 128
- Decussation of the fillet, 487
- of the pyramids, 484
 - sensory, 486, 487
- Deficiency diseases, 138
- Degeneration of nerve fibres, 491
- — — morbid changes of, 493
 - reaction of, 492
- Delhi boil, 92

- Delirium, 9
 - tremens, 9, 165
 - — treatment, 10
- Dementia, paralytic, 524
- Dendrons, 480
- Dengue, 127
 - symptoms and treatment, 128
- "Derbyshire neck," 361
- Deviation of complement, 104
 - conjugate, 557
 - secondary, 577
- Diabetes innocus, 149
 - insipidus, 371
 - — treatment, 372
 - mellitus, 143
 - — complications, 148
 - — etiology, 144
 - — morbid anatomy, 144
 - — pathology, 145
 - — symptoms, 148
 - — treatment, 150
- Diabetic coma, 149
- Diacetic acid, tests for, 440
- Diarrhœa, 219
 - lenteric, 207
- Diazo-reaction, 26
- Dibothriocephalus latus, 227
- Dietl's crises, 467
- Digitalis in heart disease, 323
- Dilatation of heart, 300
 - of stomach, 200
- Diphtheria, 37
 - cardiac failure in, 41
 - diagnosis, 41
 - morbid anatomy, 38
 - neuritis in, 39, 41
 - Schick test in, 42
 - symptoms, 40
 - treatment, 41
- Diplococcus intracellularis mening-
itidis, 62
 - pneumoniae, 401
- Diplopia, 576
- Disseminated sclerosis, 515
 - — diagnosis, 518
 - — symptoms, 517
 - — treatment, 518
- Diverticula, œsophageal, 181
- Dracunculus medinensis, 237
- Dreyer's vaccine for tuberculosis, 417
- Dropsy of gall-bladder, 266
- Duodenal ulcer, 187, 191
 - — treatment, 192
- Dysarthria, 530
- Dyschromatopsia, 603
- Dysentery, 50
 - amœbic, 53
 - — symptoms, 54
 - — treatment, 54
 - bacillary, 50
 - — morbid anatomy, 51
 - — symptoms, 51
 - — treatment, 52
 - protozoal, 53
- Dyspepsia, nervous, 202
 - — treatment, 204
- Dysphonia clericorum, 382
- Dystrophy, muscular, 470
- EHRlich's side-chain theory, 16
- Eighth nerves, 584
- Electrocardiograph, 287
- Elephantiasis, 237
- Emphysema, 395
 - etiology, 396
 - symptoms, 396
- Empyema, 424, 425
 - of gall-bladder, 267
- Encephalitis, 548
 - diffuse, 548
 - hæmorrhagic, 548
 - lethargic, 548
 - suppurative, 549
- Encephalopathy, saturnine, 169
- Endocardial murmurs, propagation of,
284
- Endocarditis, acute, 305
 - — symptoms, 306
 - — treatment, 308
 - chronic, 309
 - — morbid anatomy, 310
 - — emboli in, 308
 - — malignant, 306
 - — subacute bacterial, 308
 - — ulcerative, 306
 - — types of, 307
- Endocrine glands in diabetes, 146
 - — diseases of, 358
- Enemata, nutrient, 193
- Entamœba histolytica, 53
- Enteric fever, 22
 - — complications, 25
 - — Marris's test in, 26
 - — morbid anatomy, 23
 - — perforation in, 26
 - — rash in, 25

- Enteric fever, stools in, 25
 — — symptoms, 23
 — — treatment, 28
 — — varieties, 24
 — — Widal's reaction in, 26
- Enteritis, 205
 — catarrhal, 206
 — — treatment, 207
 — — in children, 207
 — — — treatment, 208
 — croupous, 209
 — diphtheritic, 209
 — gangrenous, 209
 — ulcerative, 209
- Eosinophilia in trichiniasis, 233
- Epicritic sensation, 487
- Epilepsy, 595
 — diagnosis, 597
 — Jacksonian, 599
 — treatment, 598
- Epiploxy, 257
- Erb's paralysis, 588
- Ergotism, 172
- Erysipelas, 33
 — symptoms, 33
 — treatment, 34
- Esbach's albuminimeter, 437
- Exophthalmic goitre, 362
 — — symptoms, 363
 — — treatment, 365
- Extra-systoles, 294
- FACIAL paralysis, 581
 — spasm, 583
- Facies Hippocratica, 274
- Fæcal ulcers, 210
- Farcy, 70
- "Farre's tubercles" in cancer of liver, 259
- Fatty heart, 302
 — liver, 262
- Fehling's test for sugar, 438
- Fermentation test for sugar, 439
- Festation, 554
- Fever, 1
 — æstivo-autumnal, 86
 — bilious remittent, 86
 — blackwater, 87
 — cerebrospinal, 61
 — enteric or typhoid, 22
 — general treatment, 10
 — glandular, 127
 — hæmoglobinuric, 87
- Fever, hepatic intermittent, 267
 — incubation period in, 2, 21
 — Mediterranean, 55
 — morbid anatomy of, 4
 — paratyphoid, 27
 — in pernicious anæmia, 345
 — in phthisis, 413
 — physiology of, 4
 — relapsing, 93
 — rheumatic, 129
 — scarlet, 115
 — splenic, 68
 — thermic, 162
 — trench, 135
 — types of, 5
 — typhoid, 22
 — typhus, 123
 — yellow, 95
- Fibrillation, auricular, 295
- Fibroid degeneration of heart, 302
- Fibrosis of lungs, 408
- Fibrositis, 468
 — treatment, 469
- Fibrous tissues, diseases of, 468
- Fifth nerves, 579
- Filaria Bancrofti, 236
 — diurna, 237
 — medinensis, 237
 — nocturna, 236
 — sanguinis hominis, 236
- Filariasis, symptoms, 237
- Floating kidney, 466
- Fomites, 93
- Food poisoning, 171
- Foot and mouth disease, 132
- Fourth nerves, 576
- Framboesia, 107
- Friction, pericardial, 284, 290
 — pleuritic, 378, 423
- Friedreich's disease, 514
 — sign, 292
- Fungi, diseases due to, 81
- GAIT, ataxic, 495
 — spastic, 495
 — waddling, in pseudo-hypertrophic paralysis, 471
- Gall-bladder, diseases of, 263
 — cancer of, 265
 — dropsy of, 266
 — empyema of, 267
- "Gallop consumption," 410

