IV. The Dangers of the Administration of Ether in Nephritis and in Bright's Disease. By HENRY B. MILLARD, M.D., (New York). A case is related in which acute nephritis of the severest character, although not fatal, resulted from the administration of ether, even though the patient was not under its influence more than fifteen minutes, the patient being at the time of the operation—curetting of the uterus—affected with a mild degree of chronic catarrhal nephritis. The author believes ether to be productive, when administered in nephritis, of a double source of danger: (1). The production of paralysis of the renal nerves and their terminal filaments, leading to passive congestion or inflammation of the renal vessels, glomeruli, etc.; (2). The impossibility on the part of the kidneys of eliminating the ether, and its consequent retention in the system. He believes chloroform to be much safer in cases of nephritic trouble, although the volume of evidence is not yet sufficient to demonstrate it, and suggests cocaine locally as a substitute in many cases.—*N. Y. Med. Rec.* Jan. 29. 1887.

V. The Selection of Chloroform or Ether as an Anæsthetic. By ARPAD G. GERSTER, M. D. (New York). This paper is a protest against the indiscriminate use of ether and an appeal for more scientific methods in the selection and administration of an anæsthetic. I. It being admitted, however, that on the whole, ether is the less dangerous anæsthetic, preference should be given to it, especially when anæsthesia has to be conducted by an inexperienced person. But (1) ether should not be used as an anæsthetic in cases of present or even suspected acute or chronic nephritis; referring to the remarks of Emmet, Carpenter, Millard and others, the writer relates a case of operation for strangulated hernia in which the patient rallied well from the operation, but succumbed ten days later to acute nephritis consequent upon the anæsthesia, although there had been no indications of kidney trouble previous to the operation. The immunity with which chloroform has been used in cases of puerperal eclampsia, as well as in other renal troubles, justifies him in stating that a careful examination of the urine should carefully precede every anæsthesia, and the presence of albumen or casts should be considered a positive