

## NEW INSTRUMENTS, THERAPEUTICS, AND DIPHTHERIA.

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**Lamann** (St. Petersburg).—*The Incandescent Lamp and the Application of Resistance in Accumulators.* "Monats. für Ohrenheilk.," 1891, No. 11.

TECHNICAL remarks.

*Michael.*

**Villon.**—*A New and Powerful Light.* "Lancet," Jan. 2, 1892.

THE substitution of an aluminum ribbon instead of magnesium, burning in a spirit lamp, or for greater brilliancy in a coal-gas or spirit flame supplied with a jet of oxygen. This is practicable, but a still more intense light may be got by blowing a powder of aluminum, mixed with a quarter of its weight of lycopodium and a twentieth of its weight of nitrate of ammonium, into the lamp, flame with a jet of oxygen in its centre.

*Dundas Grant.*

**Freudenthal** (New York).—*The use of Accumulators in Medical Practice.* "Monats. für Ohrenheilk.," 1891, No. 8.

RECOMMENDS the use of the author's modification of Gibson's battery (made by J. W. Ford and Co., New York).

*Michael.*

**Salinger, Julius L.**—*A Case of Antipyrin Poisoning, with the Formation of Membranes in the Mouth, and Symptoms of Laryngismus Stridulus.* "Internat. Journ. of the Med. Sciences," May, 1890.

A CLINICAL report of a case. The author believes antifebrin, exalgin, and phenacetin to be free from liability to such results.

*Hunter Mackenzie.*

**Leslie, George** (Falkirk).—*On the Cure of Facial Neuralgia, Odontalgia, and Allied Neuroses.* "Edinburgh Med. Journ.," Jan., 1890.

THE author recommends the snuffing up or insufflation into the nose of common salt.

*Hunter Mackenzie.*

**Wright, Jonathan** (Brooklyn).—*Salol in Acute Tonsillitis and Pharyngitis.* "Internat. Journ. of the Med. Sciences," Aug., 1890.

THIS remedy is said to be very efficacious in lacunar tonsillitis, and less so in follicular angina.

*Hunter Mackenzie.*

**Bristowe, J. S.** (London).—*Diphtheria at Wellington College.* "Brit. Med. Journ.," Jan. 9, 1892.

DR. BRISTOWE, in a report to the Governors of the College regarding an outbreak of diphtheria, confesses his inability to trace the source from which the specific infection entered the institution. Several sanitary defects were found, which, however, cannot be accepted as the cause of the outbreak.

*Hunter Mackenzie.*

**Smith, Charles** (Casterton, Australia).—*A New Method of Treating Diphtheria.* "Lancet," Jan. 2, 1892.

ONE part of carbolic acid, one of eucalyptus oil, and eight of turpentine, are mixed and used for saturating two cloths about a foot square. Of these cloths one is placed close to the face, the other on the pillow near the head; one or two others are hung about round the cot. This need not interfere with other modes of treatment. *Dundas Grant.*

**Rabot and Philipp.**—*Myocarditis Diphtheritica Acuta.* "Allg. Med. Centralzeitung," 1891, No. 87.

THE author reviews the well-known symptoms of weakened heart in diphtheria. Of five hundred cases of diphtheria, the complication was observed in twenty-two cases, of which ten were cured. Treatment consisted in absolute rest, digitalis, and analeptics. *Michael.*

**Spronk** (Utrecht).—*Diphtherial Infection of Tracheotomy Wounds.* "Lancet," Jan. 2, 1892, from "Centralbl. f. Allgem. Path. u. Path. Anat.," 1892.

IN several cases an œdematous swelling of the tissues around the wound was observed without any necrosis of the surface of the wound itself. Cultures from the serum showed the presence of the bacillus. He ascribes the immunity of the wound surface to the action of the iodoform applied to it. *Dundas Grant.*

**Kayser** (Breslau).—*Report on the Cases treated in the Private Polyclinic of Professor Gottstein in the year 1891.* "Monats. für Ohrenheilk.," 1891, No. 7.

REPORT covers 1194 cases of diseases of the throat and nose, with some remarks bearing thereon. *Michael.*

**Welch-Flexner.**—*Histological Changes in Experimental Diphtheria.* John Hopkins Hospital Reports, 1891.

IN a paper entitled "Histological Changes in Experimental Diphtheria," Drs. Welch and Flexner ask the question whether the changes in internal organs in human diphtheria have their counterpart in animals inoculated with the Klebs-Löffler bacillus. Reference is made to the work of Löffler, Klein, Beck, and others, and particularly to Babes, whose investigations on these points relate chiefly to the liver and kidneys of rabbits. The present observations were made with the view of ascertaining the histological changes in all the organs of animals which had died of experimental diphtheria. In the course of the work guinea-pigs, rabbits and kittens were used. The cultures were obtained from undoubted cases of primary diphtheria, and the inoculations were made into the subcutaneous tissue of the abdomen midway between the axillary and inguinal regions. The gross anatomical lesions which were observed, correspond, for the most part, with the description by other investigators. Locally there was a greyish necrotic pseudo-membranous focus, and surrounding this a deep-red zone of

varying size. The changes in the various parts of the body are carefully noted. These occurred in the subcutaneous tissue and the cavities of the body, while the liver and spleen were congested. Bacilli of diphtheria were found regularly at the seat of inoculation. Cultures were made from the blood, liver, and spleen of these animals with negative results in every case.