- all-stones, 265
- symptoms, 266
- ametocytes, 83
- Gander cough " in aneurysm, 332
- angrene of lungs, 419
- symmetrical, 611
- arrod's thread test in gout, 142
- astralgia, 203
- astric atony, 203
- Gastric crises," 522
- dilatation, 200
- juice, examination of, 182
- ulcer, 187
- — pathology, 189
- — symptoms, 189
- — treatment, 192
- gastritis, acute, 185
- chronic, 186
- — treatment, 187
- gastrodynia, 203
- gastroptosis, 200
- gastrorrhagia, 198
- gastrostaxis, 198
- gastroroxynsis, 203
- Gaucher's disease, 368
- General paralysis of the insane, 524
- — — — symptoms, 525
- — — — treatment, 526
- Gerhardt's sign, 414
- German measles, 122
- Glanders, 70
- diagnosis, 71
- symptoms, 71
- Glandular fever, 127
- Globoid bodies " in poliomyelitis, 65
- Globus hystericus, 603
- Glomerulo-nephritis, 448
- Glossina palpalis, 90
- Glosso-labio-laryngeal paralysis, 529
- Glosso-pharyngeal nerves, 586
- Glottis, œdema of, 381
- Glycosuria, causes, 150
- renal, 149
- Gmelin's test for bile, 440
- Goitre, 361
- exophthalmic, 362
- symptoms, 363
- Gonococcus infection, 35
- Gonorrhœal arthritis, 35
- Gout, 138
- chronic, 141
- irregular, 142
- Gout, morbid anatomy, 140
- — symptoms of acute, 140
- — suppressed, 142
- — treatment, 143
- — tophi in, 140, 141
- Graham's treatment of diabetes, 151
- Grand mal, 596
- Grocco's sign in pleurisy, 424
- Gummata, 100, 102
- — cortical, 527
- HÆMAMŒBA malariae, 83
- Hæmatemesis, 190, 198
- — treatment, 199
- Hæmatoma of dura mater, 541
- Hæmatomyelia, 499
- Hæmatorrhachis, 499
- Hæmaturia, 444
- Hæmic murmurs, 283
- Hæmoglobinuria, 445
- — paroxysmal, 355
- — — 611
- Hæmoglobinuric fever, 87
- Hæmolysis, 103
- Hæmomenas præcox, 84
- Hæmophilia, 352
- — symptoms and treatment, 353
- Hæmoptysis, 400
- — and hæmatemesis, 199
- — in phthisis, 413
- — treatment, 401
- Hæmorrhage, cerebral, 555
- — — in chronic nephritis, 457
- Hanot's disease, 256
- Harrison's groove in rickets, 156
- Hay's test for bile acids, 440
- Heart, auscultation of, 282
- — dilatation of, 300
- — effects of valvular disease, 310
- — fatty, 302
- — fibroid degeneration of, 302
- — hypertrophy of, 298
- — — in chronic Bright's disease, 451
- — physical examination of, 280
- — surface anatomy of, 279
- — syphilis, 303
- — treatment of valvular diseases, 321
- — types of valvular lesions, 314
- Heart-block, 303
- Heat-exhaustion, 162
- Heat test for albumin, 436

