A CASE OF ACROMEGALY.

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B. L., aged 10 years, a negro boy, was brought to me by his mother to be treated for oedema and redness of the right leg and foot. His mother said that he was a 7 months' child, and that his extremities had been larger than normal ever since his birth. As her intelligence, however, appeared to be somewhat deficient, I felt justified in accepting this statement with some reserve.

On examining the boy, I found him to be fairly nourished and healthy-looking. The forehead was large and prominent, and the lower jaw long and heavy, the head looking as if it were too large for the body. The scapulæ were equally and normally developed on the two sides, as also the iliac crests and trochanters. The right nipple was slightly more developed than the left; the heart and lungs were normal; the abdomen was rather tympanitic but otherwise healthy; the second and third toes on each side were greatly hypertrophied, the enlargement apparently involving all the tissues. There was a general enlargement of both feet, giving them the appearance of being too big for the body. This was especially noticeable in the right foot, which remained considerably larger than the left, even after the redness and oedema had disappeared under treatment. In the hands the index and middle fingers were larger than normal, though the enlargement was not so marked as in the feet.

The accompanying figure from a photograph which Dr. J. R. Dickson was kind enough to take shows the enlargement of the toes, and less clearly

	Right.	Left.
<i>Lower Extremity:</i>		
Circumference of knee ...	10	10
" " ankle ...	8½	7½
" " broadest part of foot ...	8½	8½
" " great toe ...	3	3½
" " second " ...	2½	2½
" " third " ...	2½	2
" " fourth " ...	1½	1½
" " little " ...	2½	2½
Length of great toe ...	1½	2½
" second " ...	2	2
" third " ...	1½	1½
" fourth " ...	1½	1½
" little " ...	1½	1½

that of the fingers. The large head, prominent forehead, and long lower jaw are also well shown. The principal measurements of the patient I found to be as given in the table.

All measurements in the table are in inches. The circumference of the fingers and toes were taken round the first joints. It will be noticed that in nearly every instance in which there is a difference between the two sides, the measurements on the right side are greater than those on the left. The case seems of some value as an example of commencing acromegaly. If I have opportunity, I shall watch the further progress of the case with great interest. This is, I believe, the first time the condition has been reported in a negro of African descent.

ACTINOMYCOSIS.

—In a report from the Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry to the Secretary of Agriculture on some experiments made in Chicago in the treatment of cattle suffering from actinomycosis, iodide of potassium is said to be of the greatest use, about 63 per cent. of the animals treated with that

drug having recovered. Twenty-one healthy cattle were kept in close quarters with diseased cattle for three months without showing any sign of infection. As in some of the Western States there has for some time been a good deal of tension between cattle owners and local cattle commissioners on account of the ruthless condemnation by the latter of all animals suffering from "lumpy jaw," the owners are somewhat elated by the report, which they interpret as being favourable to their interests.

The Portuguese Government has appointed a Committee, with Senhor Ressana Garcia as President, to draw up a scheme for the organisation of a system of inspection of factories and workshops, and for the protection of those both over and under age engaged in them.

	Right.	Left.
<i>Upper Extremity:</i>		
Circumference of elbow...	6½	6½
" " wrist...	5	4½
" " broadest part of hand...	7	6½
" " thumb ...	2	1½
" " index finger ...	2	1½
" " middle " ...	1½	1½
" " ring " ...	1½	1½
" " little " ...	1½	1½
Length of thumb ...	2	2
" index finger ...	2½	2½
" middle " ...	2½	2½
" ring " ...	2½	2½
" little " ...	2½	2