

has been noted in scirrhus, and this is still more marked in the case of colloid." M. Cruveilhier states that it is rare to observe its successive or simultaneous development in a number of organs or parts. Dr. Hodgkin expresses himself nearly in the same tone, but adds, that it does at times invade different localities in the same subject. In the case here described, the disease was diffused through nearly all the textures of the body, without presenting any one considerable mass. The author adds, that the case is also remarkable, in exhibiting a union of the three admitted forms of malignant disease, scirrhus, cephaloma, and gelatinoma.

Tabular View of One Hundred and Eighty Cases of Tubercle of the Lungs in Children, with some Remarks on Infantile Consumption. By P. HENNIS GREEN, M.B.

The author commences his paper by observing that the remarks appended to the tabular view are rather intended to point out a few of the peculiarities which distinguish infantile consumption from the phthisis of adults, than to give any complete history of phthisis in the young subject.

The main character which distinguishes the phthisis of children from that of adults is this,—in children the tubercular deposit occupies a much larger surface of the lung, is more rapidly secreted, and complicated with tubercular disease of the organs more frequently than in the adult.

Having briefly described the varieties of tubercular deposit in the lungs of children, the author gives some statistical results relative to crude tubercle and caverns, as deduced from his table.

The complications of pulmonary tubercle in the child are numerous and varied. The author compares his own results with those given by M. Louis for the adult, and shows the proportion in which various other organs were affected with tubercular disease.

The symptoms are referred to two varieties, one occurring in children of from ten to fourteen years of age, and resembling the disease in adults; the other affecting younger children, and presenting several peculiarities. In the acute form of this latter variety the patient is often cut off long before the disease has arrived at the stage of cavern, while the wide-spread and rapid diffusion of tubercular deposit may excite in the head hydrocephalus, or meningitis; in the chest, pleurisy; in the abdomen, peritonitis; and in the intestinal canal, tubercular ulceration. In the chronic form of this variety the author remarks that the signs of cavern are very frequently absent altogether, and that this absence may depend on the seat of the cavity (middle or lower lobe), or the small calibre of the bronchial tubes.

The author next examines, successively, the rational symptoms, and indicates the peculiarities which may attend each. With regard to hæmoptysis, he observes that it is not so rare a symptom as many eminent authorities assert.

The question of diagnosis having been discussed, the author concludes with a brief description of bronchial phthisis. The mechanical and physiological effects produced by the enlarged glands on the neighbouring tissues and organs are first pointed out; the symptoms are then indicated, and the author sums up with some valuable remarks relative to the diagnosis of this variety.

The author does not enter into the question of treatment, which he regards as merely palliative, but he states his belief that under favourable circumstances we have a much greater chance of arresting the progress of incipient tubercle in the child than in the adult.

The society adjourned until November next.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH. MR. MACKENZIE.

IN THE LANCET of May 18th, "A MEDICAL STUDENT" complained that, in 1842, Mr. Mackenzie, demonstrator of anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, altered the charge for attendance on the class of practical anatomy, from two guineas to four, without leave from the authorities. A few of the students proposed to petition the medical faculty against the additional tax, but the majority declined to join in the prayer, because the name of the professor of anatomy was attached to the document relating to the change, ap-

parently as a justification of the new charge. During the present session, however, the faculty of medicine was induced to bring the matter before the town-council, who decided that the extra fee should be returned to the students, shortly after which Mr. Mackenzie resigned. A profit of 400*l.* was conjectured to be the consequence of adding two guineas to the fee, which, it was alleged, would not be repaid; and the resignation of the demonstrator was mentioned as being a very beneficial event.

In reply to these statements, we have received the following communication:—

For more than sixty years, a course of anatomical demonstrations has been given uninterruptedly, in the university, by Innes, Fyfe, and Mackenzie, for which a separate fee has been taken, *with the knowledge and consent of the patrons.* Before Mr. Mackenzie was appointed demonstrator, the fee for practical anatomy was 4*l.* 4*s.*, this being the sum always charged when the class was conducted by Dr. Monro and Mr. Fyfe. Mr. Mackenzie, on his taking charge, reduced the fee to 3*l.* 3*s.* for the practical anatomy, or, inclusive of the demonstrations, to 3*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

In 1833, the fee for practical anatomy was 3*l.* 3*s.* for the first course of six months, and 3*l.* 3*s.* for the second, or 6*l.* 6*s.* perpetual, without the demonstrations, the charge for which last, when taken separately, was 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* for each session. Antecedently to this period, the practical anatomy was one of the "optional" classes under a system of attendance that allowed candidates for a degree the choice of certain classes *in the university.*