- Heine-Medin disease, 65
 Heller's test for albumin, 436
 Hemianopia, 573
 Hemicrania, 594
 Hemiplegia, 560
 Henoch's purpura, 356
 Hepatic efficiency test, 241
 Hepatisation of lung in pneumonia, 402
 Hereditary ataxia, 514
 Herpes in cerebrospinal fever, 63
 Hippocratic succussion, 429
 — — 376
 His, bundle of, 293
 "Hobnailed" liver, 253, 255
 Hodgkin's disease, 350
 Hookworm disease, 235
 "Hunger pain," 191
 "Hutchinson" teeth, 103
 Hydatid disease of liver, 260
 Hydatids, 224
 — characters, 229
 Hydræmia, 340
 Hydrarthrosis, intermittent, 478
 Hydrocephalus, 545
 — "acute," 543
 — treatment, 546
 Hydronephrosis, 461
 — symptoms and treatment, 462
 Hydrophobia, 133
 — symptoms, 134
 — treatment, 134
 Hydropneumothorax, 429
 Hydrothorax, 430
 Hyperacousis, 582
 Hyperchlorhydria, 203
 Hyperglycæmia, 146
 Hypernephromata, 466
 Hyperpyrexia in malaria, 87
 — in rheumatic fever, 130
 Hyperthyrea, 363
 Hypertonus, muscular, 493
 Hypertrophic pulmonary osteoarthropathy, 479
 Hypertrophy of heart, 298
 — — in chronic Bright's disease, 451
 Hypochlorhydria, 204
 Hypoglossal nerves, 586
 Hysteria, 602
 — diagnosis, 598, 605
 — psychical disturbances in, 604
 — treatment, 605
 Hysterical paralysis, 604
 Hystero-epilepsy, 604
 Hysterogenetic zones, 603
 ICTERUS neonatorum, 248
 Immune bodies, 15
 Immunity, 13
 — theories of, 16
 Inco-ordination, 494
 Incubation, 2
 — period in fevers, 21
 Infantile convulsions, 600
 Infarction of lungs, 400
 Influenza, 59
 — complications, 60
 — symptoms, 60
 — treatment, 61
 Insular sclerosis, 515
 Insulin in diabetes, 150, 152
 Intention tremor, 517
 Intermittent claudication, 325
 — fever, hepatic, 267
 Internal capsule, 484, 488
 Intestinal obstruction, 214
 — — symptoms, 215
 — — treatment, 216
 — stasis, 221
 Intestines, diseases of, 205
 — tuberculosis of, 209
 — tumours of, 217
 — — treatment, 218
 — ulceration of, 209
 Intussusception, 214, 215
 Iridoplegia, 574
 — reflex, 521, 574
 JACKSONIAN epilepsy, 599
 Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction, 107
 Jaundice, 243
 — acholuric, 353
 — catarrhal, 264
 — causes of, 245
 — hæmolytic, 245, 246
 — infective, 97
 — obstructive, 244, 245
 — — symptoms, 246
 — pathology of, 244
 — toxic, 245, 246
 — van den Bergh's test in, 247
 Joints, diseases of, 468
 Joffroy's sign, 364
 KALA-AZAR, 91
 Keratosis, arsenical, 170

- ernig's sign, 63
 etosis, 145
 kidneys, amyloid, 458
 arteriosclerotic, 456
 diseases of, 432
 granular, 451, 456
 lardaceous disease of, 458
 large white, 453
 movable, 466
 small white, 453
 tuberculosis of, 465
 tumours of, 465
 Lebs-Loeffler bacillus, 38
 lumpke's paralysis, 588
 mee-jerk, 491
 oplik's spots, 120
 orsakow's syndrome, 592

 ACTIC acid, test for, 184
 ævulose test for hepatic efficiency, 241
 andry's paralysis, 503
 ardaceous disease of liver, 261
 aryngeal paralysis, 385
 syphilis, 383
 tuberculosis, 382
 tumours, 384
 arynismus stridulus, 44, 384
 — symptoms and treatment, 385
 aryngitis, catarrhal, 380
 chronic, 382
 œdematous, 381
 spasmodic, 381
 arynx, diseases of, 380
 athyrism, 172
 ead colic, 168
 palsy, 169
 poisoning, 167
 — treatment, 169
 eishmania Donovan, 92
 eishmaniasis, 91
 symptoms and treatment, 92
 enhartz's treatment of gastric ulcer, 193
 enticular degeneration, progressive, 552
 Leopard growl " in aneurysm, 332
 eprosy, 78
 anæsthetic, 80
 morbid anatomy, 79
 nodular, 79
 symptoms, 79
 treatment, 80

