

The large intestine contained a little solid and semi-solid yellowish fecal matter. The small intestine was nearly empty, but contained a little of the product of digestion, of a yellowish color. Nowhere in this tube was there anything that looked like blood.

Unquestionably the source of the hæmorrhage was the open blood-vessel supplying the left lobe of the liver; the blood readily finding its way into the duodenum by means of the largely dilated duct and its opening into the intestine, and through the rather open pylorus into the stomach. Why all of the blood should take this course and none of it go down the intestinal canal, as it apparently did not, is one of the points in this case seemingly worthy of discussion.

Of course the gas accumulating in the intestinal canal after death found its way by means of the same open vessel to the right side of the heart.

Hæmatemesis, with the blood coming from such a source, must be exceedingly rare, and so far as I am able to learn this case is unique.

The peculiar condition of the left lobe of the liver I have never seen before. I believe it to have been caused by a complete cutting off of the blood supply, producing a necrosis of the part.

REPORT UPON THE ADULTERATION OF FOODS AND MEDICINES.

BY DR. B. F. DAVENPORT.

ACCORDING to the *Sanitary Engineer* of November 15th the President of France on September 27, 1883, created, in connection with the Ministry of Commerce, a Council of Reference for municipal and departmental laboratories. This council is composed of five members, namely, M. Wurtz, President of the Council of Public Hygiene of France, MM. Pasteur, Brouardel, and Grimaux, members of the same council, and Armand Gautier, member of the Council of Public Health of the Department of the Seine.

The duty of this council is to advise:—

(1.) On the reports submitted to it by the directors of laboratories, or by municipal and department authorities.

(2.) On the methods to be employed in laboratories for the examination of articles of food.

(3.) On standards for purity of articles.

(4.) On all technical questions connected with the operations of government laboratories and analysts.

This decree is based on a report from the Minister of Commerce, M. Herisson, of which the following is a synopsis: The municipal laboratory of Paris has done such good work in checking adulterations, and so many other cities are following that example, that it becomes the duty of the general government to no longer remain passive, but to encourage and aid such efforts for the prevention of fraud. By the advice of this general council the local laboratories will work with that unity of purpose and uniformity of method without which there can be no efficacious check upon frauds in food. Articles condemned as adulterated at Paris cannot be merchantable in other departments, owing to different methods or standards, and thus honest commerce will be guaranteed as well as public hygiene.

According to the *Analyst* of April, the following decree concerning the prohibition of poisonous colors for

the coloring of certain alimentary substances and articles of food went into operation in Germany on April 1st:—

(1.) The use of poisonous colors for the manufacture of food products or articles of food intended for sale is prohibited. Those which contain the following materials or compositions are considered as poisonous colors within the meaning of this enactment: Antimony (oxide of antimony), arsenic, barium (except sulphate of baryta), lead, chromium (except pure chromic oxide), cadmium, copper, mercury (excepting cinnabar), zinc, tin, gamboge, picric acid.

(2.) The preserving and packing of food stuffs or food products intended for sale in wrappers colored with the above cited poisonous colors, or in barrels in which the poisonous colors are so employed that the poisonous coloring matter can pass into the contents of the barrel, is prohibited.

(3.) The employment of the poisonous colors enumerated in Art. 1 is prohibited for the manufacture of playthings, with the exception of varnish and oil paints made of zinc-white and chrome-yellow (chromate of lead).

(4.) The use of colors prepared with arsenic for the manufacture of paper-hangings, as well as that of pigments containing copper prepared with arsenic and of matters containing similar colors for the manufacture of materials of dress, is prohibited.

(5.) The putting on sale, and the sale, wholesale or retail, of food stuffs and food products preserved or packed contrary to the regulations of Arts. 1 and 2, as well as playthings, paper-hangings, and dress materials manufactured in contravention of the directions of Arts. 3 and 4, are prohibited.

In connection with the use of colors containing arsenic, according to the *British Medical Journal*, June 23, 1883, a committee appointed by the National Health Society of Great Britain have reported a special modification of Marsh's test as most suitable for a standard test to be inserted in an Act of Parliament, also special detailed instructions for the carrying out of the Reinsch's test by those preferring this method. These would both insure the absence of more than 0.001 grain of arsenic in sixteen square inches of surface. This, in the case of the Marsh's test, being determined by its failing, when treated as directed, to yield a mirror in a tube one eighth inch internal diameter, sufficient to cut off at any point a black line on a white ground, technically known as thick rule (eight to pica).

Specimen line.

According to the *Boston Journal* of December 5, 1883, in the complaint made by the Massachusetts State Board of Health, Lunacy, and Charity against some wholesale druggists for having violated the Act of 1882 against the adulteration of food and drugs by the sale of a drug which differed in strength, quality, or purity from the United States Pharmacopœia (the standard required when sold under or by a name recognized therein), the court ruled that in accordance with the Act of 1882 the United States Pharmacopœia, Revision of 1880, had become part of the law of the Commonwealth, and the government could proceed under it.

—Scarlet fever is prevalent at Trenton, and diphtheria at New Brunswick, N. J.