In 1833 extensive alterations were effected in the curriculum. All the "optional" classes, with the exception of military surgery, were made absolutely imperative. And a very great difficulty then occurred in regard to what was to be done with the practical anatomy? It would not look well to except it, and to introduce natural history, for instance; and, as it was not taught by one of the faculty, it was discovered that, without injury to vested rights, and to the benefit of the students, and of all parties, it might be placed on quite a liberal footing. And this was accordingly done, by making practical anatomy in the university imperative, and thus maintaining the principle of exclusive attendance on which the others were admitted; but two important exceptions were stated in relation to it: first, by making practical anatomy, if pursued along with hospital attendance, "an extra academical year," by which the student was relieved from one year's university attendance, and every facility afforded for obtaining his dissections "anywhere else;" and, secondly, permitting attendance on all the other teachers of practical anatomy in Edinburgh during any year of the pupil's studies, whether with or without the other prescribed classes. The teachers of practical anatomy having been thus placed in effect on an equality in regard to privileges, it followed that when the fee for practical anatomy was again altered in 1837, by all the teachers in Edinburgh; a similar change was made in the University—the fee was 4*l.* 4*s.* for practical anatomy and demonstrations for six months—no perpetual ticket to be given. Attendance was also permitted on each class separately, for 2*l.* 2*s.* during six, or 1*l.* 1*s.* during three months. All the extra-academical teachers, after this date, gave two three-month courses of demonstrations during the winter session, at the charge of 2*l.* 2*s.*, one of four-months' duration was delivered in the university, for 1*l.* 1*s.* Thus, immediately before 1838 the fees for practical anatomy and demonstrations were, for six months, 4*l.* 4*s.*, and for each, when had separately, 2*l.* 2*s.* At this period the patrons of the university objected to the alleged exaction of "small fees," and ordered a printed schedule to be published, for the information of all concerned. It is remarkable that by an omission, of course unintentional, no return was rendered by Dr. Christison to the patrons, of the anatomical demonstrations, and therefore they do not appear in the list at all. If the demonstrations had not been omitted, it would have stood,—for practical anatomy and demonstration, 4*l.* 4*s.* for six months, and Mr. Syme would have been saved the pain and trouble of stating "that fees have been charged, without authority, for demonstrations." It was found, however, that considerable difficulty, and occasional mistakes, oc-

curred, in consequence of the students entering for either the practical anatomy or demonstrations alone, when they afterwards ascertained that they required attendance on both conjointly. In this way an additional year's attendance was sometimes necessary to obtain the requisite certificates of attendance. Besides, some of the students fee'd the one class and regularly attended on both. In this way matters got very much involved, and, at last, in 1842, partly from the causes above alluded to, and also, in consequence, it must be admitted, of the increased attendance to be given in the practical rooms, from nine, a.m. till four, p.m., it was agreed by all the teachers of anatomy that the fees for practical anatomy and demonstration were to be 4*l.* 4*s.* for six months, 9*l.* 9*s.* for perpetual, and 2*l.* 2*s.* for a summer course of three months; and also, to make this known by printed advertisements, which were extensively circulated before the beginning of the winter session. This was accordingly done, and means were used to give all publicity to the arrangement.

It certainly did not then occur to Mr. Mackenzie that, after all protection to the class of practical anatomy in the University had been removed by the peculiar alterations in the curriculum of 1833, that he was placed under any restrictions as to fees different from the other teachers in Edinburgh, certificates of attendance on *all* of whom were regularly received for graduation by the university, but that, as the patrons had never interfered hitherto, during all the changes the fees had undergone, he was free to follow the example of the other teachers, as long as he did not charge more than the original 4*l.* 4*s.* Dr. Christison, however, seemed to be of a different opinion, for in November, 1842, he wrote a note to Dr. Monro, calling his attention to the alteration in the fee of practical anatomy, &c. Mr. Mackenzie laid Dr. C.'s letter before Mr. Richardson, the then college baillie, who mentioned that as no more was charged than by the other teachers, or than the original fee, there was no case for his interference. In November, 1843, Mr. Syme objected to the charge for demonstrations, on the ground of their not being required for graduation. Mr. Syme also wrote to Mr. Mackenzie an official letter, as Dean of the Medical Faculty, at Mr. Mackenzie's request, to the same effect, which letter was forthwith sent to the patrons, and considered by the college committee, who did not see fit to communicate with Mr. Syme, or to acknowledge his note. Indeed, they took no notice of the complaint further than stating among themselves that they did not expect Mr. M. to teach for the one half of the fee charged by the other teachers. Mr. Syme also required Mr. Mackenzie to notify to the pupils attending the demonstrations that they were not required for graduation, which Mr. M. accordingly did without delay. No further action took place, in relation to this matter, until near the termination of the winter session, when, in consequence of the irregular proceedings of one of the assistants in the room, Mr. M. was necessitated to inform him that he would not be continued longer than the winter session. This person (Mr. G.) told Mr. M. that he would endeavour to do him all the injury he could, and only two days afterwards a student, who was grinding with Mr. G., called to say that he found he did not require the demonstrations, and that if he had known sooner he would *not have attended them*. He had first of all been instructed to complain to Mr. Syme, who asked the medical faculty to authorise him to investigate into the business, and immediately afterwards actually posted placards on the college gates calling a meeting of the class. At the meeting he stated that Mr. M. had no legal right to make a charge for demonstrations; that they were not required for graduation, and that he wished all those present to state in writing the sums of money that they had respectively paid altogether for practical anatomy and demonstrations, that he might order the money to be returned. A few days afterwards Mr. Syme made a notable discovery, which he probably communicated to the students attending his lectures, viz., that all the anatomists were in error as to the demonstrations being required for the public boards, that it was not so, and that he had received a letter from Mr. Belfour, of the College of Surgeons in London, which, in his opinion, conclusively settled the question; so that Mr. M. was forced, if he gave demonstrations, to make no charge for his time and trouble, and, moreover, that they were not required for graduation, or for anything else,

