

been recorded in connection with many infectious states, such as rheumatic fever (8 cases), malaria (3 cases), typhoid fever (2 cases), diphtheria (2 cases), erysipelas, pneumonia, ozena, compound fracture, and erythema nodosum. Of 28 recorded cases, suppuration occurred in 15, and in 6 others the point is not mentioned. In the rheumatic cases suppuration did not occur. Suppurative thyroiditis appears to be especially common in connection with typhoid fever. The proper treatment is immediate opening and drainage. It is not described among the complications in the text-books, as it should be.

Correspondence.

Sulphuric Ether in Asphyxia Neonatorum.

CHINOOK, MONT., June 11, 1901.

To the Editor:—In a recent case of asphyxia neonatorum, caused by delay in delivery and the use of forceps, I worked faithfully for one hour, using artificial respiration and external stimulants such as rubbing, slapping, hot and cold water, but with poor success, as the heart became more feeble, cyanosis increased, and it seemed altogether a hopeless case. I injected 5 minims sulphuric ether into the thigh. In two or three minutes circulation was fully restored, child was breathing naturally, and it has since done well. Having never seen any note of ether being used in these cases, I send you this, thinking it might possibly be of some value.

Respectfully,

C. F. HOPKINS, M.D.

Inherited Tendency to Appendicitis.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, June 15, 1901.

To the Editor:—I am trying to establish the fact, which I believe from my own personal observation to be true—see *Lancet-Clinic*, June 8—of an inherited tendency or predisposition to appendicitis. If the readers of THE JOURNAL will kindly look into the family history of their cases and report to me, I will be under very many obligations.

Respectfully,

W. H. DEWITT, M.D.

61 Auburndale Place.

Association News.

THE ST. PAUL MEETING AS VIEWED BY OUR CONFRERES.

From the New York Medical Journal.

The fifty-second annual meeting of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, held in St. Paul last week, was memorable from more than one point of view. Those of our readers who were not present will have deduced this from the President's address and from the action taken on the plan of reorganization. The reorganization, tantamount to a new constitution, will, as we have before remarked, make the general sessions far more amenable than before to parliamentary rules of procedure and better able to arrive speedily at a correct understanding of the merits of such questions as may come before the Association. Many of the men who most thoroughly recognized all this before the meeting were fearful that, nevertheless, the scheme would fail of adoption this year, although sure to be sanctioned eventually. The result shows once more that we should never despair of a good cause.

The choice of a New York man as President for the ensuing year and of a place in the State of New York for holding the next meeting may doubtless be taken to foreshadow the re-establishment of the most cordial relations between the National body and the profession of the state. Now that the presidency has been conferred upon one of their number, the physicians of the State of New York should make no distinction in their own minds as to whether he represents the old or the new state organization, for it is certain that no thought of discrimination on that score governed the nominating committee. It is to be hoped, indeed, that there will

soon be no factions, and that the two state organizations will be blended into one.

The next meeting will be comfortably bestowed, for the capacity of Saratoga hotels is very great. But the entertainment of the members is to be thought of as well as their lodging. This the profession of the whole state must take upon itself. It would be wrong to leave the burden to be borne by Saratoga alone after the superb hospitality of the twin cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. We think we can promise our colleagues in all parts of the country such an effort as the State of New York can make to approach the standard of that hospitality.

From the Medical News.

The recent well-attended meeting of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION at St. Paul shows better, perhaps, than did meetings held at points more convenient for larger numbers of medical men how deep is the profession's interest in the work of the National organization. The Association has in these latter years risen out of a phase of quasi-provincialism to be thoroughly representative of the best elements of scientific and professional progress in American medicine. This state of affairs is most encouraging. At the beginning of the new century the clearest truth in practical life is that assured success is the outcome only of thorough organization. Many problems await solution in the social and legal relations of the medical practitioner to his clients and to public health. These can not be definitely and properly solved unless the weight of a united medical profession can be brought to bear upon legislation and public opinion.

The most noteworthy feature of the last meeting was the liberal attitude of the President and members of the Association toward that portion of the New York medical body whose defection ten years ago did so much to delay the unification of the profession in this country. The recently adopted opinions are, however, only a result of a just survey of the motives and conditions that prompted the attitude assumed by the New York Society before its enforced withdrawal. The President's acknowledgment of the right-mindedness of the motives that formed the basis for the action of the representatives of the New York medical profession must go far to repair the breach that still exists.

The selection of a New Yorker as President of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and the acceptance of the invitation to hold the next annual meeting at Saratoga must be taken as indices of a successful movement that is to give back to the Empire State her long-lost influence in the councils of the National body of physicians. The New York State Medical Association, thanks to the unsparing efforts of certain members, has been growing handsomely in numbers and influence in recent years. The auspicious circumstance of having the annual meeting of the National Association to inspire to renewed efforts should add greatly to its membership and prestige. With the recently adopted scheme of reorganization of the State and National associations, to cement the union of all the societies composing them and to make their influence available for professional purposes, there seems no reason to doubt that the day of a really united medical profession is at hand.

The new plan of government adopted by the National Association promises by its thoroughly representative character to do away with the petty sectional politics that have sometimes proved a jarring element at annual meetings. The proposed reformation of the code, already under way, encourages the hope that a stumbling-block in the way of certain serious minds as regards membership in the Association will be soon removed. For many years past some of the rules of conduct embodied in the old code have, if taken in their strictly literal signification, been a dead letter. Since they have proved a source of disunion, it must be a cause of congratulation on all sides that they are to be modified to meet the change of circumstances and evolution of conditions which make them a relic of the past.

The recent St. Paul meeting was especially noteworthy for the social relaxation it afforded attending members of the Association. Every year the social gatherings take on a more