throw into the circulation a constituent of the blood, the proportion of which is below par.

There occur other cases, not peculiarly of an anæmic or chlorotic character, but of general muscular and nervous debility, and in which the digestive function partakes of the universal feebleness. In such circumstances chalybeates suit the stomach, on the principle that what benefits the whole must benefit a part.

In stomachic neuralgia or gastrodynia iron is useful; but perhaps it is here inferior to the tris-nitrate of bismuth, to the nitrate of silver, and even to the oxide of zinc, combined with aconite or hyoscyamus.

Jalap.—This purgative acts chiefly on the small intestines, and is somewhat hydragogue in its effect. It is rather disagreeable to take, and is apt to produce nausea. With these exceptions, it is a safe, expeditious, and efficient cathartic.

Kidney.—In a series of papers intended to illustrate the best methods of treating dyspeptic derangements, it would be an oversight to omit notice of the kidney in its pathological relations to the stomach.

In animals, the extirpation of the kidneys is followed by inflammation of the liver and formation of urea in the blood, besides other consequences. Now, a merely remiss action of the kidneys must tend to produce these results in a less degree. There can be little doubt that the gastric secretions are morbidly influenced by inefficiency of the renal secretion. Even in healthy saliva, Schultz believed that he found ammonia, though Mitscherlich controverts this view; but sure I am that in arthritic and rheumatic subjects, during the incubation of attacks of their peculiar diseases, ammonia, in some combination or other, is copiously excreted by the salivary glands and the mucous membrane of the stomach. During the said incubation of gout or rheumatism, the secretion of the kidney is almost suspended, both quantitatively and qualitatively. We must therefore suppose that the urinary salts, such as the urate and phosphate of ammonia and the urea, unable to escape by their natural outlet, seek egress by the salivary and gastric glands and the liver, occasioning no small derangement there. This is certain, that no sooner is the full action of the kidney re-established, with (as happens after such suspension) a copious elimination of the salts above named and of uric acid, than the stomachic derangement vanishes, the tongue becomes clean, the mucus, lately thick and glutinous, becomes thin, and the breath loses its offensive odour.

Hence, in treating dyspeptic derangements, attention to the state and action of the kidney is of importance. If simultaneously with a foul state of the tongue, acidity, ammoniacal eructations, &c., there is scanty and high coloured urine, let us, by way of illustrating the frequent efficacy of treating stomachic derangements through the kidney, order a few draughts containing wine of colchicum and nitrate of potass, and we shall have cause to be satisfied with the result.

Lacteals—the chyliferous absorbents of the intestines. Many points connected with the function, anatomy, and pathology of these vessels and their glands (as they are called) are still imperfectly known. It is probable that in its course along them an important maturing process of the chyle takes place, by which it is more assimilated to the blood. What are named the mesenteric glands seem to be a mere provision for securing a prolongation of surface in a compendious manner—these glands being nothing else than convolutions of the lacteal vessels, kept compact in a coat of cellular membrane and peritonæum, as on a larger scale the convoluted intestines are kept compact in a great sac of bony frame-work and muscle—to wit, the abdominal cavity.

From causes which we cannot appreciate, the strumotubercular diathesis often manifests itself structurally in disease of these glands. A chronic inflammation of a peculiar and very intractable kind, issuing in suppuration of a sort of inspissated pus, takes place. The passage of chyle is gradually interrupted, and the patient perishes of marasmus and inanition.

We have found in these cases, quinine, conium, and iodine, the means chiefly to be relied on, with frictions of camphorated oil to the spine and abdomen, warm clothing, tepid salt-water baths, nutritious food, and country air. The iodine need not be in large doses, and should be given for a fortnight, omitting it for a week, and then resuming it. The conium also may be replaced occasionally with hyoscyamus, and the quinine with gentian or taraxacum in large doses.

Leontodon.—(See *Taraxacum*.)

