

thus disposed rainbow-wise, may also be seen in the urine; but as respects the expectoration, nothing but the green is developed.

M. Solon remarks that tartar emetic employed in pneumonia, sometimes cures by its contra-stimulant power without inducing vomiting; but at other times it does so by exciting bilious evacuations.—*Brit. and For. Med.-Chir. Review*, Jan. 1849, from *Bulletin de Thérapeutique*, tom. xxxv.

16. *Melæna Neonatorum*. By Dr. RILLIET of Geneva.—The new circumstances in which is placed the infant, the delicacy of its organs, the novelty of the functions they are suddenly called upon to perform, predispose it to certain forms of hemorrhage, more special in their causes than in their symptoms or results. The most frequent are those which occupy the brain, or spinal cord; the former bears the name of apoplexy, the latter of tetanus. A more uncommon variety is hemorrhage from the stomach or bowels, and is known under the denomination of *melæna neonatorum*. Hesse (in 1825), Rahn Escher, of Zurich (1835), Kivish, and Hoffman, have published isolated instances of the disease; Billard and Barrier, in France, also speak of the complaint; and two cases were published in England by Dorington and Gairdner.

In referring to the cases hitherto published, children of the male sex seem, more than female infants, predisposed to the malady, and it usually occurs during the first four days of extra-uterine life. The predisposing causes should be sought for in the naturally congested state of the gastro-intestinal mucous membrane of infants—a circumstance which may be increased by enlargement of the liver or spleen, or any other cause of obstruction within the abdomen sufficient to occasion hemorrhage; and, secondly, in the difficult establishment of respiration. The lungs not admitting readily the blood, that fluid distends the other organs, and specially the already congested intestines.

The disease more frequently makes its appearance after the evacuation of meconium; the discharge of blood from the anus is usually the first symptom, and in more than one-half of the cases precedes hematemesis. The hemorrhage is generally considerable, and in most cases attains its height during the first twenty-four hours. The general symptoms are those habitually concomitant with loss of blood, viz., paleness of the face, refrigeration of the surface and extremities, extreme feebleness of the pulse, irregularity of respiration, and (seldom) convulsions. The local symptoms are all negative; the infants are too weak to suck, the abdomen is not tender or distended. M. Rahn Escher specially insists upon the consequences of the loss of blood upon the constitution of the child. The patient remains pale, thin, and subject to diarrhoea and convulsions.

With regard to the prognosis of the malady, Dr. Rilliett observes, that of twenty-three cases on record, the issue was fatal in eleven cases; in nine of the remaining instances, the recovery was rapid and complete; but in the three others the constitution remained a long time much deteriorated by the illness. The treatment recommended by M. Rilliett consists in cold applications to the abdomen, whilst heat is carefully applied to the extremities. Enemata he rejects as useless, because their action is confined to the large intestine, which is not the seat of the disease. The nurse's milk should be given in a spoon until the child has recovered sufficient strength to take the breast, and a gentle cordial should be exhibited in cases of alarming weakness.—*Med. Times*, Jan. 6, from *Gaz. Méd. de Paris*.

17. *Chorea*.—Dr. ELAM, in a paper read before the Sheffield Medical Society, (Nov. 16th, 1848), observed that the disease now known by the name of chorea seems to be perfectly distinct in its nature from that to which the name chorea or chorea Sancti Viti was originally applied; very little is known of the latter by practical experience in the present day. It was a much more formidable disease, and frequently fatal, but we have no records by which to ascertain its pathology. The cases to be related are all of the modern chorea. Cullen's account also differs from the present type of the disease in several particulars; with regard to the voluntary nature of the actions, which should rather be described as automatic, the too prominent limitation of the convulsions to one