

My second examination was made March 21st, two months after operation. The hemianæsthesia was much lessened, the lightest touch being felt over the entire right side, though not quite so plainly as on the left. The substances which were not perceived at all by smell and taste on the right side before operation were now recognized on that side, though not so easily as on the left. The watch on the temple, previously heard only on the left, was now heard on both sides, best on the left. There was no trace of the wax-like rigidity in the left foot, and that in the right was much diminished, the right foot when bent into an awkward position now falling back directly to a natural one, though not so completely as the left. The reflex spasm of the quadriceps femoris on the right still persisted. The tendon reflex was normal on the left, but still exaggerated on the right, causing a twitch of the whole body, but less marked than before, while the distress caused by the tap was comparatively slight.

The most marked improvement was with regard to the convulsions, previously so severe and frequent, only two light attacks having appeared since the operation. There had been considerable pain in the back and abdomen at the menstrual period, and at this time the patient, at others up and about, was confined to her bed for some days. We cannot, of course, assume that the improvement will be permanent, but the case well illustrates the rôle which hysteria may play as an indication for operation, and the result up to this time has certainly been most satisfactory.

A CASE OF ACTINOMYCOSIS IN A HEIFER.¹

BY W. F. WHITNEY, M. D.

SINCE attention has been called to this form of parasitic disease a number of cases have been observed in Europe within the last two years. Few, however, have been seen in this country, and, as far as is known, none in this immediate vicinity.

The specimen came from the head of a heifer which had been sent to the Harvard Veterinary School, and was kindly placed at my disposal for examination by Dr. C. P. Lyman, who suspected the nature of the affection.

The disease presented itself as a large fungous-shaped mass, projecting from the lower edge of the right horizontal ramus of the lower jaw near the middle. The surface was granulating and covered with a thick crust of purulent material. The outline was slightly lobulated. Upon section the mass appeared to be composed of lobe-shaped divisions, distinguished by their yellowish color and softer consistency from the intervening tissue. Upon deeper dissection the bone was found invaded throughout its thickness, and a large cavity crossed by bony trabeculæ filled with a pul-taceous mass of a dirty yellow color was disclosed. The yellow color, both in the solid portions of the growth and in the semi-fluid substance from the cavity, was found to be confined to numerous irregular-shaped particles about the size of a pin's head. These could be easily isolated on the point of a knife.

Microscopic examination of these particles when fresh showed that they were composed of large numbers of small bodies of an elongated pear shape, some-

¹ Specimen shown at the meeting of the Clinical Section of the Suffolk District Medical Society, April 9, 1884.

times branching, with slightly clubbed extremities. These were arranged side by side radiating from a central point or line, and presented a very characteristic and peculiar appearance. Lime salts were often associated with them, which had first to be dissolved in dilute mineral acid before the nature of the growth could be determined.

Portions of the tumor were hardened in a mixture of two parts Muller's fluid and one part alcohol, and thin sections made from this showed that each of these clumps of radiating bodies was surrounded by a narrow zone of small cells, the size of leucocytes, in a greater or less degree of fatty degeneration. (This must contribute largely to the yellow color of the particles as seen with the unaided eye.) This zone gradually passed into a tissue composed of large contiguous round cells, and which would be designated as sarcomatous.

These appearances correspond to those first described by Israel in cattle, and later by Ponfick in man, and distinguish the disease as produced by the presence of actinomycetes or radiating fungi.

The clinical history of the case, as furnished by the owner, is as follows:—

"The heifer was a pure Holstein, born in Massachusetts November 25, 1881. In the spring of 1883 was hooked in the jaw, which swelled badly at first but receded later. In October, 1883, the swelling broke and discharged up to the time of death; at the same time the tumor began to increase rapidly in size. She aborted January 6, 1884, at about the eighth month, and was killed April 8, 1884. The owner had never seen a similar case, nor was there any other among his herd."

The occurrence of this case renders it probable that others, as yet undetected, may be in the neighborhood and may serve as a focus of contagion to other animals and man.

Reports of Societies.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY, MAY 14, 15, AND 16, 1884.

THE thirty-fifth annual session of the State Medical Society of Pennsylvania was held at Philadelphia from May 14th to 16th inclusive. It was the largest meeting ever held by this Association; nearly four hundred names were registered. DR. HENRY H. SMITH, of Philadelphia, President of the Society, performed the duties of presiding officer with dignity and discretion.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

DR. JOHN B. ROBERTS, chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, delivered a brief Address of Welcome.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR GROSS BY GOVERNOR PAT-TISON.

Dr. Roberts was followed by the Governor of Pennsylvania, HON. ROBERT E. PATTISON, in a short address, in which a graceful tribute was paid to the memory of Professor Gross, "that great man whom all regarded with so much pride and veneration; to whose masterly mind two continents paid honor, and