 Leprosy, tubercular, 79
 Leptomeningitis, 497
 — cerebral, 542
 Leptospira ictero-hæmorrhagiæ, 97
 — icteroides, 95
 Lethargic encephalitis, 548
 Leucocytosis, 339
 — in cerebrospinal fever, 63
 — in empyema, 425
 — in pneumonia, 404
 — in small-pox, 110
 — in whooping-cough, 58
 Leucopenia, 340
 Leukæmia, 347
 — spleen in, 349
 — symptoms, 348
 — treatment, 349
 " Lightning pains," 521
 Lipæmia, 338
 Little's disease, 551
 Liver, abscesses in, 250
 — acute yellow atrophy, 248
 — — — — symptoms, 249
 — cancer of, 258
 — — symptoms, 259
 — cirrhosis of, 252
 — — biliary, 256
 — — morbid anatomy, 253
 — — symptoms, 255
 — — treatment, 257
 — diseases of, 240
 — fatty, 262
 — functions of, 240
 — hydatid disease of, 260
 — lardaceous or amyloid, 261
 — passive congestion of, 263
 — syphilis of, 257
 Lock-jaw, 72
 Locomotor ataxia, 519
 — — symptoms, 520
 — — treatment, 523
 Luetin reaction, 104
 Lumbago, 468
 Lumbar puncture, 63
 Lungs, abscess of, 420
 — auscultation of, 376
 — cirrhosis of, 408
 — collapse of, 397
 — congestion of, 399
 — diseases of, 395
 — fibrosis of, 408
 — gangrene of, 419
 — infarction of, 400

- Lungs, œdema of, 398
 — palpation of, 375
 — percussion of, 375
 — surface anatomy of, 373
 — tuberculosis of, 410
 — tumours of, 420
 Lymphadenoma, 350
 — symptoms and treatment, 351
 Lymphæmia, 347
 Lymphatism, 352
 Lymphocytic leukæmia, 347
 Lymph-scrotum, 237
 Lysis, 3
 Lysogenesis, 15

 M'BURNEY'S point, 212
 Macrocytosis, 339
 Maidismus, 161
 "Main en griffe," 509
 Malaria, 83
 — cerebral, 87
 — hyperpyrexial, 87
 — morbid anatomy, 85
 — pernicious, 87
 — prophylaxis, 89
 — remittent, 86
 — symptoms, 85
 — treatment, 89
 Malarial cachexia, 85, 88
 Malignant pustule, 68, 69
 Malta fever, 55
Mania a potu, 165
 Marris's test in enteric fever, 26
 "Mast" cells, 340
 Measles, 120
 — complications, 121
 — hæmorrhagic, 121
 — symptoms, 120
 — toxic, 121
 — treatment, 122
 Mediastino-pericarditis, 289
 Mediastinum, tumours of, 430
 Mediterranean fever, 55
 — — treatment, 56
 Medulla oblongata, diseases of, 528
 Megaloblasts, 339
 Melæna, 191
 Melanæmia, 338
 Ménière's disease, 585
 Meningeal hæmorrhage, 499
 Meningitis, cerebral, 541
 — — treatment, 545
 — epidemic cerebrospinal, 61
 Meningitis, gummatous, 527
 — posterior basic, 64
 — spinal, 496
 — — acute, 497
 — — chronic, 498
 — tuberculous, 543
 Meningo-myelitis, 501
 — syphilitic, 502, 528
 Merozoites, 83, 84
 Metabolism, carbohydrate, 240
 — — in diabetes, 146
 — diseases of, 138
 — proteid, 241
 Metazoan parasites, diseases due to, 223
 Metchnikoff's theory of immunity, 17
 Micrococcus lanceolatus, 401
 — melitensis, 55
 — rheumaticus, 129
 Microcytosis, 339
 Microgyria, 551
 Migraine, 594
 Mitral disease, pulse in, 320
 — murmurs, characters, 283
 — regurgitation, 316
 — — prognosis in, 321
 — stenosis, 316
 — — prognosis in, 321
 Möbius' sign, 364
 Morbilli, 120
 Morbus coxæ senilis, 477
 — maculosus Werlhofii, 356
 Morphinism, 166
 Motor path, 484
 — tracts in cord, 482
 Mouth, diseases of, 173
 Mouth-breathing, 177
 Mucous colitis, 210
 — patches, 100, 101
 Multiple sclerosis, 515
 Mumps, 125
 — symptoms, 126
 — treatment, 126
 Murmurs, aneurysmal, 283
 — of debility, 283
 — endocardial, 282
 — — aortic, 282
 — — mitral, 283
 — — pulmonic, 283
 — — tricuspid, 283
 — exocardial, 284
 — valvular, 315
 Muscles, diseases of, 468

