

up severe pain in the kidney, it is too bulky to pass down the narrow canal; and, being retained in the cavity of the organ, it tends, by the constant deposit of fresh salts upon its surface, to grow larger and so to cause increased pressure on the kidney substance. After a time, this may become so considerable as to cause not only destruction of the renal tissue but also complete obstruction to the flow of urine from that kidney into the bladder. Then, the pressure of the retained fluid continues the ill-effects of the stone, and the kidney gradually becomes degenerated until it is converted into a mere bag of fluid. In some rare cases, the condition progresses in both kidneys until the organs are almost completely destroyed. But, as a general rule, the patient dies from exhaustion before that effect is produced. The usual treatment, at the present day, for persistent renal colic, is to cut down upon the kidney and extricate the stone, and the results of the operation are fairly satisfactory. It is, indeed, one of the triumphs of modern surgery that such an operation should be possible and successful.

LUNG SURGERY.

DURING the last few years, Continental surgeons have been actively operating in cases of far advanced disease of the lungs which were formerly regarded as hopeless. They have acted on the principle that a tubercular cavity is an internal abscess, and should therefore be treated like any other collection of pus. The ordinary procedure is to open the chest, as near as possible to the implicated part of the lung, to cut out a small piece of the rib, and to open the cavity in the lung, disinfecting this freely, and draining it in the usual manner. In cases which have been successfully operated upon, the cavity has rapidly contracted and dried up, and the surrounding disease has been checked. Coincidentally with this local improvement, the general health has immediately and rapidly improved, the appetite has become good, and the temperature normal. Still the proportion of unsuccessful cases, so far, has been too great to make the operation popular with medical men in this country. But, at the same time, sufficient success has been achieved to render it probable that further experience will so diminish the death rate as to make these operations an accepted form of treatment.

The Queen's Visit to Netley.

THE Queen has once more proved to the nation, and to her soldiers, that nature, as well as circumstances, intended her for a leader of men. Throughout her unique reign, Her Majesty^o has always been remarkable for the faculty of doing the right thing at the right moment, and for doing it in so gracious and dignified a way as to immeasurably enhance the value of her action. There can be no doubt that the mainspring of this power lies in the fact that beyond the keen perception, and the statesmanlike qualities with which the Queen is endowed, she is possessed, to an unusual degree, of virtues essentially feminine, and it is because the many kindly actions which have endeared her to the nation are prompted not only by a sense of the fitness of things, but are evidently the spontaneous outcome of womanly tenderness and sympathy, that they carry weight by reason of their sincerity. The sympathy is genuine, the sorrow real, not merely part of a play which it is seemly should be acted.

Those of the wounded and invalid soldiers who were privileged to see their Sovereign at Netley, on Friday last, more especially those who were honoured by her special notice, will not soon forget the occasion, or the fact that their Queen in her seventy-eighth year took a journey, including a sea passage, of some hours in length, in order personally to express her appreciation of the deeds of Her Army and her sympathy with those who had suffered in her service.

Her Majesty was received at the entrance to the beautiful hospital at Netley, which those who are acquainted with Southampton Water will remember, as one of the most conspicuous and notable features in the scenery, by General Davis—who is commanding the southern district—and a group of officers in full dress, and the scene was a brilliant one. After a bouquet had been presented by Mrs. Creagh, wife of Colonel Creagh, D.A.A.G., the Queen was wheeled by an Indian servant to the lift, and so conveyed to the top floor, where she was received by Miss Norman, the lady superintendent. Her Majesty was then wheeled from ward to ward, and personally interviewed the patients and spoke kindly words of sympathy and encouragement which will long remain in the memory of the men. An incident of the Queen's regard for the rank and file of the Army and Navy which was lately related to us may here be mentioned. Recently, when she was inspecting the crew of the St. George, which has returned from active service, she asked for those who had specially distinguished themselves to be pointed out to her. An officer was mentioned, when the Queen said, "No, not the officers, I shall know them by their names; it is the *men* I wanted to hear about." After visiting

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