Lettuce.—The inspissated juice of both the lactuca sativa and virosa is employed, but the garden lettuce only is employed as an esculent.

There is no doubt that this plant possesses mild hypnotic properties, without any objectionable effects; at least, when given in the doses usually prescribed. The form called lactucarium is the best.

We have never witnessed any diaphoretic effects from the preparations, as some profess to have done. The bitter extractive makes it eligible as a tonic, while its lactucin operates sedatively, in a very mild degree. This peculiar combination gives it a superiority over many other vegetable bitters, some of which (as gentian, for instance) are tonic without being sedative; and others (as hyoscyamus) are sedative without being tonic.

Lichen Islandica.—(See *Iceland Moss*.)

Limones.—The fruits of the citrus medica. This species of fruit is indicated in derangements of the liver, in jaundice, more particularly in hyperæmic and torpid states of that viscus; in anorexia, in scorbutic disease, in all inflammatory and febrile complaints.

Lithic Acid.—(See *Uric Acid*.)

Liver.—That the liver, if an excrementitious viscus at all, is, at any rate, far less so than are excrementitious ones, is evident from the fact of its being placed so far up the *primæ viæ*. Immediately on the chyme leaving the stomach, it is met by the bile, which is necessary to the formation of chyle, of which fluid the bile forms so intimate and blended a constituent, that we can no longer determine how much of the combined current is to be referred to an hepatic or a stomachic source. Differently from the bile, the urine (a purely excretory secretion) is discharged into a receptacle with a very short conduit, and without that extensive arrangement for absorption prepared for the bile, as it passes onward to the great intestines. While all that is secreted into the bladder is meant to be extruded, much of the bile is no doubt intended to be re-absorbed, such as the albuminous and caseous matters, and (among the saline matters) the phosphate and muriate of soda. Among the excrementitious residue are, the colouring ingredient, the biliary resin, cholesterine, picromel, &c., though part probably of these enter into the formation of the chyle. It appears to us probable, for reasons which it is needless to state here, that a good portion of the potash of the bile is excrementitious.

Norfolk-terrace, Westbourne-grove, West.

REPORT OF A CASE OF TÆNIA SOLIUM, IN WHICH THE "KOUSSO" WAS ADMINISTERED WITH COMPLETE SUCCESS.

By DR. W. W. GULL,

LECTURER ON PHYSIOLOGY AT GUY'S HOSPITAL.

As the results of three cases of tape-worm, treated by Koussou, have been recorded in THE LANCET, I beg to trouble you with the following particulars of one treated by the same remedy.

T. C—, aged thirty-three, a sailor, was admitted into the hospital, under the care of Mr. Cock, for stricture of the urethra. For the last five years he has been much troubled with tape-worm, which, without affecting his general health, has been a source of great annoyance, from the segments frequently escaping from the rectum. A dose of the Koussou having been placed at my disposal by Mr. Cock, I ordered the patient to fast from dinner-time on Tuesday until five o'clock the following morning. At this hour he took the medicine according to the directions which accompanied it, and which you have given in THE LANCET of March 16th. At eight o'clock it began to produce its effects. He had several liquid evacuations, unaccompanied by any observable symptoms, or, as expressed in Bouchardat's formulary, "sans colique, sans douleur, sans fatigue, sans fièvre." The quantity of worm expelled weighed ten ounces, the length was 126 feet. There were found four thread-like and tapering anterior extremities, which expanded posteriorly into the large characteristic segments of the animal, and which could be referred only to four distinct worms. Although carefully searched for, no terminal segments or heads were found, but from the fineness and decrease of the segments, each worm must have been nearly entire in that direction. A portion of one of them only showed indistinct signs of life.

The efficacy of the medicine, and the gentleness of its action, serve greatly to recommend it. The only objections to its use are its great expense and its great bulk; both these will probably easily be obviated, should further experience confirm that already acquired.

Guy's Hospital, May 20, 1850.