

this new and wonderful remedy, one which has rightly been said to be "one of the greatest therapeutic triumphs of the age."*

REFERENCES.

Reproductions from photographs of patients who have undergone the thyroid treatment may be found in the following journals:—"Brit. Med. Journ.," Aug. 27, 1892; Jan. 14, 1893, p. 64; April 8, 1893, pp. 737 and 738. "Glas. Med. Journ.," Sept., 1892. "Clin. Soc. Trans.," Vol. xxv., 1892. "Lancet," May 13, 1893. "Sheffield Med. Journ.," July, 1893, etc.

I have to acknowledge my indebtedness to Drs. Murray, Davies, and Mackenzie for the use of some excellent photographs showing myxœdematous patients before and after treatment by the thyroid, which were shown at the meeting of the Medico-Psych. Assoc. on May 18th, 1893.

"The Function of the Thyroid Gland: A Critical and Historical Review," Victor Horsley, "Brit. Med. Journ.," Jan. 30, 1892, and Virchow's "Festschrift," 1891.

Discussion on Myxœdema at the Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Society, Feb. 15 and 16, 1893. See "Edinburgh Medical Journal," May, 1893.

Discussion on the Treatment of Myxœdema at the Annual Meeting of the Brit. Med. Association at Nottingham, July, 1892. See "Brit. Med. Journ.," Aug. 27, 1892.

"The Treatment of Myxœdema and Cretinism," Dr. Geo. Murray, "Lancet," May 13, 1893.

"Myxœdema and the Recent Advances in its Treatment," Dr. Hector Mackenzie, "Lancet," Jan. 21, 1893.

"The Treatment of Myxœdema by Thyroid Feeding: Its Advantages and Risks," Prof. Grainger Stewart, "The Practitioner," July, 1893.

"Myxœdema and the Thyroid Gland," being a short account of the supposed uses and functions of the gland, Dr. Lorrain Smith, "The Medical Magazine," Aug., 1893.

"Cases of Myxœdema and Acromegalia Treated with Benefit by Sheep's Thyroids: Recent Observations Respecting the Pathology of the Cachexias and Disease of the Thyroid: Clinical Relationships of Graves' Disease and Acromegalia," Dr. James T. Putnam, "American Journ. Med. So.," Aug., 1893.

For Tables see Appendix.

 CLINICAL NOTES AND CASES.

Hypertrophy of Scalp. By GEORGE FOY, F.R.C.S., Dublin.

Dr. McDowall will find a case of extraordinary development of the scalp reported in John Bell's article "On the Unlimited Growth of Tumours," which is reprinted in his "Principles of Surgery," Vol. iii., 4to., 1808 A.D., published by Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme, London. The book is now scarce, and the case is so remarkable that I give a summary of it.

Eleanor FitzGerald, a native of Ireland, born in the

* "Lancet," Feb. 4, 1893.

County Carlow, and now about fifty years of age, was carried by her parents when a child to Charlestown, in South Carolina, to which place they emigrated. There when grown up she married a ship carpenter, and lived with her husband in Charlestown fourteen years, where she bore him seven children. She is a woman of a very singular appearance; her face of a gipsy, or rather Tartar cast, with thick lips, a peaked nose, small eyes, small wrinkled forehead; bears the marks of a variety of climates; her complexion is of a deep yellow or dingy colour, sunburnt and freckled. Her hair is very black and matted; the skin of her body fair and healthy, but studded over, especially on the arms and shoulders, with small tubercles, like berries. The enormous growth of skin, which hangs from her neck and breast, and which, when she opens her tattered clothes, rolls out like the bowels, one turn over another, is at once disgusting and horrible. Were she not alive and known to thousands, wandering at this moment and begging her bread, I should be afraid even to expose this drawing, which is a true portrait, much more to relate her tale.

“About five years ago she embarked with her husband for London, his native place, at Charlestown, in the ship *Charming Nancy*, Captain Stewart, a store ship, crowded with more than 150 people, passengers and crew. After they had been three weeks at sea, and after they had accomplished, as she imagines, half their voyage, they were overtaken by a dreadful storm of thunder and very vivid lightning, with rain and hail. The ship was struck about mid-day; the numbers who were struck down and never rose again, and the numbers who were deprived of sight, I fear, she, in the fervour of impressing her pitiful tale, exaggerates very greatly; but she herself was struck down, and her husband was among the killed. How long she lay upon the deck she never knew, but upon recovering she was sensible of a smart burning pain on the left side of her head. The part felt heavy, and on putting up her hand she found that a soft and baggy tumour had arisen all at once as big, she says, as the crown of a hat, which filled every day more and more, and fell lower towards the shoulder, for it was a tumour of the back part of the hairy scalp behind the ear. The voyage lasted about three weeks, and before the ship entered the Thames this tumour burst, and continued for a long while to distil a pure limpid serum, the bag having by this time descended so low as to be flapping upon the shoulder; but the ear was not yet

