ship, and he had occupied the Presidential chairs of the French and the Parisian societies, as well as of the Section of Laryngology at the late Congress.

Dr. Gouguenheim was a man of great force of character, staunch to a degree in his friendship, hospitable almost to a fault. Unfortunately, of late, he was absent from the meetings of societies, where his lucid exposition of the results of great experience would have added largely to the value of the discussions. He leaves behind him a widow and daughter. The latter has, by her industry and talent, filled for some time the post of amanuensis to her late father, relieving him of much of his clerical labour. His work will be long remembered, and many friends will mourn his decease.

RETROSPECT OF LARYNGOLOGY.

By John Macintyre.

During the past year, if nothing of a very novel nature has been recorded, still, the various papers published, the discussions in different societies at home and abroad, the clinical work, new remedies and instruments, all give satisfactory indications of continued earnest desire on the part of those engaged in the special department to improve the diagnosis and treatment of laryngeal affections. A few years ago great care and attention was devoted to the study of acute affections, such as diphtheria, and if less prominence has been given to these during the past twelve months, it is not because interest has been lost, but that the profession is now engaged in modifying, perhaps, and certainly in testing, the methods of which so much was expected, and from which much benefit has been derived. On the other hand, much attention has been paid to chronic ailments; but notwithstanding all that has been written and said upon the subjects, the treatment of diseases such as tubercle and malignant growths leaves much to be desired. As far as surgical procedure is concerned, anything written during the past year has not tended to convey the impression that as much is to be derived from it as was hoped and expected by some, at least, a few years ago. It is only fair to state, however, that in malignant disease a far better understanding now exists as to the earliest and most promising methods of operation.

The question of tubercle of the larynx continues to exercise the

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attention of the profession, and at the last meeting of the British Medical Association a discussion on the subject was opened by Middlemass Hunt, Barclay Baron, and Lake. Much time was spent in considering the different agents to be employed and their relative value, and a good deal was said about operative interference. Mr. Lake, whose remarks were mainly devoted to this part of the discussion, after dealing with the contra-indications, stated at the outset that in all cases, favourable or unfavourable, not more than 15 per cent. required cutting operation, or could be improved beyond what could be done by other methods. He brought out an interesting fact about the temperature subsequent to operation—namely, that in thirty-five cases in only four was there any subsequent rise of temperature.

Tubercular laryngitis has also again been referred to by Sendziak (*Journ. Laryng.*, May, 1891). After considering the question historically and otherwise, like many other writers, he comes to the conclusion that, although the treatment of laryngeal tuberculosis has made great progress, complete and permanent cures are still very rare. He further points out that we should not forget that the so-called cases of laryngeal tuberculosis succumb to the same affection in the lungs. In this connection StClair Thomson, in a paper read before the British Congress on Tuberculosis last year, points out that a certain number of apparently permanent cures have been effected, but that even enthusiastic supporters of surgical procedure in this affection admit that the majority of cases are unsuitable for such treatment. He is under the impression that the treatment during the last decade has rested too much on the bacillus as an etiological factor. On this ground he bases a plea for early diagnosis, and the same treatment as is now employed in pulmonary tuberculosis. McCall has recorded a case of advanced tubercle of the larynx, in which benefit was obtained by insufflation of resorcin.

It must be admitted, therefore, that operative procedure has not so far justified the expectations of some whose results have been published within recent years. It is interesting, however, to note the possibility of some of the newer agents which have been successfully used in the treatment of tubercle—such as lupus of the skin—being employed in similar affections whose seat is in the upper respiratory tract. There can be no doubt now of considerable success with Finsen's treatment, and satisfactory indications are to be found in the medical literature of the past year bearing upon the advantages to be derived from X rays, high frequency and high potential currents. The great difficulty, however, is to

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apply these forces at a distance from the surface, which no doubt accounts for the fact that they have not yet been employed in laryngeal affections. Finsen's theory demands pressure on the part, so as to render the tissues anæmic, while Tesla's high frequency currents are too painful, as a rule, to be borne for any length of time by the sensitive mucous membrane. The possibility of employing high potential currents from the static machine was dealt with in a paper by the writer in this journal last December. While the relationship between these different forces has not been established, nevertheless, it is quite certain that they produce beneficial effects in similar, if only in a limited number of, affections. The question of permanency has yet to be determined, and the manner in which they act is quite unknown, although most experimenters do not think it can be by destruction of pathogenic organisms. Schiff, in his work on "Röntgen Therapy," published last year, states that the mucous membranes of the lips and nose react promptly to the Röntgen rays, and states that very favourable results, after a relatively short course of treatment, have been recorded, even when the affection of the mucous membrane has gone on to ulceration. Writers have come to different conclusions upon the results of X rays in the deeper tissues; but Chisholm Williamson, in a paper published in the *British Medical Journal*, has reported upon the employment of high frequency currents in tubercle of the lungs. In his paper, which is mainly devoted to these affections, he makes a short reference to tubercular affections of the larynx, speaking favourably of the possibilities; and if it should be ultimately shown that these currents can penetrate the pulmonary tissues, it is evident that some prospects may be held out of similarly beneficial results in the larynx. Theoretically speaking, however, it is difficult to see how these currents can pass in the manner indicated, because Tesla and others, from physical experimental work, have shown that all such currents have a great tendency to pass over the surface, and not to penetrate. Moreover, it is no easy matter to satisfy the sceptical observer, by physical demonstration at least, that these currents do penetrate to any appreciable extent. It should not be forgotten, however, that tissues at a distance might be affected indirectly by electrical stimulation of the superficial cutaneous nerves. The possibility of such a thing is suggested to the mind by the stimulating action of heat, which has so long been used in familiar ways in inflammatory affections of the chest. Many workers are engaged in trying these different agents, and it is to be hoped that ere long further information will be available as to their value or otherwise in treatment of tubercle and lupus of the larynx.

