

## THE ETIOLOGY AND TREATMENT OF OSTEOMALACIA.

SCHAUTA (*Wiener medicinische Presse*, No. 27, 1890) has collected twenty-four cases of osteomalacia treated by uterine amputation, of whom twenty were cured and four improved. Eight cases have been treated by oöphorectomy, among them Schauta's last case, in which marked improvement followed removal of the tubes and ovaries one and a quarter years after the fourth confinement. VON JAKSCH examined repeatedly the urine of two patients operated on by Schauta. He found a great excess of fatty-acid compounds; uric acid, nitrates, phosphoric acid, lime and magnesia were very deficient. The alkalinity of the blood was also greatly lessened. He had not found albumose. In rachitis these conditions were not present.

## PARTIAL NECROSIS OF THE UTERUS AND VAGINA.

DOBBERT (*St. Petersburger medicinische Wochenschrift*, No. 23, 1890) reports two cases of puerperal septic infection in which partial necrosis and discharge of fragments of uterine and vaginal tissue occurred. One patient recovered, the other died. On post-mortem examination the pathological appearances of gangrene were present. Dobbert narrates, in illustration, a case of typhoid in a multipara, some years after childbirth, in which similar necrosis occurred.

## A STUDY OF THE CONFIGURATION OF THE FETAL HEAD AT BIRTH.

RUNGE (*Zeitschrift für Geburtshülfe und Gynäkologie*, Band xix. Heft 1) concludes, from an extended study of this subject, that the existence of marked asymmetry of the fetal skull in certain dimensions as a result of labor is very doubtful. Weber's view is rational, that the mechanism of labor depends largely on the preëxisting configuration of the skull. The convexity of the anterior parietal bone in occipito-posterior position arises during labor, but disappears so soon that scarcely a millimetre-difference remains. The curvature of the frontal bone is practically unchanged by labor. The overriding of the parietal bones and their depression beneath the adjacent bones are the result of rotation.

## THE PATHOLOGY OF THE LIVER IN ECLAMPTIC PATIENTS.

PILLIET (*Gazette Hebdomadaire*, No. 30, 1890) believes, from his study of eclamptic cases, that the most important pathological changes in eclampsia occur in the liver. The first of these is dilatation of the branches of the portal vein forming sinuses and blood-pockets. Then masses of liver cells, in a necrotic condition, are observed, and at the periphery of each mass a dilated bloodvessel. Proliferation of leucocytes is also present in the enlarged blood-spaces.

## SULPHATE OF COPPER AS AN OBSTETRIC ANTISEPTIC.

In a recent number of the *Journal de Médecine de Paris* TARNIER reports his experience with sulphate of copper as an antiseptic. In a solution of two and one-half drachms to one quart of water patients complained of its irritating