

PHARYNX.

Le Gendre.—*Ingestion of Hydrochloric Acid, Pharyngo-oesophageal Eschar, etc.* (Société Méd. des Hopitaux.) "La Presse Méd.," June 23, 1900.

A young woman was brought into hospital on account of hæmatemesis, apparently due to simple ulcer of the stomach. In a few days diphtheritic patches were noted in the pharynx, from which a short *Bacillus diphtheriæ* was cultivated; then a long false membrane was coughed up, presumably from the trachea and bronchi. The diagnosis simple gastric ulcer and co-existing diphtheria was made. After a fortnight it was found that all the lesions were due to hydrochloric acid, which the patient had drunk in an attempt to commit suicide.

A. J. Hutchison.

Traver.—*Retropharyngeal Abscess.* "Revue Hebdom. de Laryngol., d'Otol. et de Rhinol.," June 2, 1900.

A child, eleven months old, had been well up to the age of seven months; at that age had suppurating glands in the neck, which were incised. A large quantity of pus was discharged. Soon afterwards difficulty in breathing and swallowing was noted; this gradually increased. When seen by Traver the child was pale and wasted, respiration stertorous and laboured, the head fixed and strongly retracted. The glands in the neck were enlarged. A large tumour was found rising from the posterior wall of the pharynx, nearly filling the pharyngo-buccal cavity. It was elastic and slightly fluctuant.

Dr. Compaired opened the abscess in the middle line, at its most prominent part. The child's head was at once bent forward, but the gush of pus was so profuse that some entered the larynx and trachea, producing signs of asphyxiation. Rhythmical traction of the tongue, artificial respiration, and stimulation of the heart, were kept up for about half an hour. The child made a good recovery.

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