

the coronary above. It is composed of three or four glands which lie along the upper border of the pancreas and immediately behind the pylorus. The presence of this chain is not always constant, but when present is invariably infected. Their lymph supply comes from the posterior surface of the pylorus, the subpyloric group and the first portion of the duodenum.

The technic of pylorotomy is therefore essentially founded on the following three cardinal points:

- (1) The metastatic connection between the stomach and the duodenum is limited, therefore infection is not liable to advance very far into the intestine.
- (2) Metastasis from cancer at the pylorus first invades the glands along the lesser curvature, then the subpyloric group at the extreme right of the greater curvature.
- (3) Since there is practically no lymphatic connection between the pylorus and the dome of the stomach, this latter portion is usually free from infection.

It will therefore be noted that:

- (1) The duodenum may be saved to within one or one and one-half inches of the pylorus;
- (2) That the whole of the lesser curvature with the coronary chain of glands, and the prepyloric portion of the greater curvature with the subpyloric glandular group, must invariably be removed; and
- (3) That the greater portion of the greater curvature, with the entire dome of the stomach, may be saved.

To recapitulate:

- (1) Cancer of the stomach begins as a purely local affection. At first it is confined to the part in which it begins to grow.
- (2) If removed at an early period, it can be cured.
- (3) Unless removed early, it can only end in death.
- (4) Cancer is often present without pain. In some cases pain appears only in the later stages of the disease.
- (5) Ulcer of the stomach predisposes to cancer. In a great majority of all cases of gastric carcinoma the seed bed can be shown to be the indurated edges of an old peptic ulcer.
- (6) The best time to effectually attack the disease is in the precancerous state—the ulcer stage. Thus by prevention rather than by cure will the greatest triumphs in the treatment of this disease be attained.

*After-Treatment and Complications.*—Were it possible that all