made adequate provision for the study of such questions, either in the Army or Navy Departments; and it recommends that Congress be urged to appropriate necessary funds that these Departments may be properly equipped.

The Advisory Council also endorsed Dr. Joseph Holt's recommendation for a

A SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE YELLOW FEVER.

The following were elected

OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

President—Henry P. Walcott, of Massachusetts.

First Vice-President—T. S. Coverinton, of Toronto.

Second Vice-President—G. B. Thornton, of Memphis.

Treasurer—J. Berrien Lindsley, of Nashville.

Secretary—J. Irving Watson, of Concord, N. H.

Toronto, Canada, was chosen as the place for the next annual meeting, on the first Tuesday in October, 1886. Memphis was strongly urged as the place of meeting, and the Association will probably go there in 1887.

CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Stated Meeting, January 4th, 1885.

THE PRESIDENT, C. T. PARKES, M.D., IN THE CHAIR.

DR. D. R. BROWER read a paper entitled

THE EFFECTS OF COCAINE ON THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM.

(See page 59.)

DR. E. L. HOLMES opened the discussion by saying that the South American Indians ate large quantities of the coca leaf, without injury.

DR. D. R. BROWER said that in the early history of Peru the Catholic Church authorities sought to stop the use of coca in that way because of its deleterious effects upon the people. But it was impossible to do it, they used it clandestinely, and the prohibition was withdrawn. Dr. Brower said that used in that way the result was a similar condition of mental deterioration as that mentioned in the paper; while these people were capable, under its influence, of performing muscular efforts in climbing the hills and mountains of that country, they were a puny, sallow, emaciated people, with intellectual capacity very little above the brute creation.

DR. E. L. HOLMES said that his experience had been wholly in connection with local applications on the eye. He had seen one case, in which he had placed cocaine in both eyes for an operation, in which it was followed by considerable depression and nausea through the night, but no alarming symptoms. He had twice used it in his office for strabismus, placing a not unusual quantity in the eye, where the patient felt sick and almost slipped out of the chair, and the operation was performed with the patient lying on the floor, but he suspected it to be a fit of fainting at sight of the instruments. He had found from experience that very minute doses will be ab-

sorbed, but had never seen the slightest influence from the amount which is usually given in the eye. It is exceedingly satisfactory in performing operations, and in removing little motes and pieces of iron or steel lodged in the cornea.

DR. C. W. EARLE said it appeared to him that when Dr. B. was in the Washingtonian Home he got along with a very small amount of the drug, very much less than Dr. Earle had anticipated it would be possible for him to get along with. Dr. B. had informed him that he had been in the habit of taking from 15 to 18 grains a day. After he went into the Home, the first three days he took less than grs. iij, and after that time did not take any. He regained his appetite very well, and appeared to improve in every respect up to the time that his wife and brother or brother-in-law came from Canada to visit him, then he was seized with an idea that he must go home, or at least to Canada, and from that time he was uneasy and did not do well. Dr. Earle said that it seemed to him that there had been more said in regard to the use of cocaine than there was any use in saying. While Dr. Bradley was at the Home he was not unlike an ordinary opium eater; they will all lie, and he would lie, and his friends would lie. The depression which followed withdrawal was somewhat similar, although there were none of the symptoms of dizziness, or nausea and sneezing, which are usually present after the withdrawal of opium.

DR. SARAH HACKETT STEVENSON said that she was surprised at the deleterious effects found by Dr. Brower from the use of cocaine in hay fever. She had had a number of cases in which it was used, without any of the symptoms mentioned in the paper. She used a 4 per cent. solution, applying with a camel's-hair brush, or simply by snuffing. Dr. Stevenson said she had used cocaine a great deal hypodermically in surgical operations with good effect so far as anaesthesia was concerned.

DR. W. F. COLEMAN said there are two lines of practice in treating the narcotic habit; to cut a man off from his drug completely, at once, or to taper him off. He believed in depriving him of the drug at once. If he found a man being poisoned he would not add another dose, but stop it immediately. He knew nothing practically of the internal use of cocaine, but was surprised at the grave effect mentioned by Dr. Brower. Cohn-Mueller asserts that he kills a frog with four-tenths of a grain, but to human patients he gave indiscriminately 5 grains and it produced no perceptible ill effect. Locally Dr. Coleman had had some experience with the drug, and there is this point about its immediate effect, it relieves pain in acute otitis, but it is a grave question whether it does not prolong the case, and while it relieves pain it is doubtful if it is better than hot water or other remedies. In its application to the eye there was not this objection, it produces anaesthesia and allows almost any operation to be performed without pain; it does not prolong congestion, and gives permanent relief.

