

Abstracts.

PHARYNX.

Emerson, Kendall.—*Acute Poliomyelitis following Tonsillitis.* "Boston Med. and Surg. Journ.," October 15, 1908.

The case was a boy, aged eight, who got very wet in a shower at a time when he was very tired. Next day he had high fever and sore throat. He passed through an attack of tonsillitis, with rather extreme toxic symptoms, cultures showing a mixed infection free from diphtheria bacilli. Recovery was prompt, but five days after he complained of tingling in the left hand. This extended to the forearm next day, and to the shoulder the day following. It was accompanied by headache, becoming more severe and extending down into the posterior cervical region. The third day he was feverish, with the head retracted, and severe pain in the left arm. His attitude and appearance suggested meningitis. It was not until five days later that there was paralysis of the deltoid and upper arm muscles, and two days later there was no power in any of the muscles of the arm and forearm save extremely weak flexion of the fingers. The points of interest in the case are that the tonsils were apparently the point of entry for the toxins, which later affected the cord, and, second, the very gradual onset of the paralysis.

Macleod Yearsley.

Barnes, Harry A.—*Some Points in the Applied Anatomy of the Tonsil.* "Boston Med. and Surg. Journ.," September 24, 1908.

This paper mainly considers the tonsillar crypts and capsule. A full description is given of the development of these parts. Barnes considers that the structural strength of the crypt epithelium is a very important factor in determining the amount of absorption that may take place from the crypt. The crypt epithelium of the child and of the hypertrophied tonsil of the adult offers no great obstacle to the invasion of bacteria or the absorption of their products. The quiescent adult tonsil possesses an epithelium which is a fairly effective defence against bacterial invasion.

Macleod Yearsley.

Clarke, Payson.—*Results in Adenoid and Tonsil Operations: A Study of a Series of Cases.* "Boston Med. and Surg. Journ.," September 24, 1908.

The author deals with 595 cases, the after condition of whom was inquired into. Only 73 (12 per cent.) replied. In 62 cases the result appears to have been good, in 8 fair, and in 3 poor. Mouth-breathing persisted in 35 cases. Four cases of enuresis were not relieved.

Macleod Yearsley.

Goodale, J. L.—*Lympho-sarcoma of the Tonsil.* "Boston Med. and Surg. Journ.," September 24, 1908.

A woman, aged thirty-five; left tonsil. Portion removed and examined found to be lympho-sarcoma. As the soft palate and base of tongue were infiltrated by the growth, she was treated by injections of turpentine into the legs to form abscesses, and injections of staphylococcus vaccine. In five days improvement began, and in less than three weeks the growth had disappeared. The treatment was suggested by the case of a man with Hodgkin's disease, who improved after suffering from a series of boils.

Macleod Yearsley.