Jacobi suggested that perhaps the sclerosis followed the course of minute blood-vessels whose extensive network, it had been shown, served to connect and bind together the various fasciculi of the spinal cord. This anatomical fact, he thought, might offer a satisfactory explanation of these mixed forms of sclerosis. He regarded the subject of the paper as one of great importance to general practitioners, on account of the frequency with which disease of the spinal cord was now met with.

The Governor has at last given his official approval of the order made some nine months ago by Mayor Grace removing General Shaler from the office of President of the City Board of Health. P. B. P.

SAENGER'S CÆSAREAN OPERATION.

Dear Sir:—In his excellent paper entitled "Can the Cæsarean Section be Safely Substituted for Craniotomy in the United States at the Present Time," published in *THE JOURNAL* of February 12, 1887, and in the scientific conclusions of which I fully concur, my friend, Dr. J. Taber Johnson, in one place mentions me in a way that may give rise to misunderstanding, if not corrected. He says: "To quote from recent authority, in the October number of the *American Journal of Obstetrics*, page 1021, by Garrigues, who claims that the Sænger method should as properly be called by his name as by Sænger's, and further, that there is really nothing in this 'method' after all, as the most successful operators get on better without it—Garrigues says," etc. To those who have not read my paper, or who have forgotten the particulars of it, the first assertion looks as if I had laid claim to the so-called Sænger method, but a reference to the passage alluded to in my paper will clearly show that this is by no means so. I said: "When he (Sænger) says that American physicians might as well call the improved Cæsarean section mine as his, I quite agree with him, but I make haste to add that *one thing would be as ridiculous as the other*. The improved Cæsarean section is a beautiful outgrowth of general surgical and special gynecological development, an evolution due to the combined efforts of many men working independently in different countries."

The second assertion put into my mouth, viz., that there is really nothing in this "method," after all, will be very apt to be misunderstood. The cause of this that the words, "Sænger's method," have a double meaning. I show, in the paper referred to, that the only original idea of Sænger was the resection of the two slices of muscular tissue of the uterus contiguous to the incision made in that organ, but unfortunately, not only German, but English, French and American writers have got into the habit of calling the whole improved Cæsarean section, with its manifold steps due to different men, by Sænger's name. In the above-mentioned quotation from Dr. J. T. Johnson, it must be well understood that in the first sentence he refers to the whole improved Cæsarean section, while in the second he has only in view that part of Sænger's so-called method which really belongs to him, namely, the resection of muscular

tissue of the womb, and by no means all the other points entering into the composition of that which is erroneously attributed to Sænger. It is Sænger's original proposition which is objectionable, and has been given up, while all the rest of the improved Cæsarean section is, in my opinion, highly recommendable.

Very truly yours,

H. J. GARRIGUES, M.D.

155 Lexington Ave., New York, March 10, 1887.

"THE ETIOLOGY AND CURE OF ASTHMA."

Dear Sir:—In the issue of *THE JOURNAL* for Feb. 26 appeared a short review, under the above heading, by Dr. E. F. Ingals, which is likely to mislead those not familiar with the subject. I was astounded at the manner in which Dr. Ingals perverts the meaning of my words. *Firstly*, he claims priority for Dr. Wm. H. Daly against Hack. As the paper of Dr. Daly, quoted by Dr. Ingals, deals exclusively with hay asthma, and as my paper and quotations from Hack entirely exclude the consideration of hay asthma, there can be no discussion as to priority.

If Dr. Ingals is still confused on this point, I should earnestly advise him to read Hack's writings before discussing them.

The second point in Dr. Ingals' review states: "It is claimed that nearly all cases of asthma are the result of disease in the nasal cavities." I very distinctly stated in the introduction to and in the course of my paper, that the only form of asthma which I wished to consider was that perennial form which is more or less independent of the seasons, and not complicated with organic disease, etc., namely,—"Asthma nervosum seu essentielle." This is, comparatively speaking, a rarer form of asthma (*vide* Niemeyer's Spec. Path. and Therap., 10th ed.), and therefore the reproach quoted above falls to the ground.

Dr. Ingals' third point is: "It is also claimed that cauterization of the nasal mucous membrane will cure the majority of the cases of asthma." This statement is controverted by my objection to Dr. Ingals' second point.

Very truly yours,

EDWIN J. KUH, M.D.

Central Music Hall, Chicago, March 9, 1887.

ASSOCIATION ITEMS.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Thirty-eighth Annual Session will be held in Chicago, Ill., on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 7, 8, 9 and 10, commencing on Tuesday, at 11 A.M.

"The delegates shall receive their appointment from permanently organized State Medical Societies, and such County and District Medical Societies as are recognized by representation in their respective State Societies, and from the Medical Department of the Army and Navy, and the Marine Hospital Service of the United States.

"Each State, County, and District Medical Society entitled to representation shall have the privilege of sending to the Association one delegate for every