

not unduly altered, and the strength well maintained. Towards the time when crisis should have ensued it was noticed that the patient's condition was less satisfactory; she breathed more rapidly, and showed a tendency to cyanosis. Shortly afterwards the expectoration, previously rusty, became muco-purulent and offensive.

The unfavourable symptoms increased with great rapidity, the temperature remained high, and no sign whatever of crisis was evident by the twelfth day of the illness. By this time the expectoration had become extremely foetid, and physical signs of breaking down of the affected organ soon became marked. Symptoms of septicæmia and of pneumo-thorax followed, and death occurred within three weeks of the time that the patient was supposed to be, and indeed was, in perfect health.

On *post mortem* examination the right lung was practically represented by a mass of gangrenous, very offensive material. There was pneumo-thorax of the right side of the chest, and the left lung was the seat of immense numbers of minute abscesses.

Is this case to be regarded as one of croupous pneumonia terminating in destruction of the lung?

It is well known that such a termination of acute pneumonia is met with hardly at all except in the persons of those who have been given to intemperance, or who are broken down in health in some other way. But this patient was in her ordinary good health, and the *post mortem* examination showed that, apart from the pulmonary condition, no organic disease whatever existed.

To call this case one of pneumonia ending in gangrene does not seem to offer an adequate explanation of the phenomena, and it seems clear that a general septic infection more adequately explains the nature of the symptoms and result. It is true that in text books the orthodox teaching is that croupous pneumonia may eventuate in gangrene of the affected lung, but it must be admitted that this statement is merely of practical value in giving the student help in associating the beginning and course of the disease with its termination or rather of associating certain physical signs and symptoms with certain sequelæ; but it nevertheless remains extremely doubtful if what is usually described as "pneumonia" ever does terminate in acute destruction of the pulmonary organs.

(To be continued.)

Appointments.

MATRONS.

Miss Margaret Jones has been appointed Matron of the Gore Farm Hospital, Darenth, under the Metropolitan Asylums Board. Miss Jones was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she worked from 1882-1889. Her subsequent appointments have been those of Nurse at St. Saviour's Infirmary, Dulwich, and at St. Mark's Hospital; Night Superintendent at the Home for Incurables, Leamington; and for the last ten years Charge Nurse, Night Superintendent, and Assistant Matron at the Northern Fever Hospital, Winchmore Hill. Miss Jones is a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Nurses.

Miss Gertrude Ward has been appointed to the post of Matron in College at Eton. She received her training at St. Thomas' Hospital, and was for some time connected with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses. In 1895 she joined the Universities Mission to Central Africa, and after a few weeks spent in Zanzibar, went up to Magila on the mainland, a station of the Mission in German East Africa. As there was no resident doctor, and from the nature of the climate, Europeans are frequently seriously ill with malaria, and many natives come for advice and medicine, the position of nurse at Magila is a very onerous one. In addition to her many nursing duties Miss Ward, who is a musician of no mean order, undertook to train the choir, and, before she left, an organ had arrived from home for the church, and melodious sounds were heard to issue from the hitherto untrained throats of the African choir, a result to be proud of, and only achieved after an infinity of patient teaching. After a furlough at home spent in recruiting from a somewhat bad spell of malaria, Miss Ward returned to Africa, but only to be attacked with a still more severe form of the same disease after a few months residence at Magila, and a medical fiat was issued against her return to tropical Africa. In 1899 she was appointed Matron of the British Hospital, Algiers, which post she resigned last June. Her many friends will be glad to learn of her new appointment, and will wish her success and good health in this position. Miss Ward is not only known in nursing circles, but her books, the "Life of Bishop Smythies," and "Letters from East Africa," have gained for her the appreciation of a reading public, and a place in the paths of literature.

Miss S. Mattick has been appointed Matron of the Children's Hospital, Bristol. She was trained at the General Hospital, Bristol, where she has also held the position of Sister and Night Superintendent.

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