PROGRESS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.

THERAPEUTICS.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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THE PROPERTIES OF THE THYROID AND THE SPLEEN.

DR. FREDERICK GOURLAY concludes from his experiments, that (1) the thyroid does not contain nor yield any peptone or proteose. (2) Its secretion is not mucin, as it yields no reducing sugar on treatment with dilute mineral acid. (3) The only proteid that can be obtained in any quantity from it is a nucleo-albumin. (4) This is derived, at any rate partly, from the so-called colloid matter in the acini. (5) Experiments which had for their object the finding of a ferment in the thyroid, which dissolves mucin, led to negative results; and it is suggested, with all reserve, that the nucleo-albumin is the material to which the thyroid treatment of myxœdema owes its usefulness. (6) Thyroid nucleo-albumin causes intra-vascular coagulation. As regards the spleen: (1) Fresh spleen, like thyroid, is alkaline. (2) Fresh spleen contains neither peptone nor proteose. (3) The proteids which can be extracted from fresh spleen resemble those found in lymphoid structures. (4) The most important of these are a globulin and a nucleo-albumin. (5) The nucleo-albumin, like that similarly obtained from other cellular organs, produces, when injected into the circulation of rabbits, intra-vascular coagulation. —*The Journal of Physiology*, 1894, Nos. 1 and 2, p. 23.

METHYLENE-BLUE IN MALARIA.

DR. ERNST FRATNICH has made use of this remedy in four cases. In each the urine became markedly colored, its amount increased, yet it contained no albumin. As an unpleasant symptom the spasmodic bladder-irritation may arise, but this is controlled by as much powdered nutmeg as can be placed upon the point of a knife. In these cases this symptom was not noticed; the stools and the saliva were colored, but otherwise normal. The dose was about two grains, given once daily. In three of the cases favorable results were obtained. —*Therapeutische Monatshefte*, 1894, Heft 4, S. 150.