elongated, and the tumour was still limited to that part of the hairy scalp which is distinguished in the drawing by a blacker colour. The serum continued to distil hot and acrid from this thick flap of skin, excoriating the neck and breast, and still the tumour continued to be elongated, hanging over the shoulder, and extending over the breast."

She showed the tumour to the surgeon at St. Bartholomew's and Guy's Hospitals, who were unwilling to operate. Next she became an inmate of the Hôtel Dieu, where M. Dessault excised the heaviest and most pendulous part of the tumour. But it did not fail to grow again, and increased very rapidly, and took the singular form of longitudinal plaits. From France she travelled to Ireland, and lived there by begging until frightened by the Rebellion of 1788. She sought refuge in Scotland. Bell thus describes the tumour:—

"The chief volume of the tumour certainly begins in that part which hangs thick and baggy from the back of the head, and its origin in the lowest part of the hairy scalp is denoted by its black colour, proceeding from the roots and stubs of her dark hair. This coloured part, indicating its origin from the scalp, is extended now as low as the shoulder. It has a firm surface, large tubercles, a scaly hardness, and a blue colour; the stubs and roots of her black hair are seen growing in it. From this descends a great and voluminous roll of skin, which hangs over the breast and belly, to the length of a yard and a half, like a bundle of intestines, and from her ear, which is elongated to a prodigious length and size, still hangs another corresponding roll of skin, which, falling from the neck and face, constitutes a great part of the volume of enlarged skin, which, as she sits, hangs over her knees. Betwixt those voluminous rolls of soft and flaccid skin are the scars of those incisions made in the Hotel Dieu. One large and voluminous fold, taking the rolls of skin down to the ribs, serving like ligaments to suspend them, and drawing them into the convoluted forms of intestines, hangs from the neck, and her epaulet-like fold comes from the shoulder, falls over the left breast, and forms the boundary of the tumour on that side. . . . This immense volume of skin is thin where it hangs from the occiput, neck, chin, and shoulders, but it is very thick, massy, and doughy-like at its lower parts. . . . This monstrous growth of skin, the most voluminous that stands upon record, is simply skin, without the slightest taint of ulceration on any part of its surface, or

the slightest tingling of pain. It is skin, luxuriant, healthy, extremely vascular, with its cellular substance loosened and evolved, so as to give a doughy feeling when the whole tumour is handled. . . .

“When she travels about on her begging excursions she carries her tumour in a sling made of an old tablecloth, as a sower of corn carries the seed in the bag before him. When she sits down, opens her cloak, and unfolds this disgusting and horrible tumour, you can hardly be persuaded that you do not see her belly open and her bowels in motion, for the rolls of skin, fleshy and red, roll over each other as she handles them, and the slightest handling at one fold of the tumour puts the whole into this vermicular kind of motion. The whole volume would roll over her knees but that she contains it in her lap by putting one or both her arms round it.”

— — —

Two Cases of Abnormal Development of the Scalp. BY JOHN J. COWAN, M.B., C.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Roxburgh District Asylum, Melrose. (With Plate.)

(By Permission of Dr. J. Carlyle Johnstone.)

The two cases here noted and illustrated were referred to by Dr. McDowall, Morpeth, in his communication to this Journal of 1st January, 1893. One of the cases shows considerable resemblance to his.

CASE I.—P. G., aged 39 years, was admitted into this asylum a year ago. He is a genotous and paralytic idiot. There is no direct hereditary predisposition to insanity; but his mother and brothers are distinctly neurotic.

The patient is an enormously stout, broad-shouldered man. He measures 50 inches round the chest, 14 inches round the arm over the biceps (at rest), 19 inches round the mid-thigh, and 12 inches round the calf, which is atrophied and wasted. His weight is 16 stone 5½ lbs. He has never been able to walk, as he suffers from congenital double talipes egrino-varus. His mode of locomotion, when he is called upon to use it, is dragging himself along on his knees by means of his large and powerful arms. Estimating his height it should be over 6ft. (his brothers, one of whom is younger than him, are very tall and stout). His cranial development is notably small in proportion to his face and body generally; fore-