DR. D. W. GRAHAM said that he noticed Dr. Brower quoted a case reported by Dr. Burchard in the *Medical Record*, in which a patient sustained loss of consciousness and stoppage of the pulse after an injec-

tion of four-fifths of a grain of cocaine. Dr. Graham doubted very much whether the bad effects were due to cocaine; we get the same effect in many patients by injecting water, or by showing them the hypodermic syringe, and he thought it probable that it was simply a fainting fit. There was nothing in the report that would lead to any other conclusion except that Dr. Burchard says it was the result of the injection of cocaine. Dr. Graham doubted the conclusion and thought it unreliable.

DR. F. M. WELLER said he had had some experience in the use both of cocaine and the fluid extract of coca. He had never used such large doses as those mentioned, but had seen that very large doses of the drug would produce unpleasant symptoms about the head, dull heavy headache, something like doses of other narcotics. Hypodermically he had used as much as five grains at one time without any unpleasant effects whatever. He was inclined to think that the real difficulty in some of these cases was that some other circumstance was overlooked. It seemed to him that some idiosyncrasy might exist that would make one peculiarly susceptible to this kind of narcotic, and it would hardly be reasonable to charge it all to cocaine. His reading of the history of the use of the drug in South America, where it originated, led him to think that it could be used a long time without injury. He thought one lesson is to be learned from the paper, viz., that no drug should be continued beyond the time of its necessity. That principle laid down and strictly adhered to, the patient would never suffer from the deleterious use of any drug.

DR. D. R. BROWER in closing the discussion, said that Dr. B. bought cocaine wherever he could get it, and he did not know what preparation he used. The other physician mentioned in the paper used Merck's cocaine altogether. He used it for hay fever and took five grains by inhalation every day for ten days. Dr. Brower said that he did not suppose that such disastrous effects as occurred in these cases and others, would result unless there was some weakness of the nervous system; he thought possibly a person perfectly robust and with a well-governed nervous organization could take cocaine with impunity, but a person with a nervous temperament could not use this drug continuously without some such results following. Dr. Brower said his plan of treatment was that of gradual withdrawal, as well with opium and chloral as with cocaine. This plan could be followed with less inconvenience to the patient. Dr. Brower said he was well aware that cocaine was one of the most valuable additions to the therapeutics of hay fever, it had been administered in perhaps thousands of cases in Chicago, and with few disastrous effects. As to the case reported by Dr. Burchard, the Dr. reported it as a case resulting from hypodermic injection, and it struck Dr. Brower as being a reasonable result in a very susceptible individual, but it might be that the man had a fainting fit. The case was reported in the *Medical Record* of Dec. 5, 1885; it impressed Dr. Brower as being undoubtedly a case of cocaine poisoning.

CHICAGO GYNECOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Stated Meeting, Friday Evening, Nov. 27, 1885-

THE PRESIDENT, DANIEL T. NELSON, M.D.,
IN THE CHAIR.

(Continued from page 52.)

Dr. Charles Warrington Earle presented for DR. JOSEPH HAVEN

A TERATOM, CORRESPONDING IN DEVELOPMENT TO THE THIRD MONTH, AND BEARING AN ASSERTED RESEMBLANCE TO A PUP.

The following history was read: Dr. Haven had attended the family of Mrs. H. for the past four years. During this time he had had occasion to notice that the younger daughter was a person unusually strong in her likes and dislikes, of a nervous temperament, slight build, yet a sensible, educated, and attractive girl. On the eighth of September, 1885, this young lady, in company with her sister, called at his office to consult him with reference to her condition. He made the following entry in his case-book, as the result of her visit: "Mrs. D., 19 years old, married one and one-half years, always regular as to her courses up to July 21, since then no show. Physical signs point to pregnancy in the sixth week." A few days later he saw her again. She was nervous and highly excited—almost hysterical. She told him in an excited manner that a dog had jumped on her, and that she "hated dogs." She complained of pain in the abdomen, low down.

From that day until the 1st of November, Dr. Haven saw her several times. Each time she was threatened with miscarriage, and each time she declared she was positive she could never carry that child. Her husband and sister told him that, asleep or awake, her mind seemed to dwell continually upon that dog. That she daily wondered if the child would be marked. Mr. D. said that ever since he has known her she has been afraid of dogs; she would always cross the street rather than meet one, and he has often jokingly refused to take her out with him, telling her, as an excuse, that they might see a dog, and she would make a scene.

On the night of November 1, the husband roused Dr. Haven, desiring him to go over and see his wife, thinking it to be only a repetition of former attacks. An examination proved that Mrs. D. was about to lose the contents of the uterus. She was flowing constantly. The os had dilated slightly and Dr. Haven could just reach the presenting part. The history of the miscarriage was the usual one, and the result is seen in the specimen presented. She insisted on seeing the fœtus, and declared it to be the image of the dog that had frightened her.

DR. CHARLES WARRINGTON EARLE presented SPECIMENS FROM A CASE OF ARTIFICIAL ABORTION-

The fœtus corresponded in development to the fourth month of pregnancy, and was not decomposed. It was closely enveloped in the membranes, and entire absence of the *liquor amnii* was noticed. Hæmorrhage into the placenta and decidua was not observed.