THE VIENNA LARYNGOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Meeting of January 10, 1912; *Monatss. f. Ohrenh., Year* 46, *No.* 10.

PROF. CHIARI *in the Chair.*

Abstract of Proceedings.

A Woman after Removal of a Tumour of the Hypophysis Cerebri under Local Anæsthesia by the Author's Method.—Oskar Hirsch. The patient was a girl, aged sixteen, who before the operation, six weeks previously, showed well that fatty deposit in connection with the genitalia and disturbance of sexual functions associated with this anomaly—catamenia had not yet commenced. Loss of sight accompanied by headache had occurred some three years ago, and when first seen in November, 1911, the following note was made: Right, temporal hemianopsia, vision $\frac{1}{10}$; left, blind. In this month the right middle turbinal was removed, and a week later the hypophysis was approached by way of a submucous septal resection. The mucous membrane separated easily, and the sphenoidal sinus was then exposed with a chisel and the opening completed with punch forceps. The posterior wall was now seen to be bulged forwards within 1 cm. of the anterior boundary by the tumour. This was removed in a similar way for an area about $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$ cm. and then the dura beneath split, the tumour lifted out and a portion of its tissue taken away. As there was reason to suppose the tumour was of a large size a glass tube bent at right angles was then introduced in firm application with the surface of the growth, whilst its other end was connected with an aspirating apparatus, and thus the remainder of its contents evacuated. A strip of iodoform gauze was then laid in between the layers of mucous membrane. The histological report was that the growth consisted of an adenomatous tumour of the anterior lobe of the hypophysis cerebri. During the first fortnight the temperature gave some anxiety, reaching as high as 40·5 C., but apart from this the convalescence was uneventful, and at the end of the fourth week the patient appeared in exceedingly good health. Her vision was now $\frac{6}{24}$, whilst instead of her previous lazy indifference she became active and most communicative. Her weight, before the operation 64 kg., now was only 58 kg., and a normal growth of hair appeared in the axillæ and over the mons veneris.

He had considered that the tumour must be of large dimensions from the fact that although the X-ray picture only showed a moderate enlargement of the sella turcica, yet the optic chiasma was involved, and this structure did not lie in the sulcus as usually described in anatomy books but about 1 cm. further forward. In support of this latter point he showed a photograph of a median sagittal section from a hardened specimen prepared by Prof. Hochstetter.

As the vision had not much improved the lesion of the optic nerves must have been so severe as to permanently destroy more power of recovery.

He had performed this operation eighteen times with two deaths, and Spiesk had lately published an account of another with a good result. He knew of fifty-four operations on the hypophysis by other methods, twenty-two of which had died.

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Meeting of March 6, 1912.

A Man, aged Sixty-five, with Dyspnœa. — Marschik. — Examination showed a yellow cylindrical tumour attached to the inner and anterior aspect of the first tracheal ring, rather to the left side, of cartilaginous hardness, and not associated with any inflammatory signs. As the patient would not allow an approach from outside it was removed with the thermocautery *viâ* the larynx. It was probably a chondroma or chondro-sarcoma, but the histological report was not yet to hand.

A Man, aged Forty-two, with Slowly Increasing Right Exophthalmos for the last Six Months.—The patient had been sent on from the eye clinic as he had a nasal discharge associated with polypi. As investigation of the nose did not discover any cause in this region and there was reason to suspect an intra-orbital growth, an exploratory operation was performed, which revealed a definitely encapsuled tumour lying to the inner side of the orbit and reaching back almost to the optic foramen, which was easily removed with a snare. In structure it proved to be a *cavernous angioma*. The exophthalmos was immediately restored, the œdema slowly subsided and the vision and movements were now normal.

A Histological Examination of the Temporal Bones, from a Case in which Bilateral Bony Stapes-ankylosis was Diagnosed during Life (Otosclerosis).—Gustav Brühl.—Sandwiched between a long critical and historical survey—surely of little other value than as testimony to the exhaustive monographical research of the author (and by the way, the excellent classic by Denker is not mentioned)—and discursive debate as to the correct terminology and pathology of the condition, Brühl gives a most excellent description of some sections taken from a young single woman, aged thirty-nine.

The patient was admitted to the Dalldorf Lunatic Asylum with religious mania on March 1, 1911. She was the youngest of a family of fifteen. A gradually progressive deafness had commenced at her nineteenth year. She had slight tinnitus but never giddiness, and there was no spontaneous nystagmus. No other instance of deafness in the family was known. The objective examination revealed nothing abnormal, and the functional tests led to the diagnosis of "otosclerosis with bilateral stapes-ankylosis." Five months later the patient died of phthisis.

A histological account in great detail is supported by fourteen good illustrations. The areas of altered bony tissue were chiefly located between the cochlea and foramen ovale, the stapes fixed by bony-ankylosis most marked anteriorly, whilst the cochlear capsule and its contents were not, or only very slightly, involved—a similar condition occurring on either side. The new-formed bone-tissue and its associated blood-supply corresponded in appearance with other sections of otosclerosis, and thus the histological examination corroborated the diagnosis made *intra vitam*.

The argumentative discussion which centres around the purely laboratory point of view seems quite to have eclipsed the clinical import of this most interesting case, which illustrates above all the great parts which mental stress, physical strain and circulatory disturbances play in the ætiology of this condition. It would have been most interesting to have had sections of other parts of the skeleton. *Alex. R. Tweedie.*

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