had suddenly appeared agonizing cough, accompanied by fever and prostration. In the course of a few days, the cough gradually became dry, hoarse and rough, while there supervened a steadily increasing difficulty in breathing. On examination, the author found cyanosis of the skin, dyspnœa, and distension of the pulmonary bases ; the fauces, however, did not present anything abnormal. Neither wet packings, nor steam inhalations, nor an apomorphia spray brought any relief whatever. The symptoms rapidly growing worse, tracheotomy was performed, but was followed only by a slight and fleeting alleviation of the respiratory phenomena. As a last resource, Dr. Ivanoff tried a mechanical removal of the (probably diphtheritic) pseudo-membranes by means of small feathers, which procedure swiftly and strikingly relieved all symptoms of asphyxia. There occurred several relapses of the stenosis in the course of the next 48 hours, but the cleansing, resorted to without delay on each occasion, was invariably followed by the same satisfactory results. A steady and permanent recovery took place ultimately. In another similar case occurring in a boy of three, the procedure successfully removed asphyxia, but the child subsequently died from prostration. **Valerius Idelson.**

PETERSSON, O. V. (Sweden).—**A Case of Bronchitis Fibrinosa.** *Upsala Laekarefoerenings Foerhandlingar. Vol. XXIV., p.* 193, 1888.

THE patient, a young man aged eighteen, in good health, had a slight cough, with blood-streaked expectoration lasting twenty-four hours, but was otherwise well. After a temporary feeling of pressure in the chest, he expectorated a white mass, which was found on examination to consist of two membraneous tubes, the one being 9 the other 14 centimètres long, exhibiting the characteristic appearance of the bronchial tree to its smallest ramifications. There were no symptoms from the pharynx or the larynx. The patient felt well afterwards, having only for some days a slight cough, with blood-streaked expectoration. **Holger Mygind.**

NECK, &c.

HARSANT, W. H. (Bristol).—**Cases illustrating the Surgery of the Thyroid Body.** *Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Journal, December*, 1888.

THE author lays down the rule that no cutting operation should be performed for simple hypertrophy of the thyroid, unless dyspnœa, or dysphagia, or aphonia be present, causing serious distress or danger.

He has treated a large number of cases of simple hypertrophy by injections of iodine and solution of ergotin, but in most cases the result has been disappointing. In a case occurring in a woman and causing severe dyspnœa, the author divided the isthmus, curing the dysphagia and dyspnœa, and with disappearance of the tumour. In another case,

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the right lobe was removed on account of pressure upon the trachea. In another, a very large central portion, causing dyspnœa from pressure, was removed, and cure resulted.

In the fibrous variety the author regards nothing as of avail except incision. A case of primary carcinoma of the thyroid is recorded by the author. The patient was a lady, aged forty-five, who had had an enlargement of the thyroid for four months, which had subsequently taken a rapid growth, causing increasing dyspnœa, which became extreme. The tumour apparently sprang from the isthmus, was firmly attached to the trachea, and the skin over it was adherent. There were enlarged cervical glands. The tumour reaching to the upper border of the sternum, tracheotomy was out of the question. The author removed the tumour, dissecting it from the trachea below, which it had infiltrated. A tracheotomy tube being inserted allowed a leisurely dissection. After completing the operation the tube was removed, and the opening in the trachea sutured, but breathing again becoming difficult, the tube had to be re-inserted. The patient died twenty-three days after the operation from broncho-pneumonia.

R. Norris Wolfenden.

HUTCHINSON, JONATHAN (London).—**On the Acute Bronchocele of Adolescents. An Aunt and Nephew affected at corresponding ages, Complete recovery of the former.** *British Medical Journal, June* 30, 1888.

THE author remarks that this is a variety of bronchocele which is almost peculiar to adolescents. It increases very rapidly, and is sometimes attended by urgent symptoms of tracheal compression. It is worth study as a form of constitutional disease.

Hunter Mackenzie.

HAMMAR, J. AUG. (Sweden).—**A Case of Morbus Basedowii without Pathological Changes of the Cervical portion of the Sympathetic Nerve.** *Upsala Laekarefoerenings Foerhandlingar. Vol. XXIV., p.* 200, 1888.

AT the post-mortem of the patient, a woman aged forty-three, who during life had exhibited marked symptoms of Basedow's disease for several years. No pathological changes whatever were found on the examination of the cervical portion of the sympathetic nerve. The spinal cord was not examined. The author has found recorded altogether 22 cases of post-mortem examination of the sympathetic nerve, of which 15 gave the same result as his.

Holger Mygind.

ORD.—Conclusions of the Myxœdema Committee. *Clinical Society of London, June* 2, 1888.

FOR the conclusions, fifteen in number, arrived at by the committee, the reader is referred to the original report.

Hunter Mackenzie.

LUNN.—(1) Three Cases of Myxœdema; (2) Case of Ichthyosis of the Tongue. *Brit. Med. Assoc. (Metropolitan Counties Branch, Western District), June* 5, 1888.

DEMONSTRATION of cases.

Hunter Mackenzie.

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BLACK.—Blood Cyst in Neck. *Brighton and Sussex Medico-Chirurgical Society, June 7,* 1888.

EXHIBITION of case. The cyst was regarded as a degenerated nævus. It was proposed to treat it by tapping.

Mr. W. Turner was in favour of free opening.

Dr. Whittle narrated a case of a congenital blood-cyst under the gluteus maximus which was cured by free opening and removal of a portion of the cyst wall. **Hunter Mackenzie.**

OWEN, ISAMBARD (London).—**Reports of the Collective Investigation Committee of the British Medical Association. Report on the Inquiry into the connection of Disease with Habits of Intemperance.** *British Medical Journal, June 23,* 1888.

THE only point which concerns us here is the relation of these habits to the induction of tubercle. "The results give some countenance to the "belief that, as regards the young, alcoholic drink acts as a preventive "of tubercle, but, as regards the old, they appear to favour the contrary "opinion. In the middle-aged the two principles of action appear to "neutralise each other." **Hunter Mackenzie.**

REVIEW.

VOLTOLINI (Breslau).—**Diseases of the Nose and Naso-Pharynx, with a Treatise on Electrolysis.** With forty-eight woodcuts, and three chromo-lithographs.[1]

THE author, who is one of the oldest of German laryngologists and rhinologists, gives in this book the results and opinions arrived at during thirty years' practice in diseases of the nose and naso-pharynx. Such a work coming from a man of great originality and scientific attainments must necessarily be of great interest. The work is no handbook in the usual sense, and is consequently more to be recommended to specialists than to students. In nearly every page we find valuable and original remarks. The first portion of the work deals with anatomy, especially of the erectile tissues of the nose, and is followed by discussion of the sense of smell, and the olfactory function of the nose. The chapter on the examination of the nose also refers to the nearly forgotten *corpus adiposum malæ* and its tumours. The author has a great preference for sunlight as a means of illumination. For anterior rhinoscopy he uses Charrière's speculum modified, and for Mackenzie's so-called rhinoscopy he uses a modification of Brunton's ear speculum. The author's palate hook is specially commended for posterior rhinoscopy which permits of

[1] *Die Krankheiten der Nase und des Nasenrachenraums, nebst Einer Abhandlung über Elektrolyse, mit 48 Abbildungen im Text, und drei Tafeln in Farbendruck.* Breslau, 1889. E. Morgenstern, 474 Seiten.

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