

## THYROID GLAND, &c.

**Hertig.**—*Therapeutic Application of the Thyroid Gland.* “Wiener Med. Blätter,” 1891, No. 73.

REPORT on the experiments of Murrey and Fenwick to cure myxœdema and cachexia by application of an extract of the strumous gland.

*Michael.*

**Canizzaro** (Catania).—*Function of the Thyroid Gland.* “Deutsche Med. Woch.,” 1892, No. 9.

By injection of blood of healthy dogs the author could prevent the cachexia following extirpation of the gland in animals whose thyroid gland was totally extirpated. The blood of dogs which had no thyroid gland was useless. Cases of epilepsy treated by injection of the fluid of the thyroid gland were improved.

*Michael.*

**Korangi.**—*Thyroiditis.* Königliche Gesellschaft der Aerzte in Buda-Pesth. Meeting, Mar. 26, 1892.

THE author has observed forty cases of inflammation of the normal and enlarged gland. All patients were females. In all cases, fever, in-tumescence, and pain of the gland. The treatment consisted in application of iodine and mercury and antiphlogistics.

*Michael.*

**O'Reilly, G. J.** (London).—*Treatment of Goitre by Iodine, Mercury, and Potash Injections, and Radical Cure by Operation.* “Lancet,” April 2, 1892.

A WOMAN, aged forty-two, was the subject of a goitre of about six pounds in weight which caused great dyspnœa. It appeared to contain several cysts, which consolidated after frequent injections of perchloride of mercury with iodine and with permanganate alternately, in strengths varying from 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 500. By means of a double-barrelled syringe some of the cystic fluid can be withdrawn and the drug at once injected without removing the needle. Later the right lobe, weighing two pounds, was removed by operation.

*Dundas Grant.*

**Alsberg.**—*Strumectomy.* Aertzlicher Verein in Hamburg. Meeting, April 5, 1892.

THE author showed a girl, fourteen years old, upon whom he had performed partial strumectomy for dyspnœa. He did not perform tracheotomy, and believes that it should not be performed if it can be avoided, because the discharge of the secretions of the trachea may prevent antiseptics of the wound.

*Michael.*

**Shields** (Richmond).—*The Treatment of Goitre by Electrolysis.* “New York Med. Journ.,” Dec. 19, 1891.

THE current was generated by fifteen to thirty cells, the *labile* method was employed, the electrodes were applied to the skin, and three out of four

cases of fibro-cystic goitre were cured after they had resisted the usual treatment. The sittings lasted from twenty to thirty minutes, and were from two to six days apart, and the cases were under treatment from six weeks to six months.

*Barclay J. Baron.*

**Wiesmann** (Herisau).—*Communications from the Hospital in Herisau.* "Correspbte. für Schweizer Aerzte," 1892, No. 2.

1. *Extirpation of a Cystic Goitre of nine pounds weight.*—A patient, fifty-six years old, had on his neck a round, nearly pendulous tumour hanging down on to his breast. It had a circumference of 82 centimètres, was elastic and fluctuating. Extirpation. Cure.

2. *Rhinolith.*—A cherry-stone was the centre of a rhinolith removed from a patient sixty-two years old; it caused strong fœtor of the nose. The patient did not remember that she had introduced the stone, and she had had no ozæna.

*Michael.*

**James, Prosser** (London).—*Cystic Goitre.* "Lancet," April 9, 1892.

THE author states that he had for many years used in the treatment of cystic goitre such a double-barrelled syringe as Mr. O'Reilly recommends. In moderately recent cases he obtained success by withdrawing a small quantity of cyst fluid, and replacing it by alcohol, or by a solution of iodine. In old cases such results were not obtained, and in cases of large cysts the fluid was usually too flocculent to pass through the needle without blocking it.

*Dundas Grant.*

**Eiselberg** (Wien).—*Successful Implantation of the Thyroid Gland of a Cat in the Abdomen, and Tetanus following its Extirpation.* "Wiener Med. Woch.," 1892, No. 5.

THE author twice extirpated the thyroid gland of a cat, and implanted it in the peritoneum. The animals lived, and had no symptoms of cachexia. One month later he extirpated the gland from its new place. He found the gland normal, and nourished by some new blood-vessels. Within a few days the animals were ill, and had complete tetanus. He holds it proved that the extirpated and implanted gland supplied the functions in its normal place. The author proposes to treat such cases, in which total extirpation of the thyroid gland is necessary, by implantation of thyroid tissue in another place, to prevent the symptoms of cachexia.

*Michael.*

**Lemke** (Hamburg).—*Further Contribution to the Surgical Treatment of Morbus Basedowii (Graves' Disease).* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1892, No. 11.

THE two cases some time ago published are in good health. In a third case the author has extirpated the right half of the gland. The patient was cured; the exophthalmos disappeared, but she died some time later from bronchitis. Also in a fourth and fifth case the symptoms disappeared after the extirpation of the goitre.

*Michael.*

**Stierlin.**—*Further Contributions to the Extirpation of Basedow's Disease (Graves' Disease).* "Brunns Beiträge zur Klin. Chir.," Band 8.

COMMUNICATION of three new cases of the clinic in Zürich in which Basedow's disease was improved by extirpation of the goitre. Twenty-nine

cases have recently been operated on in this manner ; in twenty-two of them improvement or cure of the disease followed operation. *Michael.*

**Stiller.** — *Cure of Goitre by Ligature of the Thyroid Arteries.* Inaugural Dissertation. Breslau, 1891.

THE author publishes three histories of operations performed in this manner. He reports also thirty-nine other cases from the literature, and recommends this method of treatment. *Michael.*

**Strübing** (Greifswald).—*Fistula colli congenita mediana.* "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1892, No. 9.

DESCRIPTION of a case, and report on the newest views of the origin of this anomaly. *Michael.*

**Beck, Carl** (Chicago).—*Congenital Bilateral and Symmetrical Cartilages on the Neck, and their Morphological Significance.* "Med. Rec.," Feb. 13, 1892.

A DESCRIPTION of a case, with a discussion of numerous other cases recorded, and their morphology. They appear to be remnants of the third or fourth branchial arch. One important point in their anatomy is that, though apparently quite superficial, they usually have a flattened process, dipping down and losing itself on the sheath of the deep vessels. In a typical dissection the nodule was superficial to the platysma, but under the external jugular. *Dundas Grant.*

**Kramer** (Grogglogan).—*Treatment of Tuberculosis Abscesses of Retro-visceral Space.* "Centralbl. für Chirurgie." 1892, No. 12.

JUST now abscesses of the retro-pharyngeal space are opened by the mouth. In this manner the pus cannot be removed completely, and an antiseptic procedure is not possible. Therefore the author proposes to open them in the neck, followed by treatment with the sharp spoon and tamponing with iodoform gauze. He describes a case in which the method was applied with the best result. *Michael.*

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## THE EAR.

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**Baber, E. Cresswell** (Brighton).—*A Tragus Retractor.* "Arch. of Otol.," Jan., 1892.

A FLAT metal ring to fit the tip of the surgeon's forefinger. From it projects a flat piece of metal, which forms a blunt hook. This is so adapted as to press forwards the tragus while the other fingers of the same hand are employed in pulling the auricle upwards and backwards [This is calculated to replace the bent hair-pin or other retractor which for a similar purpose involves the use of another hand if for any reason the use of a speculum is contra-indicated.] *Dundas Grant.*