

DR. F. WHITEHILL HINKEI, of Buffalo, read a paper on

SOME MANIFESTATIONS OF LITHÆMIA IN THE UPPER AIR PASSAGES.

The influence of lithæmia and allied conditions upon the upper air passages has received little attention in laryngology, as is shown by the scanty literature extant upon the subject. There is a distinction to be made between distinctly gouty sore throat and that due to lithæmia or some allied condition. The subjects of the latter may never have attacks of true gout, nor irregular manifestations of it—indeed, as a rule, they are not so affected. The term lithæmia is elastic in its application to cases varying from extreme digestive and nervous disturbance to almost normal health; consequently its manifestations in the upper air passages are not sharply distinguished, nor are they typical or pathognomonic. One of the most characteristic manifestations is a patchy or streaked irregular congestion of the mucous membrane of the larynx and pharynx. In the former case a dry explosive cough accompanies, in the latter uneasiness or positive pain is referred to the side of the throat, occasionally extending to the ears. These cases are notably irritated and made worse by stimulant applications. Local sedatives and general antilithic treatment give the best results. Occasionally acute naso-pharyngeal catarrh is a manifestation of an exacerbation of the lithæmic tendency. Alkaline and diluent medication with proper diet give more relief than local treatment. Obstinate relaxation of the nervous plexuses of the turbinated bodies in some individuals appears associated with lithæmia. Such cases stand operative—caustic—applications badly and receive little or no benefit from them. Some of these cases are much improved by antilithics and general hygiene. Others are intractable on account of uncontrollable lithæmic tendencies.

After electing the officers for the ensuing year (see p. 847) the Association adjourned to meet in Baltimore, the time of meeting to be determined by the Council.

DOMESTIC CORRESPONDENCE.

The Johnstown Disaster—An Appeal from Dr. Irving C. Blaisdell.

Dear Sir:—As a member of the Cambria Medical Society, as well as a member of the American Medical Association, I will report to you the loss of our Society so far as has been positively ascertained up to this date, although some other member may have already reported to you.

Dr. J. C. Wilson, of Conemaugh, an excellent Christian gentleman and for many years well-known in this county, was with his wife and

adopted daughter and one servant girl, with home and everything pertaining to it, swept away, nothing remaining to even mark the place of a once happy home. Next is Dr. G. C. Brinkey, of Johnstown, a very able and promising young doctor, a former secretary of Cambria Society. The third is Dr. M. W. Marbourg, of Johnstown, who had been in practice for many years, occupying the same office with his wife, Dr. Esther L. Marbourg, and who was well known in this section of country, and stood high as doctor, Christian and friend. His death was first reported to me by his wife, Dr. Esther Marbourg, on the Sunday following the flood. It was on the main street of Johnstown, but how different from its former self. The street was packed 30 feet high with every manner of débris, even to a steam engine that had been carried for miles as easily as though it was a block of wood. Cambria Medical Society was represented at the Chicago meeting by Dr. Esther Marbourg, and she is a member of the American Medical Association.

The doctors of Johnstown have lost heavily, not only in lives of friends, but property. One very worthy doctor and wife on the Sunday following the flood, while assisting in alleviating the wants and sufferings of others had nothing left for themselves except the clothing on their persons and a few dollars in the pocket of the doctor, which he generously divided with a brother doctor, left in the same condition, and who a few hours previous, had been counted wealthy, and so on. These are only two incidents among many that chanced to come under my notice.

I trust the loss and sufferings of the doctors of unhappy Johnstown will be brought before the Association when they shall have met in Newport. Very truly,

IRVING C. BLAISDELL, M.D.

Wilmore, Cambria Co., Pa., June 12, 1889.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Fifth Annual Meeting of the Fifth District Branch of the New York State Medical Association—The President, Prof. Wm. T. Lusk, delivers an admirable Address, in which he treats principally on the subject of Rupture of the Uterus and its Prevention and Treatment—Dr. T. M. Manley, of New York, on the Genesis of Tumors—Dr. F. E. Martindale, of Staten Island, reports a Case of Calcification of the Cardiac Left Ventricular Wall—Dr. T. H. Allen, of New York, on Traumatic Pelvic Cellulitis—Dr. J. G. Truax, of New York, on The Treatment of Acute Lobar Pneumonia—Discussion thereon by Drs. Alfred L. Carroll, E. R. Squibb, S. J. Murray and C. S. Wood.

The fifth annual meeting of the Fifth District Branch of the New York State Medical Association