Four typical cases are described. The total number cured is not given.

The Nutritive Value of Some Beef Extracts.—Dr. Thomas J. Mays (*Therap. Gaz.*, March 15, 1886) has undertaken to determine the nutritive value of beef extracts in general, and the relative value of some of those in the market in particular—a work which has long required an experimenter. Whether the particular mode adopted by Dr. Mays can be relied upon to determine a practical question of this kind may be questioned. His experiments, at any rate, are of considerable interest. He takes advantage of the fact that the isolated frog's heart, after being washed out with a saline solution, will beat with the same, but after a while becomes entirely exhausted. If, after it has ceased to beat with such a solution, it be filled with blood or serum, it recommences to beat, and soon does so as forcibly as before. If, instead of blood, the heart were refilled with saline, acid, or even alkaloid solution, it would show no sign of returning vitality. The explanation of this is, the saline solutions are devoid of material with which the heart can perform its functions; and although it works while it is filled with these solutions, it does so at the expense of the nutritive material stored up in its own meshes, and not with any energy derived from these solutions. Dr. Pohl-Pincus has brought forward evidence to show that there are lacunæ in the walls of the frog's heart in which material is stored up, and as soon as this material is exhausted the heart cannot beat any more unless new material is brought to it. The only substances thus far shown to have the power of restoring an exhausted heart are blood, serum, milk, albumen, and gelatine. Dr. Mays, in his experiments, employed dilute beef-extracts, 1-1,000 (strong dilutions 1 to 100 or 1 to 500 were found to have no effect), and found that they were all capable of resuscitating the heart, and hence were true nutrients. A comparative investigation was then made as to the relative effects of a number of different commercial beef-extracts, and the following products were obtained, which indicate the mean percentage of the number of pulse beats given by each preparation, while that of blood is taken at 100. The figures are only claimed to be approximate.

Liebig's extract of beef	58
Johnston's fluid beef	59
Valentine's meat juice	60
Cibil's extract of beef	61
Sarco-Peptone (Park, Davis, & Co.)	62
Beef peptonoids (Reed & Carnrick)	74
Milk	100
Two-per-cent. solution of dried bullock's blood	100

MORTON PRINCE.