

in one or more doses, by those who are exposed to the danger of malarial poisoning, will, in most instances, prevent an attack of malarial disease; and that it will always render the disease milder, if it should occur. It will also prevent the development of malarial cachexy."

D. F. C.

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ART. XVIII.—*Extracts from the Records of the Boston Society for Medical Improvement, with Papers read before the Society.* By FRANCIS MINOT, M.D., Secretary of the Society. Vol. IV. No. 4. (Pamphlet) 8vo. pp. 179—264. Boston, 1862.

ABUNDANT evidence is afforded, in this modest pamphlet, of the activity of our brethren in Boston during the past year. We have only room for a brief mention of some of the more important cases and papers contained in it; premising that we have seldom seen an equal amount of material of more uniform interest and value.

Several instances of cancerous disease of the alimentary canal, at various portions of its extent, are reported; in one, a free communication was established, through the adventitious mass, between the transverse and descending colon. Dr. Jackson relates a case of rupture of the Fallopiian tube in a non-pregnant woman, and Dr. Gay one of retro-uterine hæmatocele—a very rare affection in this country. Another singular case is detailed, in which a multilocular cyst was developed from the fundus uteri. A case of bronzing of the skin, connected with enlargement and disease of the supra-renal capsules, is added to those already on record. Three instances of death from softening of the muscular tissue of the heart, without perforation, are reported; in one of them the subject was a man only twenty-nine years of age.

The secretary has very properly grouped together the records of several discussions and reports relating to diphtheria, a topic which must interest every practitioner of medicine of the present day. A case is alluded to here, and more fully detailed in the Appendix, in which a young physician of high standing was cut off by this disease, contracted apparently from a patient; many of our readers will be reminded by it of the very similar fate of Dr. Frick, of Baltimore, a year or two since.

The experience of the members of the Boston Society in regard to the use of ether in puerperal convulsions, seems, on the whole, to have been favourable. An interesting paper, headed "Report of a Committee on the alleged dangers which accompany the Inhalation of the Vapour of Sulphuric Ether," in the Appendix, deserves attention. Dr. Bowditch brought before the Society, in July last, a new anæsthetic agent, called *kerosolene*, represented as cheaper and safer than sulphuric ether; it was referred to a committee to be experimented with.

Several interesting observations in the pathology of the lower animals, mainly of calculi and tumours, are to be found in these records. Dr. John Bacon has a valuable paper in the Appendix, upon Siliceous Urinary Calculi, which are extremely rare in the human subject, but not uncommon in the herbivora.

J. H. P.

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ART. XIX.—*The Excision of Joints.* By RICHARD M. HODGES, M. D. Boston, 1861. 8vo. pp. 204.

THE monograph before us was successful in obtaining the Boylston Prize of 1861, as the best treatise offered to the Committee, on the subject of excision of the joints. It comes to us, therefore, bearing already a mark of value.

There are few subjects in surgery of equal interest, at the present day, as those