according to Mr. Syme. He receives 4*l.* 4*s.* for two hours during the week, and perhaps is not overpaid. Surely 4*l.* 4*s.* is not so much for attendance, constantly from nine, a.m. till four, p.m., and for a course of descriptive anatomy of six months' duration, and that without taking into account the great amount of expenses for assistants, servants, &c. It may here also be proper to remark that as the number of bodies distributed in Edinburgh to the different schools is dependent on the number of pupils, with a certain preference in favour of the university, it is obviously essential that whatever the fees be, at least they shall be uniform. Mr. M. has not for the last three or four summers been much in the rooms in consequence of the small number of pupils in attendance. This summer he positively declined to take the charge of the class, for various reasons, which it is unnecessary to mention here. It is abundantly obvious that if he had been inclined he could not have done so until the fee had been formally fixed, and in a manner so as to preclude the possibility of future challenge or cavil. In the meanwhile, Mr. Goodsir, a highly competent gentleman, is conducting the class, and charging the fee of 2*l.* 2*s.*, the same as the other teachers. All parties now seem satisfied in regard to this matter; and if Mr. Syme thought it too much for Mr. Mackenzie, he seems to have no objection to Mr. Goodsir obtaining the 2*l.* 2*s.*, whether the pupil requires demonstrations or not. It is only necessary further to state that after full inquiry the complaints have been dismissed by the patrons, the only parties who have authority in the premises, with the exception of the charge,—“That gentlemen entered to another imperative class, at the same hour, have been still compelled to take the ticket for demonstrations.” The patrons remitted this part of the case, and this alone, to the medical faculty, and ordered that in all such cases the fees should be returned, as they could not sanction the charge of 4*l.* 4*s.* in such cases. Forty pupils, it appears, attended during last winter, Dr. Simpson's class, who had also the ticket for practical anatomy in the university. Mr. Syme, after the most diligent inquiries, has been forced to report that there is not one fee to be returned!

WILLIAM MACKENZIE.

Edinburgh, June, 1844.

ON THE
ADVANTAGES OF REPEATED EXAMINATIONS
AT
DIFFERENT PERIODS OF A MEDICAL
EDUCATION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—As you have ever manifested the utmost anxiety to promote the cause of medical education, and thereby to increase the attainments, elevate the character, and extend the usefulness of the profession, perhaps the following remarks may be allowed a place in your excellent Journal. I am the more induced to trouble you from having recently experienced the inconveniences, and having had ample opportunities of observing the inefficient working of the present system. One grand and fundamental error as respects the College of Surgeons and Apothecaries' Hall has hitherto been of having but one examination, and that at the close of the course of study they enjoin. The period of account being so remote from the time at which attendance on lectures commences, the student (especially the idle and dissolute) is tempted to pass the early portion of his career in indolence or dissipation, and even should he be ostensibly in attendance, the mind is in a great measure passive, and far from bestowing that attention on the subject, much less exerting those energies which are put forth before an approaching examination. Thus, the elementary branches not being thoroughly mastered before the more complicated are commenced, these latter involving and depending upon the former, are in their turn but half learnt, and when the period of examination draws near, that time which ought to have been exclusively, or, at least, chiefly, occupied in the practical and more important duties of the profession is almost wholly engrossed in construing Celsus or Gregory, in getting up chemical equivalents, or the genus and species of a plant.