

he had seen was that of a child, six weeks old, in the hospital at Tours, a district surrounded by canals and rivers. Quinine was doubtless the best remedy; but he had seen some exceptional cases in which that medicine had had no effect, and which had been successfully treated by purging. He should not be disposed to give quinine with strychnine, thinking that the one would counteract the effect of the other.—*Med. Times and Gaz.*, July 18, 1857.

22. *On Spanæmia, Chlorosis, and Analogous Conditions, as the Predominant Characteristic of the Present Age.*—Dr. POLLITZER takes a very gloomy view of the condition of the human race at the present time, and considers it to be an established fact that the physical deterioration in Europe is profound, “a sad memorial of civilization.” He admits the general diminution of mortality in all civilized countries, but affirms this to be a fallacious test, as there is not a corresponding increase in the health and vigour of the race, or in the number and character of the diseases. The reduction of the mortality, the author attributes to the increase of hospitals and similar charitable institutions—to quarantine, vaccination, and numerous sanitary regulations. The boundaries of health and disease, he observes, are daily becoming less marked, and he considers it characteristic of modern pathology to affirm that there are numerous conditions which are undoubted deviations from the healthy standard, though it is impossible to delineate or give definite portraits of them, because they make their appearance during a state of “relative health.” The physician has no name for the disease, but the patient maintains that, not feeling in health, he has no alternative but to call himself ill. This anomalous condition, Dr. Pollitzer accounts for by the spanæmia and chlorosis, which he regards as the feature peculiar to our times—the soil in which the feebleness and deterioration of our race take root. After developing his views more in detail, the author proceeds to show how these conditions are fostered by modern civilization. A constant stretch of the mental powers—a restless excitement of the passions—a perpetual struggle for advancement—the fresh wants of every day, science and the arts themselves being subservient even to the luxury and demoralization of the times—the destruction of all moral harmony and peace—are advanced by Dr. Pollitzer as the evils of modern civilization. And these evils react especially upon the younger generation; and the demands made upon the youth of eighteen or twenty of the present, would formerly have been considered a sufficient tax for the strength of a man of upwards of five and twenty. He inveighs especially against the polymathy (if we may coin the word) of children, among whom the spanæmia and chlorosis of the age especially flourish.

Having for seventeen years devoted himself to the study of children's diseases, he has arrived at the conclusion that the features which characterize our age have their source in the treatment of childhood, and that the deterioration of the race at large takes its origin in that of childhood.

The facts upon which Dr. Pollitzer bases his remarks are, that anæmia and chlorosis occur alone, or associated with rickets, hypertrophy of the lymphatic glands, and of the spleen and liver, to an incredible extent, even from the first month of life. Of 1,000 children that were treated in the children's hospital, on an average, 700—800, or from 70—80 per cent., were thus affected. He also observed that the anomalies of the blood and constitution, which are so widely diffused, invariably appear where the nutrition of the child has been imperfectly effected. The stomach and intestinal tract are the parts that first suffer; hence it is in these organs that we discover the prevailing morbid conditions of childhood; and while they materially influence the mortality of children, they equally affect the state of their future health when they survive childhood.—*British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*, July, 1857, from *Zeitsc. des K. K. Gesellsch. der Aertze*, February, 1857.

23. *Redness of the Cheeks as a Symptom of Pneumonia.*—Dr. A. GUBLER takes up the old doctrine that the redness of a cheek in a case of pneumonia, indicates the side on which the disease lies. Modern authors have paid little attention to the subject, but Dr. Gubler has satisfied himself, by extensive obser-