

THERAPEUTICAL.

OPERATIVE TREATMENT OF DEFORMITIES
RESULTING FROM INFANTILE SPINAL AND
CEREBRAL SPASTIC PARALYSIS.

In the Medical News, Dec. 19, 1891, De Forest Willards, M.D., Ph.D., states that the deformities of infantile paralysis are preventable by apparatus, but if distortion has occurred, secure the best possible limb by immediate surgical procedure, and in some way make the patient walk. Apparently hopelessly distorted cases can be put upon their feet, and even great deformity does not contra-indicate an attempt to straighten the limb and give the individual the power of locomotion. Atrophied limbs can be straightened and incorporated as a part of the locomotive apparatus. Exercise will develop even badly shrunk limbs and continuous improvement may be expected. In the majority of cases surgical measures are preferable, after which mechanical appliances should be employed. Tenotomy or myotomy, while not curative, promotes the health and happiness of the patient. In spastic cases relapse is more common than in infantile paralysis, but the great benefit to body and mind secured by locomotion amply repays for the attempt at rectification. A. F.

Obesity (Dietetic Gazette, Dec. 1891). A French journal recommends a simple mode of dieting for curing obesity, which is attributed to an army doctor. A colonel, who was threatened to be retired from the army, as he was so heavy that it required two men to lift him into the saddle, became thin in a few weeks, and to such an extent that he had to take means to recover what he had lost. The means consisted simply in not eating more than *one* dish at any meal. It is said by doing this the stomach never takes too much. Nevertheless nothing but the one dish should be taken; no condiments or soups or supplementary dessert should be allowed. A. F.

SPASMODIC WRY NECK.

Noble Smith, F.R.C.S., Ed., in a recent publication endeavors to show that neither drugs, local applications, nor other general methods are of permanent use in the treatment of well-established wry neck. That electricity has failed to do permanent good, except in some recent cases. That nerve-stretching cannot with certainty be depended upon. That section and ablation of