

## PYELO-NEPHRITIS IN PREGNANCY.\*

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I must apologize to the Association for the fact that this has been called a paper; it is merely a note to draw the attention of the practitioners to a rare and serious condition.

The pregnant woman has many pitfalls to encounter, and not the least serious of these is pyelo-nephritis, the disease I propose to discuss shortly. In the literature of the subject there is not much to be found that is helpful to the practitioner or of much benefit to the student. The disease seems to have been to a very great extent lost sight of, and many works on obstetrics do not even mention it. One of the best references I find in Edgar, and even there the subject is not dealt with as fully as it might have been. The experience of any one man is necessarily limited, and we naturally turn to the larger institutions for information. In the Paris *maternité* they meet with about one case a year of pyelo-nephritis complicating pregnancy. On account of the rarity of the condition, I propose to give you in detail my experience.

In May, 1898, my attention was first called to this subject. A Mrs. B., advanced in pregnancy to the fifth month, showed evidence of ill-health. Pus appeared in the urine in very considerable quantity. She suffered from loss of appetite, headache, and some elevation of temperature. After a few weeks high fever and chills set in, with an increase of pulse. She went through with the pregnancy, and though very ill bore a living child and survived. Upon frequent subsequent examinations no pus was found in the urine, though there were at times traces of albumen. She became pregnant again in June, 1901, and when two or three months pregnant no pus was present in the urine. Gradually the old symptoms reappeared—pus and albumen in the urine, ill-health, loss of appetite, a haggard appearance, lemon-colored, waxy-looking skin. I advised the induction of labor and brought the patient to the city for that purpose, but the other consultant did not agree with my views of the case, and the patient was sent home to go on to full time. She was delivered and recovered, I believe, after a desperate illness. Owing to the action taken in the case, I have never seen the

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