- uscular atrophy, peroneal type, 510
 - progressive, 508
- dystrophy, facio-scapulo-humeral type, 472
 - juvenile type, 472
- dystrophies, 470
- usculo-spiral nerves, 589
- yalgia, 468
- yasthenia gravis, 473
- yasthenic reaction, 474
- ycoses, 81
- yelitis, acute, 501
 - treatment, 502
- yelocytes, 340
- yelocythæmia, 347
- yocardial degenerations, 302
- yocarditis, acute, 301
- yocardium, diseases of, 298
 - treatment, 304
- yositis, 469
 - ossificans, 469
- yotonia congenita, 473
- yotonic reaction, 473
- yxcedema, 358
 - symptoms, 359
 - treatment, 360
- ATAL sore, 92
- ecator americanus, 235
- egri's bodies in rabies, 133
- ematoda, 231
- ephritis, acute parenchymatous, 447
 - — — symptoms, 449
 - — — treatment, 450
 - catarrhal, 448
 - chronic interstitial, 451, 456
 - — parenchymatous, 451, 453
- ephrolithiasis, 462
- erve cell, structure of, 481
- erves, cranial, diseases of, 569
 - eighth, 584
 - fifth, 579
 - fourth, 576
 - glosso-pharyngeal, 586
 - hypoglossal, 587
 - musculo-spiral, 589
 - ninth to twelfth, 586
 - olfactory, 570
 - optic, 570
 - phrenic, 588
 - sciatic, 589
 - seventh, 581
 - sixth, 576
- Nerves, spinal accessory, 587
 - — diseases of, 587
 - third, 573
 - vagus, 586
- Nervous system, diseases of, 480
 - — functional diseases of, 592
 - — syphilis of, 519
- Neuralgia, 592
 - trigeminal, 593
- Neurasthenia, 606
- Neuritis, 590
 - diphtheritic, 39, 41
 - multiple, 590
 - optic, 564, 572
- Neuroglia, structure of, 481
- Neuron, structure of, 480
- Nodal rhythm, 296
- Noma, 175
- Normoblasts, 339
- Nummular sputum of phthisis, 413
- Nystagmus, 517, 578
- OCCULT blood, 190
 - — tests for, 192
- Edema of lungs, 398
- Ogophony, 424
- Esophagectasia, 180
- Esophagismus, 179
- Esophagitis, 178
- Esophagus, diseases of, 178
 - cancer of, 180
 - dilatation of, 180
 - stricture of, 179
- Oidium albicans, 174
- Olfactory nerves, 570
- Oligæmia, 340
- Oligochromæmia, 341
- Oligocythæmia, 340
- Ophthalmoplegia, 578
- Opisthotonos, 62, 73
- Oppler-Boas bacillus, 196
- Opsonic index, 19
- Opsonins, 14, 15
- Optic atrophy, 573
 - nerves, 570
 - neuritis, 564, 572
 - thalamus, 487
- Oral sepsis, 173
- Orchitis in mumps, 126
- Osteo-arthritis, 475
- Osteoarthropathy, hypertrophic pul-
monary, 479
- Oxalate calculi, 463

- Oxalates in urine, 441
 Oxyuris vermicularis, 234

 PACHYMENINGITIS, hypertrophic inter-
 nal, 498
 — interna hæmorrhagica, 541
 Palpitation, 297
 Pancreas, diseases of, 267
 — cancer of, 269
 — in diabetes, 144
 Pancreatic cysts, 268
 — hæmorrhage, 269
 Pancreatitis, 268
 Paracentesis thoracis, 428
 — of pericardium, 292
 Paragraphia, 568
 Paralysis, 494
 — agitans, 553
 — crossed, 562
 — Erb's, 588
 — facial, 581
 — general, of the insane, 524
 — hysterical, 604
 — infantile, 65
 — Klumpke's, 588
 — Landry's, 503
 — laryngeal, 385
 — ocular, 574, 577
 — progressive bulbar, 529
 — pseudo-hypertrophic, 471
 Paraplegia, compression, 504
 — spastic, 507
 Parasyphilis, 102
 Paratyphoid fevers, 27
 Parkinson's disease, 553
 Parotitis, epidemic, 125
 Paroxysmal tachycardia, 296
 Pasteur's treatment of hydrophobia,
 135
 Pectoriloquy, 378
 Peliosis rheumatica, 357
 Pellagra, 161
 Perforation in appendicitis, 212
 — of stomach, 192
 Perforative peritonitis, 274
 Pericardial friction, 284, 290
 Pericarditis, 288
 — morbid anatomy, 289
 — prognosis, 291
 — symptoms, 290
 — treatment, 292
 Pericardium, adherent, 291
 Perichondritis, 383

 Perihepatitis, 276
 Perisplenitis, 276
 Peristaltic unrest of stomach, 202
 Peritoneum, diseases of, 270
 Peritonitis, acute, 273
 — — localised, 275
 — — morbid anatomy, 274
 — — symptoms, 274
 — — treatment, 275
 — chronic, 276
 — malignant, 278
 — tuberculous, 276
 Pernicious anæmia, 344
 — — symptoms, 345
 — — treatment, 346
 — malaria, 87
 Peroneal type of muscular atrophy, 510
 Pertussis, 56
 Petit mal, 597
 Phagocytosis, 15
 Phenyl-hydrazin test for sugar, 439
 Phthisis pulmonalis, 410
 — — acute, 410
 — — chronic, 411
 — — complications, 415
 — — diagnosis, 415
 — — fibroid, 415
 — — seat of invasion, 412
 — — treatment, 416
 Phosphates in urine, 436, 441
 Phosphatic calculi, 463
 Phrenic nerves, 588
 Pigeon breast, 156
 Pigmentation in Addison's disease, 366
 — arsenical, 170
 Pituitary body, diseases of, 369
 Plague, 44
 — bubonic, 45
 — pneumonic, 45
 — prophylaxis, 46
 — symptoms, 45
 — treatment, 46
 Plasmodium falciparum, 84
 — malarial, 83, 84
 — præcox, 84
 — vivax, 84
 Pleura, diseases of, 421
 Pleurisy, 421
 — cytodiagnosis in, 425
 — hæmorrhagic, 425
 — morbid anatomy, 422
 — symptoms and signs, 423
 — treatment, 428

