

eral tonic; (b) as a means to combat certain sensory disturbances; (c) against certain complications. (5) Massage of the skin is useful in many of the sensory troubles, and also as a general tonic of extensive utility against nutritive changes. (6) The massage of muscles is without effect on the ataxia; it causes fatigue if too vigorous. It accomplishes little when there is paralysis or true atrophies. In slowly healing fractures in tabes it is valuable. (7) Passive motion is contraindicated when the joints are already too movable and when there is hypotonia of the muscles. (8) The active motions should be of a nature to re-educate the limbs. (9) Whatever be the conditions, the manipulations of massage should be gentle, and the seances brief when applied in tabes.

W. B. NOYES.

AUTOPSY IN A CASE OF ADIPOSIS DOLOROSA. F. K. Dercum and D. J. McCarthy (American Journal of the Medical Sciences, December, 1902).

The protocol of the autopsy was as follows: Superficial abdominal fat three and three-quarter inches thick. Loose in the fat were several hemolymph glands. The pia and brain were normal, except an abnormal arrangement of the third frontal convolution. The pituitary body was closely adherent to the *sella turcica*, which was converted in part into a tumor mass, which was an adeno-carcinoma. The thyroid gland was normal. The kidneys were in a condition of acute parenchymatous nephritis. There was an interstitial neuritis of the nerve filaments of the subcutaneous fat. The testicles were undeveloped. The symptoms that had been caused by that were obesity, large masses of fat accumulating on the abdomen and chest, which were extremely painful. As the deposit of fat grew the patient became excessively weak and easily fatigued. Four or five years before he had had an epileptic seizure, which recurred at intervals of a month or two. It was accompanied by an aura, biting of the tongue and unconsciousness. The knee-jerks were normal. There were no areas of anesthesia or hyperesthesia. The eyes showed very slight ptosis of the left side and some weakness of the internal rectus. Death was caused by erysipelas.

W. B. NOYES.

TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY. L. Cerf (L'Anjou Médicale, 9, 1902, July).

The author reports in four cases of epilepsy treated by thyroid with such excellent results and he suggests that in all cases of so-called essential or idiopathic epilepsy that some form of thyroid therapy be instituted in the event of there being some thyroid dystrophy in the case.

JELLIFFE.