Diphtheritic Paralysis in Cases Treated with Antitoxin—F. J.WOOLACOTT—*Lancet*, August 26, 1899.

Interesting tables are given showing the percentage of paralysis, the influence of age, the relative frequency of the various forms of paralysis, the severity of the paralysis, the muscles first affected and the date of the onset of paralysis. In conclusion, the influence of antitoxin on diphtheritic paralysis may be summarized as follows: Up to the present the percentage of paralysis has increased on the whole. There is some evidence that large doses—*i. e.*, not less than 4,000 units—of antitoxin are more effective than small ones, both in preventing paralysis and diminishing the mortality due to it. The earlier antitoxin is given in diphtheria, the less likely is paralysis to follow. Should it occur after early injection, it will probably be mild and of comparatively short duration. The type of paralysis has, on the whole, become less severe or, at all events, less dangerous to life. Finally, diphtheritic paralysis has become more prone to attack the young. This change in age incidence has possibly made some minor differences in the relative frequency with which the various forms of paralysis are observed. The practical conclusion is that the full value of antitoxin is only obtained by using it early and in efficient doses. If this be done, not only is life saved, but tedious complications are prevented, or at least deprived of their dangerous characters.

STCLAIR THOMSON.

A Suggestion as to the Treatment of Graves' Disease by the Administration of Bile by the Mouth, Hypodermically and Intrathyroideal, with Cases—C. M. ALLAN—*Lancet*, August

26, 1899.

After accepting the view that this disease is an affection of the thyroid gland rather than of the nervous system, and giving some consideration to recent views on the functions of the liver, the author reports some cases in support of the line of treatment mentioned in the title.

STCLAIR THOMSON.

Diphtheria: Its Identity and Transmissibility from Lower Animals to the Human Subject—WILLIAM MEANY—*American*

Practitioner and News, November 15, 1899.

Authentic cases have been reported in which diphtheria was developed from a similar disease in fowls and cats. A disease has been observed in swine, sheep, horses, cattle and dogs which appears exactly similar to human diphtheria.

W. SCHEPPEGRELL.