- eurisy in phthisis, 415
 - eurodynia, 469
 - umbism, 167
 - neumobacillus, Friedländer's, 401
 - neumococcus infections, 37
 - pneumonia, catarrhal, 407
 - chronic interstitial, 408
 - hypostatic, 399
 - lobar, 401
 - — physical signs, 402
 - — prognosis, 405
 - — symptoms, 403
 - — treatment, 405
 - lobular, 407
 - neumonokoniosis, 410
 - neumothorax, 428
 - artificial, in phthisis, 419
 - symptoms and signs, 429
 - treatment, 430
 - nodagra, 138
 - oikilocythæmia, 341
 - oikilocytosis, 339
 - olioencephalitis, 66, 548
 - oliomyelitis, acute, 65
 - — morbid anatomy, 66
 - — organism of, 65
 - — symptoms, 66
 - olychromasia, 339
 - olychromatophilia, 339
 - olygraph, Mackenzie's, 286
 - olyorrhomenitis, 276
 - orencephaly, 551
 - recipitins, 14
 - remature beats, 294
 - progressive lenticular degeneration, 552
 - muscular atrophy, 508
 - — — peroneal type, 510
 - — — symptoms, 509
 - — — treatment, 570
 - projection, erroneous, 577
 - roteid metabolism in liver, 241
 - rotein shock therapy in rheumatoid arthritis, 478
 - roteoses, biuret reaction for, 184
 - in urine, 437
 - rotopathic sensation, 487
 - rotozoan infections, 83
 - seudo-angina, 327
 - seudo-crisis of pneumonia, 404
 - seudo-hypertrophic paralysis, 471
 - tomaine poisoning, 171
 - tosis, 574
 - Pulmonic murmurs, characters, 283
 - regurgitation, 317
 - stenosis, 316
 - Pulse, examination of, 285
 - pressure, 286
 - in valvular lesions, 319
 - venous, 286
 - Pulse-respiration ratio in pneumonia, 403
 - Pulsus alternans, 295
 - paradoxus, 292
 - Purin bodies, 139
 - Purpura hæmorrhagica, 356
 - Henoch's, 356
 - rheumatica, 356
 - simplex, 356
 - symptomatic, 356
 - variolosa, 111
 - Pus in urine, tests for, 440
 - Pyæmia, 31, 32
 - Pyelitis, 459
 - symptoms, 460
 - treatment, 460
 - Pyelonephritis, 459
 - Pylephlebitis, suppurative, 250
 - Pylorus, hypertrophic stenosis of, 202
 - Pyonephrosis, 459
 - Pyopneumothorax, 430
 - Pyrosis, 200
- QUINSY, 176
- RABIES, 133
 - Râles, 378
 - Rashes in fevers, 21
 - Raynaud's disease, 610
 - — symptoms and treatment, 611
 - Rectum, cancer of, 218
 - syphilis of, 209
 - Reflexes, 489
 - Regurgitation, aortic, 315
 - mitral, 316
 - pulmonic, 317
 - tricuspid, 316
 - Relapsing fever, 93
 - — symptoms, 93
 - — treatment, 94
 - "Relative insufficiency" of cardiac valves, 311
 - Renal calculus, 462
 - — symptoms, 463
 - — treatment, 464
 - colic, 464

- Renal threshold in diabetes, 146
- tumours, 465
- — characters, 466
- Rennin, test for, 184
- Resonance, skodaic, 424
- Respiratory system, diseases of, 373
- — physical examination of, 374
- Retinitis, albuminuric, 452
- Retro-peritoneal abscess, 212
- Retropulsion, 554
- Rheumatic fever, 129
- — symptoms, 130
- — treatment, 131
- Rheumatism, acute, 129
- "chronic," 468
- muscular, 468
- Rheumatoid arthritis, 475
- — morbid anatomy, 476
- — symptoms, 476
- — treatment, 478
- Rhachitic rosary, 156
- Rhachitis, 154
- Rhonchi, 378
- Rickets, 154
- late, 157
- morbid anatomy, 155
- symptoms, 156
- treatment, 157
- Rickettsia bodies in trench fever, 136
- — in typhus, 123
- Rigidity, early and late, 493, 562
- Risus sardonicus, 73
- Romberg's sign, 522
- Rötheln, 122
- Roundworms, 231
- Rubella, 122
- Rupia, 101
- Rusty sputum of pneumonia, 404

