

IV. **PERSONAL HISTORY.**

This should include everything which might bear upon the present illness.

1. **Past Illnesses**—such as (*a*) a similar attack to the present, and when? (*b*) Other illnesses or operations, and when? The most important of these are usually scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid fever, recurrent tonsillitis, “quinsy”, “ulcerated tooth”, “gum boil”, acute inflammatory rheumatism, “growing pains”, chorea, severe abdominal pain, pleurisy, syphilis, gonorrhœa, and tropical diseases. Has there been slow recovery from or poor health following any past illness? Have there been “bilious” attacks, and if so, what was the character? When were the first and last pregnancies, and what were their durations? (*c*) Disorders of menstruation—amenorrhœa, dysmenorrhœa, menorrhagia, metrorrhagia, and irregular menstruation.
2. **Environment, whilst,**
 - (*a*) at home,
 - (*b*) at work,
 - (*c*) socially.
3. **Habits**—How much sleep, exercise, and food does the patient get? How much tea, coffee, alcohol, and tobacco does he consume? Is he worried about himself, his family, his business, his finances, etc.?