

of collapse and fatal cardiac insufficiency of pneumonia are essentially due to oligæmia. This leads to insufficient nourishment of the heart, which is at the same time weakened by fever and under unusual stress. Perhaps, too, anæmia of the brain may act injuriously on the heart, through the nervous system. According to what has been said, the author thinks that bleeding has properly been abandoned. In addition to the usual methods of maintaining strength saline injections would seem of value.

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION IN THE USE OF DIPHTHERIA-ANTITOXIN IN GERMANY.

THE *Deutsche med. Wochenschrift* (1895, No. 32) publishes in tabular form the results of a collective investigation on diphtheria treated with and without antitoxic serum. One of the most interesting features of this is the low death-rate of both classes of cases, in marked contrast to some of the earlier reports based on comparatively small numbers. Thus, out of 562 cases treated with antitoxin in Berlin, 84 died, or 15.1 per cent.; whereas, out of 282 cases treated without serum in the same city, 49 died, or 17.4 per cent. Outside of Berlin, 5271 cases treated with serum gave a death-rate of 9 per cent.; and 4197 cases without serum, 14.4 per cent. The totals are respectively 5833 with serum, and 9.6 per cent. mortality; and 4479 without serum, and 14.7 per cent. mortality. The other details are not of much interest in themselves; a later report is promised.

CHANGES IN THE CEREBELLUM IN TABES DORSALIS.

JELLINEK (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Nervenheilkunde*, Bd. vi. p. 231) has examined the cerebellum in six cases of tabes dorsalis. In all cases there was atrophy of the ganglion cells of the corpus dentatum, the cells being long, spindle-shaped or three-cornered instead of round or oval, as in the normal condition. The bloodvessels of the parts had disappeared to a great extent. The fibres penetrating the corpus dentatum, the finer fibres in the lobules of the hemispheres, and, in some cases, also the radiating fibres, were more or less degenerated.

BASEDOW'S DISEASE.

PÄSSLER (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Nervenheilkunde*, Bd. vi. p. 21) has analyzed the histories of 58 patients in the Jena Policlinic who showed symptoms of Basedow's disease. Of these, 74 per cent. were women. Of 51 cases 29 had a neuropathic family history, in most cases on the mother's side. Rheumatism and valvular disease of the heart were each noted five times. In all cases but one there was tachycardia; in 43 palpitation of the heart; in 7 more other symptoms of circulatory disturbance. In 10 cases there was no goitre. Exophthalmus was present in 28 cases. The cardinal symptoms of rapid pulse, palpitation, goitre, exophthalmus, and tremor occurred together in only 35 per cent. of cases, one or more being absent in all the others. There was characteristic tremor in 90 per cent. of cases. Nervous irritability was present in 38 cases; restlessness in 19. Severe headache was complained of by 32 patients, dizziness by 23, insomnia by 21. Besides the 5 cases with