

**Petretts.**—*Case of Typhoid Fever, complicated with Deafness of a Central Origin.* "Wiener klinische Rundschau," February 21, 1904.

Dr. Krause has recently laid stress on the occurrence of ear symptoms in enteric fever. In Petretts' case the deafness varied with the severity of the symptoms, being most marked at the height of the fever, and gradually lessening as the typhoid symptoms subsided. The patient never complained of pain or noises in the ear, nor was there at any time during the course of the disease any affection of the throat or pharynx. The tympanum on both sides was pale and slightly in-drawn.

Petretts concludes that the deafness was due to the action of toxins. The rapid recovery of hearing excludes any degeneration of the auditory nerve. *A. Westerman.*

**Schwabach** (Berlin).—*On the Pathology of Deaf-mutism.* "Arch. of Otol.," vol. xxxii, No. 5.

A description of the microscopical examination of the petrous bone of a tuberculous deaf mute. The main change was an inflammatory deposit of bone in the cochlea, especially in the middle part of the lower turn. The vestibule and semicircular were almost normal. The aqueductus cochleæ was obliterated, and the author thinks it probable that the condition arose from meningitis (probably intra-uterine) and extended along the aqueductus cochleæ to the cochlea itself. Politzer, Gradenigo, and Steinbrügge have found the same region to be the part chiefly affected in deaf-mutism. *Dundas Grant.*

## THERAPEUTICS.

**Hartmann** (Berlin).—*The Treatment of Acute Otitis Media with a ten per cent. Carbolic Glycerine Solution.* "Deutsch. med. Wochenschr.," 1904, No. 17.

The above treatment is specially recommended for children suffering from acute inflammation of the middle ear. By instillation of the above solution the pain is relieved and the progress of the disease shortened. A child lying in bed restless and crying is found to have great redness of the membrana tympani, if a few drops of a ten per cent. carbolic glycerine solution are now dropped into the ear it often happens that within a few minutes the child is lively and able to get up and play.

Hartmann quotes a case of a patient who had suffered great pain for twenty-four hours being at once relieved after the use of the above solution. Every medical man who has used this remedy for long can give similar instances.

Mothers ought not to be without it in the house, as its use may prevent both parent and child having a sleepless night. In severe inflammations, specially if there co-exists an acute catarrh of the nasopharynx or severe tonsillitis, the relief obtained by this remedy is only temporary, and paracentesis should not be delayed. As the solution is somewhat of a local anæsthetic the incising of the drum is much less painful than usual. The remedy is very much used by medical men in Berlin. *A. Westerman.*