

“action on atonic tubercular ulcers. Inflammatory œdema of tissues considerably subsides, tension of the mucous membrane decreases, and, what is the most important, the amount of viscid and frothy muco-purulent discharge, covering the tumefied tissues, distinctly lessens. As may be expected, such decrease of swelling and irritant discharge markedly diminishes the irritability of affected parts, in consequence of which the agonizing sensation of dryness, so frequently experienced by such patients in spite of the said profuse secretion, is alleviated to a considerable extent.” The author, however, has never yet observed a complete healing of the ulcers. *Valerius Idelson.*

**Hinrichs** (Berlin).—*Removal of a Needle from the Trachea per vias naturales.* “*Deutsch. Med. Woch.*,” 1890, No. 37.

THE patient, nineteen years old, had inspired a needle with a feather attached. He could hold the feather, but it was not possible to extract the needle. Dr. Schorler saw the needle impacted near the bifurcation. On that day it was impossible to extract it, but the following day Dr. Schorler was able to move it with a probe, so that it could be extracted by the feather. *Michael.*

**Keferstein** (Alt-Dobèrn).—*Case of Foreign Bodies in the Air Passages.*

A PATIENT, fifty-eight years old, suddenly had the feeling of a foreign body in the chest after having eaten soup. Since this time she often had paroxysms of coughing and a great pain about the sternum. Some weeks later the foreign body was coughed out. It was a piece of bone of the size of 8 by 5 by 4 mm. *Michael.*

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## NECK, &c.

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**Corning, Leonard.**—*On the Nature and Treatment of Exophthalmic Goitre.* “*New York Med. Journ.*” Sept. 13, 1890.

THE author briefly reviews the symptoms, causes, and pathology, and deals at length with the treatment. The phenomenal disturbance of the circulation, and the profound constitutional impairment, are factors which stand out. He recommends placing the patient in a warm bath for three-quarters of an hour, or more, at least once a day. The legs are to be bandaged with elastic straps if the derivative action of the bath is insufficient; they are adjusted so as to interfere more or less with the venous, and not with the arterial circulation. The thyroid is treated with a special preparation of styptic collodion, along with a carefully adjusted elastic truss. The eyes may be bandaged during immersion. The tumour is daily galvanized, using an electrode of potter's clay, moistened with iodine, and large enough to envelop the whole thyroid. This is connected with the positive pole, the negative pole of the battery being placed upon the neck. The applications last from ten to twenty-five

minutes, twice a day at least. Aconitine is of great benefit when the pulse is rapid; where not rapid, but lacking in fulness, digitalis, sparteine and strophanthus are indicated. Dieting is all important, and a judicious but not exclusive milk diet is to be preferred. Alcohol is absolutely contra-indicated in most cases of Graves' disease. Iron and arsenic may be given with advantage. All emotions and excitement must be guarded against. Prolonged cerebral rest is important. The subjection of these patients to the "Weir-Mitchell treatment" is a great cruelty, and he has seen cases that have sustained great injury in this manner. The patients should be kept asleep for as long as possible when in bed, and may be got to sleep for ten to fourteen hours out of the twenty-four by a little dexterity, and without resort to drugs. *R. Norris Wolfenden.*

**Rydygier** (Krattau).—*On the Results of Ligature of the Arteries in Cases of Struma.* "Archiv. für Klin. Chirurgie," *bd.* 40, *heft* 4.

THE author has collected eleven cases from the literature of the subject, and twenty-one from his own practice, in order to study the effect of the treatment. He concludes that the ligature of all four arteries gives good results without producing the symptoms of cachexia strumipriva. In none of the cases was any gangrenous destruction of the gland observed. The unilateral ligature, or the ligature of only the two upper or the two lower arteries is without effect, because in a short time a collateral circulation is developed. The operation should be performed in cases of struma parenchymatosa and gelatinosa, but is without effect in cases of struma cystica and cicatricial struma. *Michael.*

**Barton.**—*Lympho-Sarcoma of the Neck.* Royal Acad. of Med. in Ireland. "New York Med. Journ.," Aug. 9, 1890.

A TUMOUR, occupying the whole of the right side of the neck, had been growing for four years, the first three of which it was only of the size of a filbert-nut. It had then suddenly commenced to grow, and attained its present size in three months. Fluctuation was elicited in one part. Edges undefined. Diagnosis, a lympho-sarcoma, which had burst through the capsule and had become diffused through all the structures of the neck. The patient, a strong, robust countryman, had become subject to fits of a remarkable kind. He had suddenly become pale, fell over if sitting up, his pulse disappeared, and he had lost consciousness for about a minute. He had then recovered; his colour and pulse had returned, and he sat up. An operation was performed, to see how far the growth could be removed, in the course of which the common carotid artery of the right side of the neck, lying behind the tumour and compressed by it, was found to be completely occluded. At its bifurcation a rent was torn in it, but no blood escaped; it was firmly occluded lower down. The speaker drew attention to three pathological facts of interest: (1) the growth of the tumour; (2) the fits from which the patient suffered, which may have been produced by the compression of the pneumo-gastric nerve by the tumour; (3) the occlusion of the carotid artery by the pressure of the growth upon it and around it.

*R. Norris Wolfenden.*