I. The Treatment of Malignant Tumors by Repeated Inoculations of Erysipelas. By William B. Coley, M.D. (New York). The author reports ten original cases in which malignant tumors have been subjected by him to repeated injections of pure fluid cultures of erysipelas. In most cases the injections were made deeply into the tumors themselves. The doses employed have varied with the age and virulence of the cultures, the aim being to provoke a good reaction; a temperature of 104° to 104½° frequently following. The reaction usually subsided within thirty-six to forty-eight hours after the injection, unless erysipelas was produced. Out of upward of one hundred and fifty injections of pure cultures of the streptococcus of erysipelas, of almost every degree of virulence, superficially and deeply, in but two cases did an abscess follow, and in all of these, in which a careful bacteriological examination was made of the pus before it had became contaminated, mixed cultures were found, the staphylococcus aureus being also present.

In addition to his own cases, Coley has collected from literature and tabulated twenty-eight additional cases of carcinoma and sarcoma in which erysipelas, either spontaneous or artificial, intervened. Of seventeen cases of carcinoma, one other was well five years after the attack, three were permanently cured, ten were temporarily improved, and one died of the erysipelas. Of seventeen cases of sarcoma seven remained well and free from recurrence from one to seven years after the attack. One died from the erysipelas; temporary improvement was manifested in the remainder. Of four cases of either sarcoma or carcinoma two were cured.

The author is now experimenting with filtered cultures, the germs being thus removed without subjecting the filtrate to heat. The results have been so encouraging that, for the present, he has
NERVOUS SYSTEM.

I. Removal of an Intradural Spinal Tumor. By Dr. Caponotto (Italy). A man, thirty-three years of age, received an injury to the cervical spine when six years old. Up to his nineteenth year he had no especial trouble, but at this time he began to have violent intercostal neuralgia and slight anaesthesia in both thighs. Shortly after this he developed motor trouble in the lower extremities, and could only walk on crutches. Paralysis of the bladder and rectum appeared the next year, and he also had a marked sensory disturbance below the fourth dorsal vertebra.

The second and third dorsal arches were resected, the dura mater was very tense, and when it was opened a round white tumor became visible, the upper edge of which corresponded to the third vertebra. It extended to the lower margin of the fifth vertebra, requiring the removal of the fourth and fifth arches. The whole interior of the dural cavity was filled by the tumor. Hardly any trace of the cord could be discovered, and consequently there was no improvement in motion or sensation. The growth proved to be a fibro-sarcoma.—Riforma Med., VIII, 271, 1892.

II. Operations for Compression of the Spinal Cord by Dislocation of the Vertebra. By Dr. Urban (Leipzig). The advantages of the method of temporary resection of the laminae is summarized as follows: It affords a free and complete view of the entire vertebral canal and its contents. The vertebral arches and bodies and the spinal cord are easily accessible to inspection and palpation. It enables us to remove the cause of the compression wherever it may originate.