

that recently-recognised growth, the myeloid tumour; it was, perhaps, unusually vascular, the cells being nearly all filled with blood. Microscopically, also, it presented the large, many-nucleated cells described as characteristic of myeloid growths.

We will take the opportunity of dwelling upon the minute structure of the myeloid disease when an opportunity is afforded of placing another example on record.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL.

CASES OF EPILEPSY, ASSOCIATED WITH AMENORRHOEA AND VICARIOUS MENSTRUATION, SUCCESSFULLY TREATED WITH THE IODIDE OF POTASSIUM.

(Under the care of Dr. O'CONNOR.)

EPILEPSY, whether depending on functional or organic disease, is one of a class of cases which is too often a cause of anxiety to the medical attendant, as well as to those immediately connected with patients, and especially when occurring in females from puberty to twenty-five or thirty years of age, may be looked on as frequently depending on some amount of functional derangement of the uterus. For some time back, many cases of this description have fallen under the care of Dr. O'Connor, at the Royal Free Hospital; and as the simple plan of treatment successfully pursued by him in those forms of epilepsy has been productive of good results, we have considered it of sufficient importance to record the outlines of a few cases which have recently been treated by him. He informs us, that he is indebted to a communication from Dr. Pinching, published in the *Dublin Journal of Medicine*, of 1836, for the use of iodide of potassium as an emmenagogue, but which he (Dr. O'Connor) is in the habit of using in those cases of amenorrhoea characterized by any amount of undue excitement of the system associated with epilepsy. The depressing power of the iodide of potassium, as well as its well-known specific effect in promoting the menstrual secretion, would seem to warrant its use in this class of cases.

The first case is that of a nursemaid, seventeen years of age, of a full and bloated habit, with a large head and low forehead, having a sullen expression, who has constantly suffered from headache and frequent sickness. She menstruated for the first time when in her fourteenth year; but the menstrual flow was at each time scanty. Soon after she entered service as assistant in the nursery in a gentleman's family, where her diet was much better than that she was in the habit of having before. She was much confined to the house, and soon after menstruation ceased altogether. This was followed by severe headaches, which continued with only occasional relief. In a short time she was seized with a fit, in which she continued for nearly two hours, and remained unconscious for some time after its cessation. From time to time, at intervals of only a few days, the fits returned, and she was obliged to leave her situation. For some months she was under treatment with only partial relief, the fits, though considerably diminished in frequency, had not altogether disappeared. She again entered service in the same capacity as before, but was obliged to leave in consequence of the more frequent recurrence of the fits. She was admitted a patient, at the Royal Free Hospital, under the care of Dr. O'Connor, on the 1st of April last. At that time the account given by her mother was, that her fits were almost daily; she foamed at the mouth abundantly during their continuance, and appeared like one who had lost her senses; her bowels were constantly confined, and she complained of increasing headache; she had not menstruated for more than a year. Her pulse was full and frequent, and the tongue furred and clammy. She was ordered a strong cathartic dose, to be repeated occasionally, with a draught composed of five grains of the iodide of potassium, ten minims of liquor potassa, and one ounce of infusion of quassia, three times a day. This plan of treatment was continued for a week with some benefit. The fits were less frequent, the headache considerably diminished, and the bowels more regular without the cathartic medicine. On the 14th of April menstruation occurred; and from that time she has continued free from the fits.

The next case, admitted on the 8th of April, is that of a servant, twenty-seven years of age, who has suffered from vomiting of blood nearly every month for more than five years. It has been sometimes more abundant than others. For this she was treated as one suffering from stomach affection. She has been subject to epileptic seizures for some years; and has not menstruated for nearly seven years. Before that time, her menstruation was but scanty; and she has always suffered severe headaches, and what she calls bilious attacks. She was

of full habit and florid complexion, with a very full pulse, and bowels constipated. The treatment pursued in this case was similar to the preceding, and was attended with an equally beneficial result.

The third case we have to record, is that of a young woman, by occupation a machine-stitcher, who is engaged in making collars at a warehouse in the City, where she has been much confined, with little out-of-door exercise. She is twenty-one years of age, tall, well-formed, and very intellectual-looking; she has menstruated but scantily since the first appearance of menstruation, six years ago, and latterly it has ceased altogether. For nearly seven years she has been subject to the epileptic seizures, which have often incapacitated her for work, and for which she has frequently been under treatment with only temporary relief. For the last few months menstruation has ceased altogether, the fits have been more frequent, with uninterrupted headache, and her bowels obstinately constipated. She was admitted a patient at the Royal Free Hospital, on the 28th of March, when the iodide of potassium, with the occasional use of cathartic remedies, was ordered her, which she continued until the 7th of May, when menstruation came on abundantly, the fits having previously nearly entirely ceased.

CLINICAL RECORDS.

HARE-LIP.

ON the 11th ult., an infant, only ten days old, was brought into the theatre of King's College Hospital to have a hare-lip remedied by operation, which was performed by Mr. Ferguson, when the child was completely under the influence of chloroform. There was nothing unusual about the case, excepting that the deformity was on the right side of the fissure of the lip, instead of on the left, as it most always is; and the age of the child, being one of the youngest upon which the operation has been performed, although we believe it has been done on younger patients still. The case was the second, moreover, which occurred in the same family with this condition. On the 18th the child was shown to the pupils, completely cured and well—one week proving sufficient not to leave even a mark of the pins.

INFILTRATED CANCER OF THE BREAST.

THE commonest and most genuine form of this disease we saw an example of on the 21st of April, in which Mr. Birkett at Guy's Hospital excised the left breast of an elderly woman, aged about fifty-five years, who had been the subject of cancer of this organ for several years, and which was fast proceeding to the stage of ulceration, several (one especially so) large tubercles, with an inflamed skin, being on the point of ulcerating. The nipple was somewhat retracted, the entire mammary gland appeared to be involved, and there was much local suffering. There was a tendency towards the extension of the disease in the axillary glands, one of which was enlarged; the lungs were healthy. Mr. Birkett observed that he preferred to remove the breast with the knife. It was a case in which an escharotic might be employed, he said; but a large surface would have to be destroyed, and a long time taken to accomplish it. All this is avoided by excision. As there was so much infiltration of the skin, there would not be nice fitting flaps; but, at any rate, the cicatrix will be nothing in comparison to that resulting from caustics. On examining the gland after removal, it proved to be a beautiful specimen of infiltrating cancer, confined solely to it, and not extending to the muscles beneath, having commenced within it. The peculiar stroma of cancer, together with the juice of the disease, were well marked and unmistakable.

VARIX OF THE BREAST AND ARM.

THE patient was a placid, healthy girl, aged seventeen, from Somersetshire, whose mother states, that at two years of age, there was on the left breast a mark (like a blow), about the size of a sixpence, which has been since gradually increasing. The girl herself seems to deny this. However, about six months before admission into University College Hospital, she had a hard day's work, and experienced pain and soreness for the first time in the breast and arm of the left side, reaching even to the tips of the fingers. She never had had pain before. A day or two afterwards, she noticed blue stains at the inner side of the left breast, which, with the left arm, became