

THYROID GLAND, * &c.

Staelin (Hamburg).—*Accessory Thyroid Gland*. "Jahrb. des Hamburgischer Staatskrankenhause, Jahrgang 1892-93." Hamburg and Leipzig: Leopold Voss.

IN the *post-mortem* examination of a patient dead from cancer of the stomach the author found a tumour the size of a nut on the base of the tongue. The examination showed it to be an accessory thyroid gland. *Intra vitam* the tumour had not caused any symptoms. *Michael*.

Hitzig (Zurich).—*Contribution to Histology and Histogenesis of Goitre*. "Langenbeck's Archiv," Band 47, Heft 2.

OF pathologico-anatomical interest.

Michael.

Engel-Renners (Hamburg).—*On Swelling of the Thyroid Gland in Early Periods of Syphilis*. "Jahrb. des Hamburgischer Staatskrankenhause, Jahrgang 1892-93." Hamburg and Leipzig: Leopold Voss.

RESEARCHES in the large syphilitic department of the Hamburg Hospital showed that enlargement of the thyroid gland is a very common event in the early stage of syphilis. In nearly half of all cases this enlargement has been observed. Of one hundred and fifty-two diseased women it was observed eighty-six times, and of ninety-eight affected men forty-four times. In fifty-two women and twenty men the goitre was visible at a glance; in the others the swelling was less. In no case did the swelling produce any pain, and in no case was it remarked by the patient before examination. Pregnant and nursing women are not included in the inquiry. For the estimation of the importance of the symptoms a great many control examinations were made on other patients. The swelling arises very early—sometimes during the incubation period, sometimes combined with the first appearance of constitutional symptoms. As on the swelling of the lymphatic glands, mercurial treatment has no influence on the thyroid swelling; it disappears slowly after a few years. Basedow's symptoms were not associated with the swelling in any case, but there exists a case of myxœdema, which was cured by the use of mercury, and which seems, therefore, to have had some relation to the syphilis.

Michael.

Ssalitschew (Tomska).—*True isolated Lateral Accessory Goitre*. "Langenbeck's Archiv," Band 48, Heft 2.

A PATIENT, fifty years old, had three tumours the size of a nut in the *trigonum laterale colli*. She had had the tumours since early youth, but they have developed for some years, and have become especially larger after each menstruation. Extirpation was followed by cure. The examination of the extirpated tumours showed that they were true accessory goitres. *Michael*.

Garré (Tubingen). — *Treatment of Goitre by Farenchymatous Injections of Iodoform.* "Correspondenzbl. für Schweizer Aerzte," 1894, No. 12.

THE author has applied injections of iodoform 1'0, ol. olive and ether sulph. ãã 7'0, in more than forty cases, and has obtained good results in the majority of them. Dangerous symptoms never were developed.

Michael.

Perregauz (Basel).—*On Morbus Basedowii (Graves' Disease).* "Correspbl. für Schweizer Aerzte," 1894, No. 11.

DESCRIPTION of two cases of the disease, and recommendation of the electric treatment.

Michael.

Reinhold (Freiburg). — *Pathology of Morbus Basedowii (Graves' Disease).* "Münchener Med. Woch.," 1894, No. 23.

A PATIENT, thirty-five years old, had last year a disorder of the stomach, but during this time no symptoms of Basedow's disease appeared. In December, 1893, she was attacked with influenza, which was followed by an acute strumitis, but this was cured some weeks later. Three months later the patient had all the symptoms of Basedow's disease. The strumitis cannot be regarded as an acute febrile commencement of the Basedow's disease because it was cured, but it is possible that by the strumitis the secretion of the gland was changed, and this might be regarded as favourable to the hypothesis that Basedow's disease is a form of intoxication by secretions of the thyroid gland. The author could find only one case recorded in which strumitis preceded Basedow's disease.

Michael.

Eiselberg (Wien).—*Physiological Function of a Cancroid Metastasis of the Thyroid Gland originating from the Sternum.* "Langenbeck's Archiv," Band 48, Heft 3.

THE patient, thirty-eight years old, had a large goitre compressing the trachea. In 1886 the right half of the tumour was extirpated, and, as it was evident that the left part also produced compression, this was removed. Some weeks later, cachexia arose, consisting of anamnesia and tetanic contractions. During a pregnancy in 1880 a tumour originated over the sternum, enlarging to the size of a fist. During the development of the tumour the symptoms of cachexia disappeared. In spite of this the patient desired to be operated upon in consequence of the lancinating pains in both arms and the rapid increase of the tumour. The author removed it, because it seemed to be a malignant tumour. The microscopical examination showed that it was a malignant metastasis of the thyroid gland, a colloid cylindrical epithelioma. Some days later tetanic contractions occurred, which recurred sometimes. Anamnesia and apathy arose in a characteristic manner. During 1893 a new metastasis occurred in the right bone, but this time with no improvement of the strumiprивous symptoms. The case is of the greatest interest from the fact that the colloid tumour had supplanted the functions of the thyroid gland.

Michael.

Meltzer (New York).—*On Myxœdema*. “New York Med. Woch.,” April, 1894.

THE author gives a complete report of the literature of myxœdema, and then relates a case observed by himself. The patient, thirty-seven years old, had for some years all the symptoms of myxœdema, which are elaborately described. By treatment with pulverized sheep’s thyroid all symptoms disappeared in three months, and the patient was cured.

Michael.

Dickenson (Leamington).—*A Case of Congenital Hydrocele of the Neck cured by Drainage and Compression*. “Brit. Med. Journ.,” May 12, 1894.

THIS occurred in a child, aged three years, and extended from the ear to the shoulder, filling up the sulcus of the neck. It was a soft white fluctuating swelling, translucent, without veins running over it, and becoming dense during screaming or coughing. Eight ounces of dark greenish-brown highly albuminous fluid being drawn off, a small incision was made into the posterior part of the cyst, through which the cavity was explored. The sterno-mastoid muscle in front of the wall of the cyst felt thin and atrophied; the carotid lying by the trachea, and the subclavian passing over the soft lung, were felt quite hard and clear, and apparently having no covering, but lying free in the cyst. The arteries could be followed down behind the sternum to the arch of the aorta, which was felt beating vigorously, and to the touch quite bare. A seton was introduced into the cyst wall. In five weeks the wound was healed, and no recurrence of the cyst has taken place. The cyst extended from the sternal end of the clavicle in front to the middle line behind, and quite filled up the sulcus between the neck and shoulder, and overhung the clavicle in front.

Wm. Robertson.

E A R S.

Scripture, E. W.—*The Use of Antiphones*. “New York Med. Journ.,” April 7, 1894.

THE use of antiphones made of sealing wax in cases of insomnia is advocated.

R. Lake.

Schmiegelow, E. (Copenhagen).—*Foreign Body in the Tympanum; Removal; Tetanus*. “Ugeskrift for Læger,” 1894, No. 11.

THE author removed a small stone which, for eleven days, lodged in the tympanum of a boy aged three and three-quarter years, and which had caused a purulent discharge from the ear, after several medical men had tried in vain to remove the foreign body. The operation was performed by loosening the auricle and removing by means of chisels the posterior and superior wall of the osseous auditory meatus. Twenty-four hours after the operation slight rigidity of the muscles began to develop, and thirty-six hours later typical tetanic convulsions set in, death occurring five days after the operation. The author considers it beyond all doubt that the infection was caused by the foreign body itself. *Holger Mygind.*