Foreign Bodies in the Pharynx and Esophagus—ROBERT JONES—
The Lancet, May 6, 1899.

The article is a consideration, with some personal experiences, of the guiding principles in the treatment of foreign bodies in the upper food passages. From a study of his own cases of esophagotomy and a perusal of general results, the author submits the following conclusions: (1) That bodies which have lain for some time and given rise to symptoms of obstruction, irritation or dyspnea should be operated upon without delay; (2) that forcible attempts at extraction by the mouth are to be condemned; (3) that sharp or irregular impacted bodies specially demand esophagotomy; (4) that in certain cases gastrotomy is indicated and in some a combination of gastrotomy and esophagotomy; (5) that where the wound in the esophagus is jagged or its walls inflamed no stitches should be used; (6) that the routine practice where the esophageal wound is clean cut is to stitch it up with a continuous suture, care being taken, as in the case of the intestine, not to pierce the mucous coat; (7) that only in very exceptional cases, where no danger of suppuration and infection exists, should the external wound be closed; and (8) that liquid food may be given by the mouth in about twenty-four hours after operation. STCLAIR THOMPSON.

Diphtheria, Analysis of One Hundred Cases—J. M. DAY, Dublin—
Dublin Med. Journ., August, 1899.

The writer briefly analyses the cases admitted into hospital during the year 1898-99, the total 100, was the largest number of admissions recorded in any year, and it also showed the lowest death rate, eighteen cases were fatal. Antitoxin was found the most successful form of treatment. Sometimes a severe type of case came under treatment, sometimes a mild, these types varying at different periods of the year. There were sixty-seven cases where the diphtheria was mainly tonsillitic, of these two died, twenty-seven had associated nasal diphtheria, and of these ten died, sixteen had laryngeal symptoms and six died. The writer insists on the necessity of early treatment and comments on the insidious commencement of the disease with apparently few symptoms.

A. LOGAN TURNER.

VII. INSTRUMENTS AND THERAPY.

The Local Use of Formalin in the Treatment of Atrophic Rhinitis, Etc.—ADOLPH BRONNER, Bradford—*Journ. Laryn. Rhin. et Otol.*, October, 1899.

The first indication in this affection is to thoroughly cleanse the cavities and remove the inspissated crusts. The second indication was to alter the nature of the secretions of the mucous membrane, and thus prevent the accumulation of dried secretion.