3. Disease, or even complete disorganization of the supra-renal capsules, may exist without giving rise to any special symptom.

4. Peculiar symptoms have been found associated with supra-renal disease in so many cases as to render it probable that the association is more than accidental, and that under certain unknown conditions, a real influence may be exerted on the economy by a disease of the capsules."

27. *Congenital Absence of the Supra-renal Capsules.* By Dr. MARTINI, of Florence.—This case was communicated in a letter to M. Flourens, and by him read before the Academy of Sciences at Paris.

CASE.—"In one of the wards of the Hospital of Incurables, Naples, G. M—, a man aged forty years, died of pulmonary tuberculosis. On inspection, M. Martini was surprised at first not to find the kidneys in their proper place, but soon perceived, over the promontory of the sacrum, the existence of a lobular ovoid mass: this was a fusion of the two kidneys into one single body.

"This renal body received from the aorta a single emulgent artery, which soon divided into four branches, corresponding to the venous branches, which likewise reunited in one emulgent vein. Two ureters of the ordinary calibre, but very short, went to the bladder. The mass of this body was divided into five lobes, and its anatomical structure was that of a normal kidney. This anomaly was accompanied with a total absence of the supra-renal capsules, of which there was not a single trace, nor, on minute dissection of the five lobes, could any vestige of them be seen.

"This man had a white skin; had lived up to forty years, and died of a malady of the chest; he had sufficient strength to work at his trade of joiner; was married, and had three sons."—*Glasgow Med. Journ.*, July, 1857.

28. *Disease of the Supra-renal Capsules with Bronzed Skin.*—Dr. ADAM MARTIN records (*British Med. Journ.*, May 15, 1858) an example of this in a married female, *æt.* 50. The skin all over the body was of a dark bronzed colour, especially over the shoulders, face, and hands. The left supra-renal capsule was shrivelled into a mere membrane, without any glandular structure. The right was converted into a cyst of about the size of a pigeon's egg, and filled with a sero-purulent fluid.

29. *A New Case of Amyloid Degeneration.* By Dr. RUD. VIRCHOW.—This kind of degeneration has often presented itself to the notice of the author, but not to the same degree as in the present case.

CASE.—A woman of a certain age, suffering from Bright's disease, with dropsy, died on the 5th December, 1856. On examination, the two kidneys, the spleen, and the liver were found to be enlarged and transformed into amyloid matter.

The spleen, weighing 473 grammes, was almost entirely transformed into amyloid matter. It had the appearance of being congealed. The small arteries of the kidneys and the Malpighian bodies had undergone the same transformation. The hepatic cells were healthy, but the small vessels of the acini were affected. The liver itself weighed 2687 grammes. The intestine presented a peculiar anemic, translucent, palish gray, puffy appearance, and on examination the vessels of the villi were almost all affected with the degeneration in question. In certain parts this change had extended to the substance of the coats of the bowel. The urinary and genital organs were also considerably affected, particularly the uterus, which was hypertrophied, and yellowish-gray in colour. The microscopic and chemical evidences of starch were almost everywhere present.

In a word, Professor Virchow found starch in every organ examined—in the heart, in the lungs, in the nerves, &c.; and everywhere the signs were unmistakable. The characteristic blue colour was brought out either by iodine alone, or by iodine in conjunction with sulphuric acid; and when the last mode of testing was employed slowly, this colour remained intact for six weeks.—*Ranking's Abs.*, vol. xxvi., from *Archiv f. Path. Anat. u. Phys.*, Feb. 1857.