

symptoms, such as fever, headache, and delirium, must be treated by rest, an ice-cap, and, if necessary, local depletion. In all cases, when a reasonable suspicion exists of the occurrence of abscess, the trephine should be applied and the brain explored. The cases following ear-disease, in which the suppuration is in the temporo-sphenoidal lobe or in the cerebellum, offer the most favorable chances of recovery. The localization can rarely be made accurately in these cases, and the operator must be guided more by general anatomical and pathological knowledge. In cases of injury the trephine should be applied over the seat of the blow or the fracture. In ear-disease the suppuration is most frequent in the temporo-sphenoidal or in the cerebellum, and the operation should be performed at the points most accessible to these regions.

IV. HEMIPLEGIA AND DIPLEGIA IN CHILDREN.

It is as yet hard to say, without fuller knowledge of the etiology of these common conditions, where they should be classified. In a majority of the cases, whatever the nature of the primary pathological change, the final state is one of a chronic encephalitis, often with great atrophy of the convolutions or the formation of large cyst-like spaces—porencephalus.

I. HEMIPLEGIA.

Etiology.—Of 135 cases, comprising those from the Infirmary for Diseases of the Nervous System, Philadelphia, from the Elwyn Institution for Feeble-minded Children, under Kerlin, and from my clinic at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, 60 were in boys and 75 in girls. Right hemiplegia occurred in 79, left in 56. In 15 cases the condition was said to be congenital.

In a great majority the disease sets in during the first or second year; thus of the total number of cases, 95 were under two. Cases above the fifth year are rare, only 10 in my series. Neither alcoholism nor syphilis in the parents appears to play an important rôle in this affection. Difficult or abnormal labor is responsible for certain of the cases, particularly injury with the *forceps*. Trauma, such as falls or puncturing wounds, is more rare. The condition followed ligation of the common carotid in one case.

Infectious diseases. All the authors lay special stress upon this factor. In 19 cases in my series the disease came on during or just after one of the specific fevers. I saw one case in which during the height of vaccination convulsions developed, followed by hemiplegia. In a great majority of the cases the disease sets in with a convulsion, in which the child may remain for several hours or longer, and after recovery the paralysis is noticed.

Morbid Anatomy.—In an analysis which I have made of 90 autopsies reported in the literature, the lesions may be grouped under three headings:

(a) Embolism, thrombosis, and hæmorrhage, comprising 16 cases, in 7 of which there was blocking of a Sylvian artery, and in 9 hæmorrhage. A striking feature in this group is the advanced age of onset. Ten of the cases occurred in children over six years old.

(b) Atrophy and sclerosis, comprising 50 cases. The wasting is either of groups of convolutions, an entire lobe, or the whole hemisphere. The meninges are usually closely adherent over the affected region, though sometimes they look normal. The convolutions are atrophied, firm, and hard, contrasting strongly with the normal gyri. The sclerosis may be diffuse and wide-spread over a hemisphere, or there may be nodular projections—the hypertrophic sclerosis. Some of the cases show remarkable unilateral atrophy of the hemisphere. In one of my cases the atrophied hemisphere weighed 169 grammes and the normal 653 grammes. The brain tissue may be a mere shell over a dilated ventricle.

(c) Porencephalus, which was present in 24 of the 90 autopsies. This term was applied by Heschel to a loss of substance in the form of cavities and cysts at the surface of the brain, either opening into and bounded by the arachnoid, and even passing deeply into the hemisphere, or reaching to the ventricle. In the study by Audrey of 103 cases of porencephalus, hemiplegia was mentioned in 68 cases.

Practically, then, in infantile hemiplegia cortical sclerosis and porencephalus are the important anatomical conditions. The primary change in the majority of these cases is still unknown. Porencephalia may result from a defect in development or from hæmorrhage at birth. The etiology is clear in the limited number of cases of hæmorrhage, embolism, and thrombosis, but there remains the large group in which the final change is sclerosis and atrophy. What is the primary lesion in these instances? The clinical history shows that in nearly all these cases the onset is sudden, with convulsions—often with slight fever. Strümpell believes that this condition is due to an inflammation of the gray matter—polio-encephalitis—a view which has not been very widely accepted, as the anatomical proofs are wanting. Gowers suggests that thrombosis may be present in some instances. This might probably account for the final condition of sclerosis, but clinically thrombosis of the veins rarely occurs in healthy children, which appear to be those most frequently attacked by infantile hemiplegia, and post-mortem proof is yet wanting of the association of thrombosis with the disease.

Symptoms.—(a) The onset. The disease may set in suddenly without spasms or loss of consciousness. In more than half the cases the child is attacked with partial or general convulsions and loss of consciousness, which may last from a few hours to many days. This is one of the most striking features in the disease. Fever is usually present. The

hemiplegia, noticed as the child recovers consciousness, is generally complete. Sometimes the paralysis is not complete at first, but develops after subsequent convulsions. The right side is more frequently affected than the left. The face is commonly not involved.

