

diagnosis of prostatic hypertrophy, cystitis or stone in the bladder. The instrument, he believes, irritates tuberculosis of the bladder even more than do local measures, and he would only use the cystoscope for catheterizing purposes, tumor and in obscure cases for diagnosis. At the present time most cystoscopists are unable to agree to these objections, finding by experience that the fears of these writers are in most instances groundless. Personally, while I do not advocate a cystoscopic examination every time a patient complains of a little frequency and pain on micturition, I recognize no contra indication whatever, provided, of course, the individual is in a sufficiently healthy state to stand the necessary manipulation. In acute cystitis there is practically never any indication for its use, but even then it may be done without any ill effects to the patient if one carries out the procedure in the routine gentle and aseptic manner. If one were absolutely sure of the diagnosis, then there should be no need for using the instrument at all, but in these days of scientific accuracy every method which will increase our knowledge of diseased conditions and as a consequence enable us to give better treatment to our patients should, whenever practicable, be adopted; and I shall attempt to show later on that there are many instances of daily occurrence where individuals are supposed to be suffering from straightforward diseases and cystoscopy conclusively proves them to have an entirely different malady.

Having thus briefly referred to the technical aspect of the subject, let us now deal with some of the more common pathological conditions which are rendered evident by cystoscopy, first directing our attention to cystitis.

If one examines a bladder in the declining stage of an acute cystitis, the first thing which attracts the attention is the deep red color of the mucosa. The vessels themselves are not so evident as under normal conditions, owing to the darker surface upon which they ramify. About the neck of the organ the mucous membrane is swollen and appears velvety, with here and there more irregular projections. There may be hemorrhagic patches, and these appear as dark blotches. That they are due to blood extravasations and not to congestion is evident from the absence of vessels and by their showing no change in color when the viscus is further distended. Floating in the medium or partly attached to the wall may be seen streamers of grayish denuded epithelium or muco-pus which move about with every wave transmitted to the solution by the cystoscope or respiratory movements. The outline of the prostate or the internal meatus in the female is distinctly blurred and irregular—a