*John Macintyre.*

**Abbot.**—*The Relation of the Pseudo-Diphtheritic Bacillus to the Diphtheria Bacillus.* "John Hopkins Hospital Bulletin," Aug, 1891.

THE author states that previous experiments, in eight cases of true diphtheria, had failed to find any evidence which would lead him to believe that there existed in the organisms which had produced the disease any appreciable variation in the degree of their virulence towards susceptible animals. Attention was also called to the fact that they failed to detect the pseudo-bacillus. In the eight cases Löffler's bacillus was found, and it was impossible to make out definitely any variation in the pathogenic properties. The author describes two cases where the group of symptoms made it very difficult, if not impossible, to make a satisfactory diagnosis. There was little to indicate diphtheria. As a result of his experiments and cultures, the author states that he feels justified in agreeing with the opinion that has been advanced by other observers, particularly Hoffman, Roux and Yersin, viz. : that in the varying conditions the virulence of the two diphtheria bacilli may be observed to fluctuate in the degree of intensity to such an extent that there may be a complete absence of pathogenic power. He is inclined to believe, in other words, that the true diphtheritic bacillus had for some reason or another lost its virulence.

*A Second Communication from the same Author.*—In this communication the author extends his observations, and arrives at pretty much the same conclusion. Many experiments have been performed with the view of distinguishing the difference in appearance, growth, and pathogenic virulence of the organisms which resemble each other.

*John Macintyre.*

**Prudden, Mitchell.**—*Experimental Pneumonitis in the Rabbit.* "New York Medical Journal," Dec. 5, 1891.

THE author writes about the difficulties found in coming to a conclusion regarding acute and chronic tuberculosis, and their relation to inflammatory processes. In a paper recently published the author, with Dr. Hodenpyl, showed that dead tubercle bacilli possess "not only positive chemotactic power, but are in a markedly peculiar way capable of stimulating various phases of cell-proliferation." A large number of experiments were performed, and the author summarizes thus: This study shows that when dead tubercular bacilli are introduced in small flocculi into the air spaces of the rabbit's lung there occurs, at the seat of introduction, a large accumulation of small spheroidal cells in the air spaces; next proliferation of epitheloid cells and formation of giant cells: afterwards necroses, disintegration and absorption of the primary small celled centre, with the conversion of the peripheral zone into

various cellular and vascular new connective tissue. Ultimately the seat of the lesion is indicated by a patch of dead connective tissue. The primary difference between the action of the dead and living tubercle bacillus in the rabbit appears to be that the living bacillus proliferates in the body and produces an acute infectious disease, while the dead bacillus does not.

*John Macintyre.*

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## NOSE AND NASO-PHARYNX.

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**Baumgarten** (Budapest).—*Rare Reflex Neuroses of the Ear, the Nose, and the Pharynx.* "Monats. für Ohrenheilk.," 1891, No. 8.

A LADY, fifty years of age, suffered from periodical recurring nervous rhinitis. When the attack occurred she used daily fourteen to sixteen handkerchiefs, which were saturated with clear moisture in a short space of time. After mental excitement the attack was especially strong, accompanied by an acute pain in the region of the left eyebrow, particularly if she touched the nose, so that she had to use great precaution in blowing it. No good results from antipyrin, but improvement came with the use of the Faradic current, galvano-caustic treatment of the turbinateds, and inhalation of steam.

*Michael.*

**Nitsche** (Salzbrum).—*Bilateral Nasal Stones.* "Monats. für Ohrenheilk.," 1891, No. 7.

A LADY, forty years of age, had since her youth a bloody secretion from the nose, and pain in the frontal bone. In each of the nasal cavities a rhinolith had formed about the size of a cherry stone. Extraction. Cure.

*Michael.*

**Hessler** (Halle).—*Laminaria as a Foreign Body in the Nose.* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1892, No. 2.

THE patient, seventeen years old, was treated, when a year old, for stenosis following small-pox, by introduction of a piece of laminaria into the nose. The piece was forgotten to be removed. Since that time obstruction of the nose and strong fetor. The stenosed introitus of the nose was dilated by application of laminaria, and some days later it was possible to extract the foreign body but with some difficulty. It was an incrustated piece of laminaria. The fetor and the obstruction disappeared in a short time.

*Michael.*

**Cholewa** (Berlin).—*Resection of the Septum Narium.* "Monats. für Ohrenheilk.," 1891, No. 9.

SLIGHT modification of Krieg's (Stuttgart) method (report, 1890).

*Michael.*

**Krieg** (Stuttgart).—*Answer to Cholewa's Paper on Resection of the Septum Narium.* "Monats. für Ohrenheilk.," 1891, No. 10.

POLEMICAL article.

*Michael.*