CASE OF CYSTIC TUMOUR OF THE MAXILLA.

A girl, aged eighteen, was admitted into the *Middlesex Hospital*, under the care of Mr. Hulke, on Oct. 20th, 1868, with a tumour of the face of three years' duration. Mr. Norton, house-surgeon, gives us a description of it. It was attached by a broad base to the outer surface of the maxilla above the alveolar process, and it distended the cheek. On firm pressure, a peculiar recoil was perceptible, giving the impression of a bony cyst; and the escape of a few drops of viscid fluid through an exploratory puncture with a grooved needle confirmed this opinion. The alveolar process, the palate, and the nasal wall of the antrum were not distended. A free opening was made by cutting away part of the thin outer bony wall, which exposed a cavity lined by a smooth membrane projecting into the antrum, as well as outwardly. It held about six drachms of viscid mucus. No solid contents were found. Suppuration followed. The cavity was daily syringed with a solution of permanganate of potash, and it slowly contracted, the disfigurement being completely relieved.

MISCELLANEOUS CASES.

In a recent visit to *St. Bartholomew's Hospital* Dr. Andrew showed us several cases of interest, which we here merely record in a very few words.

1. A woman, G. N.—, aged forty-four, with great enlargement of spleen, which had existed twenty-two years. Three years ago she had a severe attack of hæmatemesis, which recurred ten months afterwards. Again, after an interval of ten months, she had a third attack, and passed also red blood by the bowels. The nature of the enlargement is somewhat obscure. It began when she was at Sheerness, and may, therefore, probably be aguish, although she has never had any other symptom of ague. On the other hand, the spleen began to enlarge after her second confinement, and the child born at that time died with ulcerations of skin. Between her first and second confinement she had miscarried. There is, therefore, a possibility of syphilitic infection. She is using the biniodide of mercury ointment, about half a drachm of which is rubbed over the belly every day. It is thought that the swelling has lessened in size. This ointment is found very useful in splenic enlargement. Dr. Andrew tells us that almost every autumn he gets some cases of ague which have originated in certain streets of Blackfriars.

2. A case of general muscular asynergia, following fright from the bite of a dog. We may probably refer on a future occasion to this very interesting case, in connexion with some others of similar character, under the care of Dr. Ramskill, in the London Hospital.

3. An old soldier has internal strabismus, apparently from paralysis of external rectus, which followed pain in forehead and back of neck, with giddiness and double vision. He says he never had syphilis; otherwise the case a good deal resembles many of that character. Dr. Andrew thinks it is very likely neuralgic, and is giving the man five minims of liquor arsenicalis three times a day, under which he is improving.

4. A painter, admitted with colic, was attacked with epileptic convulsions, accompanied by an extremely high rate of pulse, which persists. Pulse has been as high as 160, varying, however, a good deal, and being generally lower in the morning. We shall probably return to this case.

Provincial Hospital Reports.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL.

CHOREA TREATED WITH SUCCUS CONII.

(Under the care of Dr. WELCH.)

IN a recent number of the *Practitioner* Dr. John Harley brought forward a few cases of chorea treated successfully with large doses of succus conii. Mr. T. F. Raven sends us, from the above hospital, notes of a severe case of that dis-

ease which has lately been under treatment, and in which the recovery of the patient would seem to be attributable to the employment of the succus conii.

F. K.—, aged seventeen, a thin, pallid youth, was admitted into the hospital on Dec. 4th, 1868, suffering from chorea of a severe character. The involuntary movements were constant, universal, and very violent. He could not speak more than one word at once, and could not protrude the tongue. There was a very faint basic systolic bruit.

The patient had been ill with chorea in slight and variable degree for six months. The disease had assumed its acute form for three weeks. No rheumatic history could be traced.

In the position of a large boil, over the angle of the right scapula, the constant tossings of the patient had produced a bed sore, which extended rapidly in depth and circumference; and it was feared that the angle of the scapula would soon protrude if the disease were not checked. Chloroform was administered with temporary benefit only. Morphine only made matters worse. Failing to satisfy himself as to the value of the standard remedies in chorea, the bromide of potassium having also been tried and found wanting, Dr. Welch ordered the patient, on Dec. 16th, to take one drachm of the succus conii every six hours. The case had now become so serious that a fatal termination was feared. The one-drachm dose seemed to have little effect, and was doubled in two days' time, when some benefit appeared to result. On the 18th December a dose of three drachms was given, after which the patient complained of transient giddiness and slight impairment of vision. The same dose was repeated at intervals of six hours, with the most marked and rapid benefit. In two days the patient was comparatively well, and the sore over the scapula soon presented a good healing edge. The subsequent progress of the case was satisfactory.

That the treatment of chorea is one of the most doubtful points in therapeutics is shown by the variety of remedies employed, as preparations of zinc, arsenic, steel, &c. Each of these is confidently recommended by its supporters as possessing a specific power over the disease, which is not so apparent to those who have not staked their faith upon it, and who are more independent in their judgment. That arsenic, zinc, and steel may be of advantage, in so far as they are tonics, no one may wish to deny; but it requires a very intimate knowledge of disease to assign the exact proportion in which, in hospitals, the regimen and hygienic conditions are instrumental in restoring to health a patient who, suffering from chorea, is taking one or other of these remedies. Besides, in this gradual subsidence of chorea its natural history plays its part, and the termination of the malady may be the natural one. But the progress of the above case towards recovery was so rapid, and the improvement was so marked immediately after the large doses of the medicine employed, that its issue may be fairly attributed, Mr. Raven thinks, to the succus conii.

Reviews and Notices of Books.

On Pyæmia, or Suppurative Fever. Being the Astley Cooper Prize for 1868. By PETER MURRAY BRAIDWOOD, M.D., L.R.C.S. Edin., late President of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh. London: Churchill and Sons. 1868.

AFTER all the experimental researches, the accumulation of observations, and the construction of theories and hypotheses, we do not yet seem to have satisfactorily determined what the disease known as pyæmia really is; what is its exact relation to local suppurative processes or surgical lesions; whether it originates in some animal poison or other, and if so, the nature of it; whether several distinct and different affections are included under the same term, or whether these ought to be regarded as the varied products of, if not exactly the same cause, at least of causes nearly allied to one another. The subject is full of embarrassment for a student. One set of writers will speak of pyæmia and suppurative phlebitis almost as if they were conterminous; another, fixing their attention exclusively