

LARYNX, Etc.

Mouret and Denoyès.—*On the Employment of High-Frequency Currents in Oto-Laryngology.* "Revue Hebdom. de Laryng., etc.," May 26, 1902.

After giving a short description of the technique of this treatment, the authors report the following cases.

1. *Paralysis of Right Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve, and Enlargement of Right Lobe of Thyroid Gland.*—The goitre had first been noted about four years ago, and had gradually increased. In March, 1898, patient caught a cold and became aphonic, but did not consult a doctor till July, 1899. She was then treated for ten months with sprays and painting the throat with zinc chloride, and for one month with faradization, but without obtaining any improvement. She consulted Mouret in October, 1900. Her voice was then very low, the right vocal cord was in the cadaveric position, and a goitre existed on the right side of the neck. No change was noted in the mucous membrane of larynx, etc. A course of iodide of potassium produced no effect. Six applications of a galvanic current to the goitre gave rise to tachycardia and palpitations. Galvanism, therefore, was stopped, and high-frequency currents applied instead. This treatment was carried out, with interruptions, from December to July. The patient's voice had improved, but the right vocal cord remained fixed in the cadaveric position.

2. *Paralysis of Right Recurrent Nerve following a Cold.*—Treatment by sprays of benzoate of soda, iodine, externally over larynx, etc., carried on for a month, reduced the state of congestion of the parts, but the right cord remained fixed in the cadaveric position. During a second month the larynx was painted with zinc chloride, and both galvanic and faradic currents applied, with the result that the adductor muscles of the right cord regained their power, whilst the abductors remained quite paralytic. By the end of another month indications of very slight return of power in the abductors were present, but the patient complained that the treatment exhausted him. Treatment by high-frequency currents was then begun. There was almost immediate improvement in the subjective sensations and in the power of the voice. After eighteen applications the right cord moved as freely as the left; recovery was complete, and there had been no relapse when patient was last seen—*i. e.*, after ten months.

The authors have also applied high-frequency currents to cases of deafness and tinnitus due to sclerosing otitis. In all their cases they noted an immediate improvement in the tinnitus after each sitting. The improvement was at first of very short duration, but gradually lasted longer, but in only one case did they obtain a cure. Deafness was not benefited.

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 THYROID AND TRACHEA.

von Shroetter, Herman.—*Tracheal Scleroma.* "Journal of Ophthal., Otol., and Laryng.," March, 1902.

A woman, aged twenty-eight, born in Hungary, but having lived for the past fifteen years in Styria, presented herself in December 15, 1897, suffering with cough, severe dyspnoea, and aphonia. Her family history