

REPORT OF SOCIETY.

Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Society.

November 7, 1888.

DR. M'BRIDE showed (a) a young man suffering from an unusual form of laryngeal neurosis. In the erect position, or when kneeling with his head thrown back, he could only speak in a high falsetto note. The laryngoscopic appearances in this position were those usually seen in the production of falsetto notes. He believed the condition to be due to a defect in the crico-thyroid muscle. This was rendered probable by the fact that electricity and massage applied to it improved the voice, and because when the cricoid and thyroid cartilages were pressed together by the fingers the falsetto note was replaced by a normal voice. (b) A woman who suffered from osseous cysts containing air of the middle turbinated bones, causing nasal obstruction. In the one nostril he broke down the cyst, removing part of the walls and the contents; in the other, he contented himself with opening into the cyst and squeezing the walls flat. The result was that in the latter of the two the cyst had refilled.

Maxwell Ross.

REVIEWS.

A. C. GRÖNBECH.—Naso-Pharyngeal Polypi, especially the Fibrous. *Copenhagen, 1888.*

A VERY thorough review of all the cases of fibrous naso-pharyngeal polypi related in literature, with the addition of thirteen new ones (all with microscopic examinations), collected from hospitals and clinics in Copenhagen, Grönbech only making use of the term naso-pharyngeal polypi for polypi *originating* from the walls of the naso-pharyngeal cavity.

ETIOLOGY.—(a) *Sex.* Out of forty-one cases collected by the author from literature, and in the way above-mentioned, where the fibrous character of the tumour was stated by microscopic examination, thirty-six occurred in males and five in females, which shows that females are not so exempt from this disease as is generally supposed.

(b) *Age.* In twenty-eight (out of the forty-one cases) the tumours had begun between twelve and twenty-three, whilst in three cases they had commenced between ten and eleven, and in five cases after the twenty-third year. In five cases there was no statement as to the time of the tumour's commencement.

(c) *Site.* The tumour originates either from the right or from the left side of the basis cranii, the author not having a single case recorded originating from the middle line. He uses this fact as a strong proof in favour of the hypothesis that the disease is an exquisite morbus adolescentium, because the base of the skull, during the period in which the fibrous naso-pharyngeal polypi most frequently are observed, grows most at its *edges*, where then the active physiological developing process of ossification is favourable to the development of morbid changes.

Morbid anatomy.—In the most recent cases, collected by the author, the fibrous