

throughout the district where the milk was obtained, scarcely a single farm had escaped cattle disease in some form. Another element, however, must not be overlooked as at least an auxiliary source of mischief, namely, the sewer gases which in this house obtained ready access, both by the water closet and the kitchen sink; whereby, in all likelihood, shortly afterwards the father had two sharp attacks of dysentery, and both the children had obstinate dysentery along with whooping cough; moreover, a female attendant had an attack of dysentery.

Query.—Have the yellow palms been noticed previously in connection with ulcerative stomatitis, or with foot and mouth disease in the human subject?

2.—NOTES ON THE TREATMENT OF SCIATICA, *by* DAVID PRIDE, M.D.,
Neilston.

THE intractable nature of this disease, and the great amount of suffering it entails, at times keeping even the most powerful man completely under its thrall for weeks, renders any mode of treatment which has been followed with good results worthy of being recorded.

C. D., aet. 40 years, a strong, healthy, well-made man, gave his body a sudden jerk, by trying to throw a parcel of goods up to a person in the flat above him. He instantly complained of severe pain in the gluteal region, which extended down the back of the thigh in the course of the sciatic nerve to the lower leg; and he had to be taken home in a cab. I saw him afterwards, and at different times prescribed sinapisms and rubefacient liniments externally, and the iodide and bicarbonate of potash, iron, arsenic, &c., internally, but with very little benefit. At length the patient was put under chloroform, and the actual cautery applied over the course of the nerve, confining its application to the posterior aspect of the thigh; and this was repeated in the course of a day or two, with the happiest results. Patient got rapidly well, and after walking about somewhat lame for a few days, ceased to be troubled with the affection, and has had no return of it. There can be little doubt but that in this case the affection was due to rupture and consequent inflammation of some of the component fibres, and their sheath, of the sciatic trunk.

J. L., aet. 55 years, a miner, has for years been employed in damp and wet underground workings, but never before had anything the matter with him like the present affection. Complains of severe pain coursing down the back of the thigh to the outer aspect of the lower leg, which quite screwed him up, and prevented him from working. Cupping, sinapisms, and liniments, were tried externally; and iron, iodide and bicarbonate of potash, colchicum, Fowler's and Donovan's solution, at different times internally, but with very little benefit; at length the actual cautery was used in the course

of the great sciatic nerve in the thigh and hip,—the result was everything that could be desired. He gradually but completely recovered, got the use of his limb, and has had no return of the disease since.

R. S., aet. 48 years, a miner, complained of severe pain in the back of thigh, extending to the outer ankle, but most severe in the calf of his leg. In this case also the alkaline and arsenical preparations were had recourse to, and with this benefit, that the pain got confined to the calf, but here it continued very persistent. In this case I used the hypodermic injection of the liq. opii sed. with most marked benefit after two or three applications. Patient rapidly recovered, and was able to return to his work. Has been quite free of the disease since.

This treatment by the actual cautery merits a more extended trial. It will be found especially useful in cases where the affection is due not so much to any rheumatic element in the system, as to local injury to the component fibres and funicular sheaths of the nerve itself, as in the case of C. D.

3.—INTERESTING OBSERVATION WITH REFERENCE TO SKIN-GRAFTING, by JOHN FOX, M.D., M.R.C.S., *Greenock.*

MARGARET STEWART, aet. 24, was admitted a patient of the Hospital, Greenock, on 21st December, 1871, for syphilitic ulcers of the legs. She is a stout healthy-looking woman, but has been the subject of syphilis for a period of five years. With this exception, she has always enjoyed good general health.

The ulcers on the legs present the usual punched-out edges, and general characteristics of syphilitic ulcers. The solution of continuity on the right leg is situated on its middle and back part, and measures 5 by 3 inches. That on the left is situated at the middle of leg on its outer aspect, and measures 4 by 3 inches.

She was treated with pil. hydrarg. iodidi viride, i., morning and evening, and Dec. Sarzæ Co. ℥j. three times a day. The ulcers were strapped with adhesive plaster, and a bandage applied over each.

Under this treatment the ulcers assumed a healthy appearance, and filled up with healthy granulations. Cicatrization was going on steadily when it was deemed advisable to hasten the process by skin-grafting. Accordingly, on 18th Jan., 1872, twenty-eight pieces of skin were transplanted from over the deltoid muscle of her own arm to the ulcer on the right leg. Six pieces were at the same time, and by the same means, transplanted from over the deltoid of a healthy woman to the ulcer on the left leg. Both were dressed in the same manner, and both had the same amount of care bestowed on them. Curious, however, to relate, the grafts on the left leg all lived, and the ulcer cicatrized in eight days. Those on