(b) Residual symptoms. In some cases the paralysis gradually disappears and leaves scarcely a trace as the child grows up. The leg, as a rule, recovers more rapidly and more fully than the arm, and the paralysis may be scarcely noticeable. In a majority of cases, however, there is a characteristic hemiplegic gait. The paralysis is most marked in the arm, which is usually wasted; the forearm is flexed at right angles, the hand is flexed, and the fingers are contracted. Motion may be almost completely lost; in other instances the arm can be lifted above the head. Late rigidity, which almost always develops, is the symptom which suggested the name *hemiplegia spastica cerebralis* to Heine, the orthopaedic surgeon who first accurately described these cases. It is, however, not constant. The limbs may be quite relaxed even years after the onset. The reflexes are usually increased. In several instances, however, I have known them to be absent. Sensation is, as a rule, not disturbed.

Aphasia is a not uncommon symptom, and occurred in 16 cases of my series—a smaller number than given in the series of Wallenberg, Gaudard, and Sachs.

Mental Defects.—One of the most serious consequences of infantile hemiplegia is the failure of mental development. A considerable number of these cases drift into the institutions for feeble-minded children. Three grades may be distinguished—idiocy, which is most common when the hemiplegia has existed from birth; imbecility, which often increases with the development of epilepsy; and feeble-mindedness, a retarded rather than an arrested development.

Epilepsy.—Of the cases in my series, 41 were subjects of convulsive seizures, which is one of the most distressing sequences of the disease. The seizures may be either transient attacks of *petit mal*, true Jacksonian fits, beginning in and confined to the affected side, or general convulsions.

Post-hemiplegic Movements.—It was in cases of this sort that Weir Mitchell first described the post-hemiplegic movements. They are extremely common, and were present in 34 of my series. There may be either slight tremor in the affected muscles, or incoördinate choreiform movements—the so-called post-hemiplegic chorea—or, lastly,

Athetosis.—In this condition, described by Hammond, there are remarkable spasms of the paralyzed extremities, chiefly of the fingers and toes, and in rare instances of the muscles of the mouth. The movements are involuntary and somewhat rhythmical; in the hand, movements of adduction or abduction and of supination and pronation follow each other in orderly sequence. There may be hyperextension of the fingers, during which they are spread wide apart. This condition is much more frequent in children than in adults. In the latter it may be combined

with hemianæsthesia, and the lesion is not cortical, but basic in the neighborhood of the thalamus. The movements are sometimes increased by emotion. They usually persist during sleep.

II. SPASTIC DIPLEGIA—BIRTH PALSIES.

In this condition there is a paralysis with spasm of all extremities, dating from or shortly succeeding birth, more rarely following the fevers or an attack of convulsions. The legs are usually more involved than the arms; there is no wasting, no disturbance of sensation. The reflexes are increased. The mental condition is profoundly disturbed. The patients are usually imbeciles or idiots, helpless in mind and body. Ataxic and athetoid movements of the most exaggerated kind may occur.

While a limited number only of cases of infantile hemiplegia are congenital, on the other hand, in spastic diplegia a large proportion of the cases results from injury at birth. Practically the spastic paraplegia of children should be considered with this condition, as its etiology is essentially the same. The arms, too, may be so slightly affected as to make it difficult to determine whether it is a case of diplegia or paraplegia. The cases usually date from birth, and a majority are born in first labors or are forceps cases. Ross suggests that in feet presentation there may be laceration or tearing of the cerebro-spinal membranes.

Morbid Anatomy.—The birth palsies which ultimately induce the spastic diplegias or paraplegias are most frequently the result of meningeal hæmorrhage. The importance of this condition has been shown by the studies of Litzmann and Sarah J. McNutt. The bleeding may come from the veins, or, in one case which I saw with Hirst, from the longitudinal sinus. The bleeding has in many cases been thickest over the motor areas, and it seems probable that the sclerosis found in these cases may result from the compression of the blood-clot. In other instances the condition may be due to a foetal meningo-encephalitis. In sixteen autopsies collected in the literature, in which the patients died at ages varying from two to thirty, the anatomical condition was either a diffuse atrophy, which was most common, or porencephalus.

Symptoms.—At first nothing abnormal may be noticed about the child. In some instances there have been early and frequent convulsions; then at the age when the child should begin to walk it is noticed that the limbs are not used readily, and on examination a stiffness of the legs and arms is found. Even at the age of two the child may not be able to sit up, and often the head is not well supported by the neck muscles. The rigidity, as a rule, is more marked in the legs, and there is adductor spasm. When supported on the feet, the child either rests on its toes and the inner surface of the feet, with the knees close together, or the legs may be crossed. The stiffness of the upper limbs varies. It may be scarcely noticeable or the rigidity may be as marked as in the legs. Con-