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LARYNGEAL AFFECTIONS TREATED BY KOCH'S METHOD.

FLATAU¹ (Berlin) relates six cases observed in Dr. Oppenheim's sanatorium. (1) Young teacher with tubercle of the lungs; laryngoscopically there seemed to be only catarrh. After three injections, followed by strong reaction, there were swelling of inter-arytenoid fold and sub-glottic membrane, and infiltration of the left vocal band. Twelve days later *status idem*. (2) A lady with tubercle of the lungs had swelling and infiltration of the left vocal band. After some injections there were strong local reaction and swelling of the posterior wall. Some days later the patient seemed to be cured *quoad laryngem*. (3) A patient thirty years old had tubercular infiltration of the left vocal band and deep

¹ "Berliner Klin. Woch." 1891, No. 3.

ulceration of the left ventricular band. After three injections, some prominence of the affected local band. Twenty days later great improvement in the local condition. (4) Young lady with tubercle of the lungs curetted because of a tuberculous infiltration of the posterior wall, now has only a cicatrix. After some injections, swelling of the left vocal band and the ary-epiglottic fold; inflammation of the soft palate and tonsil, development of little tumours in the tonsil; the next day ulceration of these tumours, containing tubercle bacilli. (5) A patient whose tuberculosis of the vocal band was treated by cutting forceps, followed by application of lactic acid, had now recurrence. After the first injections his state was worse, but some time later improved. (6) This patient was laryngoscopically observed after having been treated by eight injections. The posterior wall was irregular and covered with secretion. The author concludes that the treatment will be of good use in laryngeal phthisis, if it is applied under laryngoscopical observation and with great precaution.

SCHNITZLER¹ shows two cases of laryngeal phthisis treated by Koch's method. (1) A man, thirty-eight years old, with tubercle of the lungs, infiltration and ulceration of the inter-arytenoid mucous membrane. No general reaction after the injections, but local improvement. Some days later the state of the larynx deteriorated very much. The epiglottis, hitherto normal, became oedematous, and showed a great number of miliary tubercles. Some days later miliary tubercles appeared on the posterior pharyngeal wall. There were tubercle-conglomerations of the size of a nut in the pharynx and difficulty in swallowing. Now the patient is in a feverish state. (2) A patient, twenty-seven years old, with tubercle of the lungs. In this case swelling of the inter-arytenoid mucous membrane disappeared, the ulcers cicatrized; the arytenoid cartilage, previously immobile, now became free, improvement of voice ensued, but the state of the lung deteriorated.

SCHREIBER (Königsberg)² has treated seventy-six cases. He reports on four cases of laryngeal tuberculosis. In one of them an infiltration of the inter-arytenoid mucous membrane disappeared after thirty-nine days of treatment. The state of the lungs also was improved. In three other cases it cannot yet be said with surety whether the state of the disease is improved for a long time.

GUTTMANN and EHRLICH (Berlin)³ recommend beginning the treatment with a decimilligram, adding daily a decimilligram more, especially in cases of laryngeal tuberculosis. If the treatment is so managed, there is not such high feverish reaction, and the patients do not lose so much in weight. Also during the application of such small doses local reaction and improvement are observed in many cases.

IRSAY (Buda-Pesth)⁴ has treated seventeen cases, of which the majority had also affections of the larynx. (1) A patient, forty-five years old, with tubercle of the lungs; ulcers of both vocal bands. After eight injections improvement of the voice and cleansing of the ulcers. (2)

¹ Wiener Med. Doctoren Collegium, Meeting, Jan. 26, 1891.

² Verein für Wissenschaftliche Heilkunde in Königsberg, Meeting, Jan. 19, 1891.

³ "Deutsche Med., Woch." 1891, No. 10.

⁴ "Internat. Klin. Rundschau," 1891, Nos. 5-7, and "Deutsche Med. Woch.," 1891, No. 6.

Another, forty-three years old, with tubercle of the lungs ; ulceration of both vocal bands and the inter-arytenoid space. Cleansing of the ulcers, and diminution of the swelling. (3) A patient, twenty-six years old, with tubercle of the lungs ; the larynx had not been affected before the treatment. After the sixth injection ulcers arose on the right vocal band and processus vocalis. (4) A patient, with lupus of the face, was not examined before the beginning of the treatment. Dyspnœa came on during the reaction. The laryngoscope showed that there was lupus of the epiglottis, now very much swollen, and nearly closing the entrance of the larynx.

GRABOWER (Berlin)⁵. The outbreak of grey miliary nodules is viewed by many authors as a dangerous symptom, and contra-indicating Koch's treatment. The author does not agree with this view. He has also seen such neoplasms in previously healthy organs, but he does not believe that they mean any particular harm to the patient. In one case of tubercle of the lung there came on, after twenty-four injections, hoarseness, followed by aphonia and difficulty in swallowing. The laryngoscope showed a large number of miliary nodules on the left ventricular band and the arytenoid cartilages. Some days later the nodules disappeared, and did not again appear. In a second case, a patient forty-two years old affected with pulmonary tuberculosis, complained, after sixteen injections, of pains in the neck and hoarseness. The free edge of the epiglottis was covered with little nodules, and the organ was much swollen. The nodules disappeared soon, but the swelling persisted for a longer time.

A. FRAENKEL⁶ reports a case of lupus of the soft palate, larynx and pharynx, combined with tuberculosis of the uro-genital organs ; the lungs were intact. In this last case injections of 0·0005 were made, with the result that the swelling in the larynx diminished, so that now the whole larynx could be seen with the laryngoscope, which previously was quite impossible.

FLATAU⁶ has observed, during the treatment, the development of a recent tonsillar tuberculosis, and in a second case an acute tuberculous laryngitis, which had no tendency to improvement.

VIRCHOW⁷ showed specimens of a case treated by thirty-six injections. In the larynx was a fresh ulcer on the posterior end of the left vocal band. Around the larynx and the trachea was a colossal mass of swollen caseous glands. The greater number of the lesions were so recent that they must certainly have arisen during the treatment. *Michael.*

⁵ Berliner Med. Gesellschaft, Meeting, Feb. 4, 1891.

⁶ Berliner Med. Gesellschaft, Meeting, Feb. 11, 1891. ⁷ *Ibid.*, Feb. 18, 1891.