- SACCHAROMYCES albicans, 174
- Sachs-Georgi reaction, 105
- Salvarsan treatment of syphilis, 106
- Sanatorium treatment in phthisis, 417
- Sapræmia, 30, 31
- Saturnine cachexia, 168
- encephalopathy, 169
- Saturnism, 167
- Scarlet fever, 115
- — complications, 117
- — desquamation in, 117
- — nephritis in, 118
- — rash of, 116, 117
- Scarlet fever, treatment, 118
- Scarlatina, 115
- anginosa, 117
- maligna, 117
- Scarlatinal nephritis, 118
- Schick test for susceptibility to diphtheria, 42
- Sciatic nerves, 589
- Sciatica, 589
- Sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral, 511
- disseminated, 515
- of nervous tissues, 495
- primary lateral, 507
- Scurvy, 159
- infantile, 160
- symptoms and treatment, 160
- Sellard's test for acidæmia, 148
- Sensory decussation, 486, 487
- path, 485
- tracts in cord, 483
- Sepsis, oral, 173
- Septic infections, 30
- Septicæmia, 30, 31
- Serositis, 276
- Serum, anti-anthrax, 70
- antibacterial, 14
- antidiphtheritic, 42
- antidyenteric, 53
- antiscarlatinal, 118
- antitetanic, 73
- antitoxic, 14
- disease, 43
- Serum-globulin in urine, 437
- Seventh nerve, 581
- Shaking palsy, 553
- Siderosis, 410
- Sigma reaction, 105
- Silicosis, 410
- Sinus arrhythmia, 293
- thrombosis, cerebral, 547
- Sippey's treatment of gastric ulcer, 193
- Siriasis, 162
- Sixth nerve, 576
- Skodaic resonance, 424
- Sleeping sickness, 90
- Small-pox, 108
- complications, 112
- confluent, 111
- hæmorrhagic, 111
- morbid anatomy, 109
- prodromal rashes in, 111
- symptoms, 110
- treatment, 112

- "Snuffles" in congenital syphilis, 103
 Spasm of cardia, 203
 — muscular, 493
 Spasmodic torticollis, 609
 Spastic paraplegia, 507
 — — treatment, 508
 Specific infectious diseases, 21
 Sphygmomanometer, 286
 Spinal accessory nerves, 587
 — cord, anatomy of, 481
 — — diseases of, 496
 — — subacute combined degeneration, 512
 — — system diseases of, 506
 — — tracts in, 482, 483
 — — tumours of, 505
 — meningitis, 496
 — syphilis, 528
 Spino-cerebellar ataxia, 515
 Spirochæte ictero-hæmorrhagiæ, 97
 — obermeieri, 93
 — pallida, 99
 Spirochætosis ictero-hæmorrhagica, 97
 — — symptoms and treatment, 98
 Spironema pertense, 107
 Spleen, diseases of, 367
 — in leukæmia, 349
 — movable, 367
 — in rickets, 156
 Splenic anæmia, 368
 — tumour, characters of, 369
 Splenisation of lung in pneumonia, 402
 Splenomegaly, primary, 368
 "Spotted fever," 63
 Sputum in asthma, 393
 — types of, 379
 Staccato speech, 517
 Status epilepticus, 597
 — lymphaticus, 352
 Steatorrhœa, 267
 Stegomyia fasciata, 95
 Stellwag's sign, 364
 Stenocardia, 324
 Stenosis, aortic, 315
 — mitral, 316
 — pulmonic, 316
 — of pylorus, hypertrophic, 202
 Stercoraceous vomiting, 215
 Still's disease, 477
 Stomach, cancer, 194
 — — morbid anatomy, 195
 — — symptoms, 195
 — — treatment, 197
 — catarrh of, 187
 — dilatation of, 200
 — — symptoms, 200
 — — treatment, 201
 — examination of contents of, 181
 — motor neuroses, 202
 — perforation of, 188, 192
 — secretory neuroses, 203
 — ulcer of, 187
 Stomatitis, 173
 — aphthous, 174
 — catarrhal, 174
 — gangrenous, 175
 — parasitic, 174
 — ulcerative, 174
 Strabismus, 574, 576
 Strangulation of bowel, 214
 "Strawberry tongue" in scarlet fever, 116
 Streptococcus erysipelatis, 33
 Streptothrix actinomyces, 81
 Subacute combined degeneration of spinal cord, 512
 Subphrenic abscess, 192, 275
 Succussion, Hippocratic, 376, 429
 — gastric, 201
 Sugar in urine, tests for, 438
 Sulphates in urine, 435
 Sunstroke, 162
 Suppression of urine in Bright's disease, 449
 — — obstructive, 464
 Suprarenal glands, diseases of, 365
 Syncope, local, 611
 Syphilides, 100, 101
 Syphiiis, 98
 — acquired, symptoms, 100
 — cerebral, 526
 — congenital, 102
 — of heart, 303
 — of larynx, 383
 — modes of infection, 99
 — of nervous system, 519
 — quaternary, 102
 — of rectum, 209
 — secondary, 100
 — spinal, 528
 — tertiary, 100, 101
 — treatment, 105
 Syphilitic nodes, 102
 — ulcers, 101
 Siringomyelia, 503
 System diseases of spinal cord, 496

