

7th.—Morning: Pulse 84; slept comfortably during the night; vomited three times and was purged three times; no urine passed, two ounces drawn off. Temperature 95.8°. Evening: Purged once during the day. Temperature 95.2°; pulse 77, Eight ounces of dark-coloured urine drawn off.

8th.—Morning: Purged three times during the night; no vomiting; hiccough less frequent. Pulse 105; temperature 95.4°. One ounce and a half of urine drawn off.—Evening: Has slept a little during the day; bowels not moved; no hiccough. Pulse 84; temperature under 95°, the lowest marked by the thermometer. An ounce of urine drawn off.

9th.—Morning: No sleep during the night; bowels moved three times; no vomiting. Temperature 94.8°; pulse 81. Complains of sore-throat.—Evening: Purged three times during the day; no vomiting; breathing heavy and laboured. Temperature still under 95°.

10th.—Morning: Pulse imperceptible; respiration laboured and heavy; drew off half a pint of urine. He died soon after. In this case, as well as in that of the other patient, the mind was quite clear to the last.

*Autopsy, twenty-four hours after death.*—Muscular rigidity well-marked; appearances were the same in kind as in the case of the woman, and only differed in degree. There were no signs of any gangrene or ulceration, but the other inflammatory appearances of the colon existed. In addition the colon was affected; this was quite healthy in the woman.

The infant child of the woman whose case is narrated above was taken suddenly ill during the night succeeding her admission; it vomited and was purged about twice, became rapidly cold, and died in a very short time. There was no autopsy.

The following morning its brother, a fine healthy child of five years of age, was suddenly taken ill with vomiting and purging. He had the low temperature, sunken eyes, and peculiar countenance of the other cases. He rallied in about twenty-four hours, and on the third day was convalescent.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT INFIRMARY.

### EXCISION OF HEAD OF THE FEMUR.

(Under the care of Mr. PAUL BELCHER.)

FOR the notes of the following case we are indebted to Mr. Lloyd, house-surgeon.

J. W—, aged five years and a half, readmitted December 31st, 1872. About two years ago the patient fell from a table, and struck his left hip upon a flagged floor. He was examined by a surgeon, and no fracture or dislocation could be detected. In a few weeks, however, the joint became swollen, fistulous passages formed, and shortening became evident in course of time to about an inch. In this condition he was admitted (Feb. 16th, 1871), and an operation was then proposed, but under the hygienic conditions of the hospital the child improved, the sinuses closed, and the patient was discharged (June 10th), able to walk with a high-heeled shoe.

Upon readmission the limb was about one inch and three-quarters shorter than its fellow, the knee flexed at an obtuse angle, and at the trochanter were two fistulous openings leading to softened carious bone. The patient was very weak, though the limb itself was not comparatively much wasted. There was much hectic, some cough and expectoration, and slight mucous râles. His father and brother died of pulmonary phthisis. His appetite was bad, and he had lost flesh. He was evidently in danger of sinking, and the limb was in a bad position; an operation was therefore decided upon.

Feb. 7th.—Chloroform having been administered, Mr. Belcher, by means of a long incision, exposed the articulation. Partial dislocation had taken place. The head and neck were turned well out of the incision, and, together with the great trochanter, were removed. A considerable extent, about two-thirds of an inch, of the ramus of the ischium, being necrosed, was also removed. The wound was brought together by silver sutures, and water dressing applied. The limb having been brought into good position, slight extension was made by an interrupted side splint.

Five hours after the operation the pulse was 112; respiration 30; temperature 98° F. He had been sick, and there was slight oozing of blood.

8th.—Is constantly sick. Pulse 160; temperature below normal.

9th.—Vomiting incessant. He is almost pulseless and collapsed. To have an injection of egg, beef-tea, and brandy every four hours.—Evening: Vomiting urgent, legs and feet cold.—Midnight: He has retained a little champagne, and has slightly rallied.

10th.—Vomiting incessant. He is feeble and barely conscious; is very thirsty; the eyes are sunken. Temperature below normal; respiration 35, irregular. Pulse very feeble, scarcely perceptible. To be wrapped in cotton wadding, and to continue enemata.—Evening: He has retained a little iced brandy.

11th.—He retains a little iced milk and brandy. Temperature 98.4°.

12th.—He is rallying. To omit enemata. He is still to be wrapped in wadding, to take iced brandy-and-water, and iced milk.

From this date the patient steadily improved, and the incision very quickly healed, except one small sinus which did not communicate with bone. This proved troublesome, and was injected with iodine. The splint was kept applied (being readjusted from time to time) for ten weeks. At the end of three months there was firm union, the leg moving with the pelvis. The sinus, however, was obstinate, and had extended a little under the cicatrix. The tissue was slit up with advantage.

On June 2nd the patient was sent to the Convalescent Institution at Rhyl, and on the 26th of June was quite well. There is no joint, but the pelvis moves freely.

August 8th.—The patient is in excellent health; can walk well with his high-heeled boot, and even run. There is shortening to nearly an inch and a half.

*Remarks.*—The operation saved the boy's life, and has given him a useful and not unsightly limb. There is no arrest of growth of the leg. The bone removed was highly carious. The neck was little more than a shell of bone. The cartilage was comparatively healthy. The removed parts included the great trochanter. The shock and chloroform-sickness caused great anxiety, but care and attention tided him over the danger. The time from date of operation to cure was four months and twenty days.

## Reviews and Notices of Books.

*Nouveau Dictionnaire de Médecine et de Chirurgie Pratiques.* Tome XVII. GROSSESSE—HUILES. pp. 798. Paris: J. B. Baillière et Fils. 1873.

THE principal articles contained in the present volume are: 1, Grossesse (Pregnancy), by Stoltz; 2, Hallucinations, by Aug. Motet; 3, Hanche (Hip), by A. D. Valette; 4, Hématocèle, Scrotal, by G. O. Languelonne, and Uterine, by G. G. Bernutz; 5, Hæmorrhoids, by O. Lannelongue; 6, Hérédité, by Aug. Voisin; 7, Hernies, by A. Le Dentu; 8, Herpes, by Hardy; 9, Hôpital, by Ch. Sarazin. And, besides, there are a considerable number of minor articles, such as Gymnastique, Habitus extérieur, Hectic, Hématurie and Hémophilie, Hémeralopie, Hémoptysie, Hermaphroditism, Histologie, and Huiles, which are, on the whole, fairly worked up to the knowledge of the present day.

The longest article is devoted to the Physiology, Pathology, and Medico-legal relations of Pregnancy. We need scarcely say that the ordinary course and symptoms of pregnancy are very fully and accurately given, but there is little in it to call for special observation here. The pathology of pregnancy is treated in the following somewhat unusual manner:—1. Alterations of the blood, including chloro-anæmia, plethora, serous cachexia, fibrinous cachexia, uræmia. 2. Disorders of the circulatory apparatus, as hypertrophy of the heart, embolism, varices, mechanical œdema. 3. Respiratory troubles. 4. Disturbances of the digestive