

THREE CASES OF SCIATICA TREATED BY NERVE-STRETCHING are reported by Dr. Robert P. Robins, of Philadelphia. All three made a good recovery, and had continued well till the time of writing.—*The Medical News*, Sept. 29, 1883.

THE EFFECTS OF THE SUBCUTANEOUS STRETCHING OF THE SCIATIC NERVE IN TABES.—Lépine discusses the effects of the above-named procedure. Its results are uncertain. The best that can be said is that it is without danger.—*Compt. rend. hebdom. des séanc. de la soc. de biol.*, Paris, 1883, No. 10, p. 194.

TETANUS SUCCESSFULLY TREATED BY CURARE AND CHLORAL.—Dr. Hjorst reports the history of a case of tetanus occurring in a child three years of age, the result of a crush of the leg. Morphine and chloral at first gave relief, but the disease continued, and on the twenty-fifth day the case seemed hopeless. It was then decided to give hypodermically an injection of curare .001 grm. (gr. $\frac{1}{64}$), which was repeated at the end of three hours increased to .002 grm. (gr. $\frac{1}{32}$), which gave decided relief. The next morning an injection of .0015 grm. ($\frac{1}{48}$ gr.) was given; the patient was decidedly more comfortable; chloral was again given by the rectum at night. The next day patient was much better and had spontaneous diuresis; convalescence gradually became established.—*Norsk Magaz. für Lægeev.*, B. xii, Heft 8; *Centralblatt f Chirurg*, No. 22, 1883.

SERPENT VENOM AS A REMEDIAL AGENT IN TETANUS.—Dr. A. O. Ameden relates a snake story. A healthy man of twenty-five years received a punctured wound of the foot, which was followed by tetanus. All other remedies failing, Dr. A. procured some serpent venom from the rattlesnake. He moistened the point of his hypodermic syringe with this and inserted it beneath the skin. The symptoms rapidly ameliorated but returned in thirty hours, when a fresh injection was made. The patient finally recovered.—*The Medical News*, September 29, 1883.

UPON THE APPLICATION OF THE ACTUAL CAUTERY IN THE TREATMENT OF SPASM.—Dr. Luigi M. Petrone (who has cured old cases of anterior poliomyelitis with strychnine) reports his success with the actual cautery in seven cases of clonic and tonic spasm. Petrone applies the thermo-cautery generally along the spine at about the origin of the affected nerves. He makes deep cauterizations four to six inches long, then applies ice for an hour. After the eschar has fallen off, he applies an irritating ointment and excites suppuration. The cases treated were those of trismus (1), facial spasm (1) (here the cautery was applied over to the cervical spine), torticollis (3), of the median nerve (1), of the sciatic (1). Similar cases reported by Busen and Westphal