- TABES, diabetic, 149
 — dorsalis, 519
 — mesenterica, 277
 Tache cérébrale, 544
 Tachycardia, 296
 — in exophthalmic goitre, 363
 — paroxysmal, 296
 Tænia echinococcus, 229
 — lata, 227
 — mediocanellata, 226
 — solium, 225
 Tapeworms, 223
 — symptoms, 228
 — treatment, 228
 Tendon reflexes, 491
 Test meals in gastric analysis, 182, 183
 Tetanus, 72
 — antitoxin, 73
 — symptoms, 73
 — treatment, 73
 Tetany, 601
 Thermic fever, 162
 Third nerve, 573
 Thomsen's disease, 473
 Threadworm, 234
 Thrombosis of cerebral sinuses, 547
 Thrush, 174
 "Tic douloureux," 593
 Thyroid gland, diseases of, 358
 Tonsillitis, acute, 176
 — — diagnosis, 177
 — — treatment, 177
 — chronic, 177
 — follicular, 176
 — parenchymatous, 176
 Tophi in gout, 140, 141
 Torticollis, muscular, 469
 — spasmodic, 609
 Toxæmia, 3
 — alimentary, 221
 — septic, 30
 Toxins, 1, 2
 Tracheal tugging, 334
 Trematoda, 238
 Tremor, intention, 517
 Trench fever, 135
 — — symptoms, 136
 Treponema pertenue, 107
 Trichina spiralis, 231
 Trichiniasis, 232
 — treatment, 233
 Trichocephalus dispar, 236
 Tricuspid murmurs, characters, 283
 Tricuspid regurgitation, 316, 318
 — — prognosis in, 321
 — stenosis, 317
 Trigeminal neuralgia, 593
 Trismus neonatorum, 72
 Trousseau's sign, 602
 Trypanosomata, 90
 Trypanosomiasis, 90
 — symptoms, 91
 — treatment, 91
 Tuberculin tests for phthisis, 416
 — in treatment of phthisis, 417
 Tuberculosis, 74
 — acute miliary, 76
 — — — generalised, 77
 — — — pulmonary type, 77
 — of intestines, 209
 — of kidneys, 465
 — of larynx, 382
 — of lungs, 410
 — modes of infection, 75
 — morbid anatomy, 75
 Tuberculous meningitis, 543
 — peritonitis, 276
 — — symptoms and treatment, 277
 Tubular breathing, 377
 Tumours of spinal cord, 505
 Typhoid fever, 22
 — state, 8, 9
 Typhus fever, 123
 — — symptoms, 124
 — — treatment, 125
 UFFELMANN'S test for lactic acid, 184
 Ulcerative colitis, 210
 Uncinaria americanus, 235
 Uræmia, 445
 — diagnosis, 447
 — latent, 464
 — symptoms, 446
 Urea concentration test, 434
 — estimation of, 433
 Uric acid, 435, 441
 — — calculi, 463
 Urine, casts in, 441
 — in chronic Bright's disease, 451
 — crystalline deposits in, 441
 — in diabetes, 145
 — examination of, 432
 — obstructive suppression of, 464
 VACCINATION, 113
 Vaccine treatment, 18

- Vaccines, Dreyer's defatted, in tuberculosis, 417
— detoxicated, 20
— in enteric fever, 29
— sensitised, 19
Vaccinia, 113
Vagus nerves, 586
Valvular lesions of heart, effects of, 310
— — — general symptoms, 317
— — — murmurs of, 315
— — — prognosis in, 320
— — — pulse in, 320
— — — treatment, 321
— — — types of, 314
Van den Bergh's test in jaundice, 247
Varicella, 114
— gangrænosa, 115
Variola, 108
"Varioloid," 109, 111
Venous hum, 284
— pulse, 286
Vesicular breathing, 377
Vincent's angina, 178
Vitamins, 154
Vocal fremitus, 375
Vocal resonance, 378
Volvulus, 214
Vomiting, nervous, 202
— stercoraceous, 215
Von Graefe's sign, 364
"WAR NEPHRITIS," 450
Wassermann reaction, 103
Weil-Felix reaction in typhus, 125
Whooping-cough, 56
— — symptoms, 57
— — treatment, 58
Widal's reaction, 26
Wintrich's sign, 414
Wolff-Junghans test in gastric cancer, 196
Wool-sorters' disease, 68, 69
Word blindness, 567
Wrist-drop, 169
YAWS, 107
— symptoms and treatment, 108
Yellow fever, 95
— — prophylaxis, 97
— — symptoms and treatment, 96



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