illustrates the enormous power of increase of such structures when in free contact with the blood—nine pounds of cartilage being formed in less than three months. The immunity of all the organs beyond the lungs, while no cartilage-cells or other visible germs of the disease could be found in the blood, and the minuter elements of the morbid growths might have traversed the pulmonary capillaries, is explained on the supposition that, in such cases, the morbid materials carried through the lungs are changed, or their nutritive material is destroyed by the influence of oxygen.

Mr. CÆSAR HAWKINS stated that there was a preparation in the museum of the College of Surgeons of an osseous deposit in the glands of the groin and in the lungs, unaccompanied by malignant disease. In a testicle which he had removed twenty-five years since, the disease had been propagated from that organ to the glands of the abdomen, and in both situations there was a deposit of cartilage.

DIVISION OF THE BANDS IN FALSE ANCHYLOSIS, INSTEAD OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF FORCIBLE FLEXION OR EXTENSION.

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The author described a case in which he had divided the fibrous bands formed between the cartilaginous surfaces as the sequel of acute inflammation of a knee-joint, and which had left the joint in a state of permanent extension. He made use of a long tenotomy-knife, carefully selected and tried; the bands (previously detected by the aid of a probe) were felt to give way before the knife in its passage through the joint, which after the operation could be bent to a right angle with little effort, though previously immovable. The author advocated this procedure in preference to forcible flexion or extension, which so commonly result in serious injury to the natural structures of the joint.

Reviews and Notices of Books.

Pathological and Clinical Observations respecting Morbid Conditions of the Stomach. By C. HANDFIELD JONES M.B., B.A. Cantab., F.R.S., Assistant-Physician to St. Mary's Hospital. London: Churchill. 1855.

THIS work stands in most favourable contrast with the speculative works on diseases of the stomach that are being incessantly vomited forth by the press. Of the great mass of books professedly treating of this subject, it may truly be said that they are speculative in a double sense: speculative first and essentially in their design, which is directed to the extraction of fees from bilious and hypochondriacal valetudinarians; secondly, in their matter and composition, being made up of dreamy theories, and based on an unreal, imaginary pathology. A much approved bait for catching the "stomach and liver" gudgeons is to take for a title a prominent symptom, such as "Indigestion, its Causes and Cure," "Pain after Food," &c. &c., and to angle with it in the advertising sheets of the daily papers. It is clear that works of this character are intended for hypochondriacal reading, and not for the medical profession. It would be a waste of time to peruse them with the hope of deriving any useful information. Literature of this kind only demands notice at our hands, for the purpose of repudiating it as in any way belonging to scientific medicine. If therefore we do not review every book having a title that implies a treatise on stomach diseases, although written by authors appending M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. to their names, it is because a very painful experience in critical labours has taught us that a book is not necessarily free from the taint of charlatanry because its author may, by degree or diploma, claim a place in the legitimate ranks of the medical profession.

This upon the general literature of the stomach, so much of which is the offspring not of clinical observation of diseases in the stomachs of others, but of certain gnawing esurient sensations or "difficulties" in the epigastric region of the author, depending upon a condition for which we venture to claim a place in nosology under the name of the "*latrans stomachus*"—a very terrible and intractable disorder, characterized by a

cacaphagous bulimia, only to be subdued by the unlimited ingestion of "dirt-pie" and quotidian doses of aurum metallicum.

The work of Dr. Handfield Jones is, as we have already said, one of a very different class to that the thought of which provoked the preceding remarks. It is truly and honestly what its title imports. It is the fruit of the most intelligent and painstaking, pathological, and clinical study of the morbid conditions of the stomach. Were we called upon to express in a summary manner our opinion of the work, we should describe it as the most valuable and successful attempt hitherto made to rest the etiology and symptomatology of stomach affections upon the basis of a sound and demonstrative pathology.

Some of the most interesting observations made by Dr. Handfield Jones upon morbid conditions of the stomach have already been made known to the profession through the "Transactions" of the Medico-Chirurgical and Pathological Societies. These are embodied in the present work, with more detail and method, and many valuable additions, so as to constitute altogether a monograph, not complete indeed, but very comprehensive on the diseases of the stomach.

The first chapter contains an excellent account of the anatomical structure of the stomach. The second is devoted to the physiology of the organ, and in it are related some interesting observations and experiments of the author. In the third chapter the author describes the various morbid conditions of the stomach. This part of the book is essentially clinical. The different morbid conditions are illustrated by cases drawn, for the most part, from the personal observation of the author. After describing congestion, he passes on to inflammation, which he describes as of two kinds—*catarrhal inflammation* and *gastritis*. Catarrh is a "difficulty" of so common occurrence, that we think it useful to extract our author's views:—

"It occurs under the same influences as catarrh of the air-passages or conjunctivitis, and often either co-exists with these affections or succeeds them. The anatomical characters are—distension of the capillaries, especially of the surface, with blood; and secretion of the very abundant, of an extremely tenacious, clear, or whitish, or bile, or blood-tinged mucus. At the commencement often disease, or during exacerbations, the hyperæmia is a marked feature; the presence of abnormal mucus, however, is a much more constantly observed and certain character. The mid and pyloric regions are the parts principally affected by catarrhal inflammation, which is not the case in gastritis. The mucus which collects on the surface, and adheres very closely to it, so that it is with difficulty removed, consists essentially of an extremely tenacious, homogeneous-granular plasma, in which lie free nuclei, often very numerous, together with remains of columnar particles, and large, round, or oval cells from the tubes. I have never been able to find true mucus or pus corpuscles in the gastric mucus. When a layer of alkaline tenacious mucus is spread over at least half the surface of the stomach, it may be well conceived what an impediment it must be to the digestion of the food."

This affection is very clearly described, and the therapeutical indications well pointed out.

Conditions carefully investigated are those in which hypertrophy and atrophy of the solitary glands take place. The author thus recapitulates his observations upon hypertrophic increase of the solitary glands:—

"It is of the nature of an interstitial growth, spreading among the proper elements of the tissue, and inducing their atrophy. It is generally combined with more or less of fibrous stroma, which in allied instances comes to predominate. Its formation is gradual and latent, announced by no symptoms, at least none that have yet been detected. Though by no means peculiar to advanced age, this certainly seems to favour the development. Cirrhosis of the liver, stenosis of the cardiac orifices, Corrigan's pulmonary cirrhosis, are typical instances of similar changes in other organs. There is no necessary connexion between this affection of the stomach and inflammation."

Whilst on the subject of ulceration of the stomach, the author dissipates some current errors. It is not peculiar to