

affected by the diet. The efficacy of medicines which diminish cerebral irritability may be totally inhibited by improper food. Hence in all cases except those in which the cerebral irritation seems to be at a minimum suitable diet must be considered a very important feature of the treatment.

F. A.

The Treatment of Myxædema.—In "The Practitioner" Jan. 1893, T. McCall Anderson, M.D. records several cases of this disease which improved very markedly under treatment. His experience is corroborative of the good effects from iron, arsenic, pilocarpine, baths and frictions and he believes much may be accomplished by a line of treatment naturally suggested by the character of the symptoms, and by the circumstance that these patients suffer in cold and improve greatly in warm weather. The method of treatment recently introduced with such astonishing results, of administering the thyroid gland of the sheep or pig, or a fluid extract by the mouth or subcutaneous injection, is not antagonistic to the method of treatment just mentioned and the two can be carried out simultaneously. These injections he says, occasionally give rise to alarming symptoms, such as tonic spasm and loss of consciousness, especially if the remedy is not introduced very slowly. Abscesses are apt to result which interfere with the continuous administration of the remedy. All these drawbacks may be overcome by giving the extract by the mouth. He considers that it would be premature to speak positively with regard to the curative effect of this new remedy. That it gives great relief and dissipates all the unpleasant symptoms in a comparatively short time is now placed beyond doubt but the evidence so far tends to the conclusion, that after the treatment has been suspended for a time there is a tendency to a recrudescence of the symptoms. This however, we might reasonably expect and even if it is necessary to continue the treatment there appears to be no objections to resorting to the extract permanently. The discovery of this remedy the author believes may pave the way for similar discoveries in other fields.

A. F.