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The question of malignant disease of the larynx still continues to be carefully studied, and many important results have been recorded during the year. While cases of complete extirpation have been successfully performed, there can be no doubt that the tendency in this country, at least, is stronger than ever in the direction of early diagnosis, external operation, and thorough removal of the disease, before total removal of the organ is necessary. This view has been consistently and persistently advanced by many who have given special attention to the question; and in this country, at least, Semon's views on the subject have been regarded more and more favourably of late. There can be no doubt of the great advantages to be derived from such methods, incurring as they do less risk at the time; and the subsequent histories have now been sufficiently long placed on record to justify the hope that prolongation of life, with comfort and absence of recurrence, may be obtained without the removal of the whole organ, a fact which is of great importance when we consider the high mortality which follows the severer surgical procedure.

Although much less has been heard during the past year of the result of antitoxin, still, the profession is becoming more and more confident of the valuable results which have accrued from earlier detection of the disease and prompt application of the remedy. Fenn (*Journ. Laryng.*, February, 1901) states that the new evidence is chiefly statistical, but the results have been supported by clinical observation in public and private practice. Statistics sent from many parts of the world show a great reduction in the percentage of deaths as compared with those published previous to the introduction of the agent. The tendency in many places is to increase the dose, and everywhere early injection is recommended. Saline infusions in the treatment of severe cases of diphtheria have been strongly recommended by Laslett.

A number of interesting cases have been recorded clinically. Stuart showed a case at the Laryngological Society, London, of mucous polypus of the larynx occupying the right vocal cord. Bruggisser (*Journ. Laryng.*, January, 1901) mentions a case of false teeth in the larynx, removed eight days later by endolaryngeal extraction (tracheotomy was required for paralysis of both postici muscles, and the tube has been required for four years, owing to the paralysis continuing); Brady (*Journ. Laryng.*, January, 1901) reports angeioma of the larynx successfully removed under chloroform by the endolaryngeal method; and a rare case of crico-thyroid arthritis is recorded by Mounier.

Interesting papers have likewise been contributed on various

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subjects bearing upon the treatment of laryngology during the past year; Jobson Horne on the ventricle of the larynx as a harbour for diphtheritic bacilli: the same author has also drawn attention to the larynx as a site of infection in Hodgkin's disease (*Journ. Laryng.*, December, 1901); Mackenzie Davidson on laryngeal growths in children (the writer is impressed with the advantages of tracheotomy); Bronner (*Journ. Laryng.*, September, 1901) speaks of the advantages of formalin in recurrent papillomata of the larynx; and in the same publication Haring deals with the subject of multiple growths of the larynx; faux adénoïdisme has been dealt with by Natier.

Important work has also been done by Lewy, Jurasz, and Möller on the nervous and muscular anatomy of the larynx; Onidi on acute submucous laryngitis, etc. Works such as Fränkel's "Archives," and the "Transactions" of the societies devoted to the study of laryngology at home and on the European and American Continents, show satisfactory progress and careful study of the subject from many standpoints. New text-books have also, during the past year, been added to the long list of those already in existence.

RETROSPECT OF OTOLOGY.

By Dundas Grant, M.D., and Atwood Thorne, M.B.

In the following retrospect are reviewed the contributions to otology contained in the last volume of the Journal of Laryngology, Rhinology, and Otology, either in the form of abstracts or of original articles and communications. The reference numbers indicate the pages in that volume, to which the reader may refer for fuller details.

External Ear (A. T.).—Cheatle (201) describes a new plastic operation for *Prominent Auricle*. The operation consists in removing practically the whole of the antihelix; in the case reported the result was very successful. Pooley (515) reports a similar case treated by Ely's operation. Wagner (511) relates a case of *Congenital Deformity of Both Auricles* (the hearing power is not mentioned). Alt (250) showed a patient with *Perichondritis* following radical operation. Urbantschitsch considered such cases to be due to sepsis; while Politzer thought malnutrition of the parts to be sufficient cause. Singer (250) showed in Austria a case of *Frambesia syphilitica;* and Yearsley (366), at the Otological Society, one of *Papilloma of the Auricle*. Lake (63) describes a *Serous Cyst of the Auricle*.

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