

Gradually increasing doses of 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 drops of a two per cent. solution were injected daily into the forearm. Extreme symptoms of salivation and perspiration, and the incipient symptoms of severe vomiting, were quickly allayed by two drops of a solution of atropiæ sulph. in water (gr. ss to 3iiss water). The number of injections varied from six to forty.

The favorable results in the treatment of syphilis of the labyrinth have already been reported. In eleven cases, five of recent origin improved and six received no benefit. In one case, the distance at which loud speech could be heard was increased from zero to sixteen and one-half feet. In a second case, in which loud speech could be distinguished only at a distance of thirteen inches, the hearing improved until whispering could be distinguished at a distance of nearly twenty-three feet.

Prof. Politzer also cites a case in which non-syphilitic disease of the ear was much benefited by the use of pilocarpin. The patient was deaf in the left ear for two years, and in the right completely deaf for nine months; after seventeen injections rapid improvement began, and at the end of the third week the hearing, with the exception of acoustic hyperæsthesia, was nearly normal. Unfavorable results obtain in the use of pilocarpin in pan-otitis, cotemporaneous inflammation of the middle and internal ear.

Other specialists have used pilocarpin on the recommendation of Prof. Politzer. Prof. Lucas, of Berlin, in thirty-five cases obtained remarkable results in five, slight benefit in six, and in twenty-four no improvement. Profs. Moos and Wolf, in two cases of middle ear disease due to scarlatino-diphtheria, in which there was total deafness, observed the restoration of hearing after a long use of weak pilocarpin injections.—*Allgemeine Wien. Med. Zeitung.*, Jan. 20, 1885.

#### *Exfoliation of the Cochlea without Loss of Hearing.*

The loss of the cochlea, according to the ingenious researches of Helmholtz, is considered to be equivalent to the loss of hearing power. A case, however, which Professor Grüber demonstrated on Dec. 12th, at the meeting of the Society of Physicians in Vienna, would seem to go far towards refuting this view. The case occurred in a lad, aged fourteen, who had been ailing for four years, and who was admitted into Professor Grüber's wards last November. It was stated that the patient suffered from an old otorrhœa with polypus of the left ear. As the patient experienced great pain, and as paralysis of the left facial nerve existed, Professor Grüber had no hesitation in entirely removing the polypus, and in doing so came upon the cochlea in a state of necrosis. Since the operation the patient has felt better, his pains have ceased, and the paralysis of the facial nerve has nearly disappeared; but, strange to say, the lad's affected ear has regained the power, not only of recognizing sounds, but of distinguishing musical notes. Only two similar cases seem to have been recorded. One was observed by Dr. Cassols, at Glasgow, the other by Dr. Christinneck, in the clinic of Prof. Schwarze at Halle. Prof. Grüber did not enlarge on the features of this interesting case; but it certainly affords food for suggestive thought in reference to treatment of diseases of the ear. Heretofore, the labyrinth was considered a sort of *noli me tangere*; but now we see that the entire cochlea may be missing, and yet the aural powers be retained. On the other hand, it is not yet quite certain whether in the above case paralysis of the auditory nerve may not eventually occur.—*Lancet*, Jan. 3, 1885.

#### *Treatment of Deaf-mutism caused by Auricular Compression.*

Dr. BOUCHERON, at the conclusion of a valuable paper upon deaf-mutism, caused by auricular compression, reaches the following conclusions relative to the treatment of the affection: