

next examined, and here again albumen was found to be present in every case. Urine passed immediately after the game by twenty players was tested, and in every case again the presence of albumen was found in very considerable quantity. In some of the latter there were even blood cells, and in every one there were granular and hyaline casts. Now, it is well known that albumen may be detected in the urine after muscular exertion, but these statements throw a new light both on the formation of albumen, and also upon the gravity or otherwise of its presence in the urine. And finally there can be no doubt that the facts that granular and hyaline casts were found in every case, that the men were all young, powerful, and healthy, and that the condition cleared up in a very short time, quite upsets the usual text-book dictum that the presence of casts in the urine signifies the existence of grave renal disease. The explanation probably is that the condition is due to acute congestion of the kidneys. The skin and kidneys have many points of resemblance, and the one can take, to a large extent, the place of the other, in excreting fluids and acids. Violent exercise, therefore, such as is taken in a game of football, very probably causes congestion of the kidneys, and the consequent disturbance of its function, and of its healthy excretion. There are certainly two practical points to be gathered from this important clinical fact; the first being that it cannot be altogether healthy that the kidney action should be so deranged once or twice a week, perhaps for several months in the year; and, secondly, that if this condition occurs in persons who are perfectly healthy, it must be more serious if it happens in those who have suffered from previous kidney derangement.

#### REMARKABLE GROWTH.

An American journal quotes an instance of rapid growth which is said to have been recorded in 1729, and which is useful as an illustration of the physiological truth that healthy development is slow, and that rapid development is usually attended by danger. This case was a boy who, at six years of age, was five feet six inches high, his beard was grown, and he appeared to be a man of thirty, his voice having changed at the age of five. He was possessed of great physical strength, and could easily lift and carry bags of grain weighing two hundred pounds. But his decline was as rapid as his growth. At eight his hair was grey, at ten he tottered in his walk and his teeth fell out, and at twelve he died of extreme old age. The case is not unlike one which is well known in medical literature of a child who was born with a beard, and with every appearance of puberty, who appeared to be an old man at one, and expired in a kind of second childhood at two years old.

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE QUEEN and the Prince of WALES have, during the past week, forwarded many gifts of game to the London Hospitals.

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MR. LEOPOLD DE ROTHSCHILD will preside at the Annual Festival Dinner, on Tuesday, April 23rd, at the Whitehall Rooms, to be given in aid of the funds of the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland Road, N.E.

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THE Council of the Hospital Saturday Fund have decided to award the sum of £17,800 to the medical charities of London from the receipts of last year, which reached close upon £20,000.

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THE Incorporated Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool has forwarded to Lord KIMBERLEY a memorial in which they point out that the British Seamen's Hospitals in Constantinople and Smyrna derive a large revenue from hospital dues levied on British shipping in those ports, and that a surplus has accumulated amounting to nearly £16,000. The Chamber request, therefore, "in the changed circumstances of the shipping trade with the Levant, and in view of the great competition in that trade, that Her Majesty's Government will wholly or greatly relieve British shipping of the present heavy hospital dues."

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THE 19th Course of Lectures and Demonstrations arranged by the Sanitary Institute, Margaret Street, W., for the special instruction of those obtaining knowledge of the duties of sanitary officers, will begin on February the 1st, at 8 p.m.

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A MEETING of those interested in the promotion of a Bill for the Registration of Midwives, took place at 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, last week, convened by the Midwives' Institute. Sir FREDERICK FITZWYGRAM, who was in the Chair, avowed himself opposed to the attempt to introduce a Bill, and said that if the Institute got a Charter, which would give them a prescriptive right to issue certificates, that was as far as they had a right to go. It would require an Act of Parliament to impose any penalty, and he did not believe there was any probability of Parliament passing any such measure. Considerable discussion ensued, Dr. HERMAN expressing the opinion that the resolution passed by the General Medical Council

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