

understood preference for the *anterior* wall in the neighborhood of the apex and the adjoining septum, as in the case now under consideration. It may be, as some morbid anatomists suppose, that in both these varieties the process begins in the *endocardium* lining the valves in one case, and the ventricular walls in the other, or in the pericardium, whence it extends to the musculature of the heart and its connective tissue. But not unfrequently the reverse appears to be true, viz., that the disease begins in the myocardium and thence extends to the endo- or the pericardium.

(c) As regards the frequency with which the respective sides of the heart suffer, authorities differ—Wilks maintaining that, combined with hypertrophy, it is far more common in the right than in the left ventricle, while Friedreich, Green and others allege that it is more frequent in the left, and that when present in the right, the same change, but in more marked degree, also exists in the left heart and septum. When the degeneration co-exists with chronic pericarditis, it is said by some to thus implicate both sides of the heart.

(d) A still more rare form of localized fibroid transformation presents itself as an annular induration of the upper part of the *conus arteriæ pulmonalis*, which produces a real cardiac stenosis. This form, very rare in adults, is more frequently met with in early foetal life.

II. The *generalized* fibroid transformation, in which all the walls of the heart are the seat of excessive development of fibroid tissue, was described by Sir Wm. Jenner as occurring together with hypertrophy of the musculature of the heart, when the substance of the organ is the seat of gradually developed, long continued and intermitting congestion—conditions so frequently present in chronic valvular disease. (*Med. Chir. Trans.*, vol. XVIII., 1860, p. 199 *et seq.*) This form has not met with universal acceptance, however, although I think I may say that we are familiar with it here.

The *nature* of the morbid process which determines fibroid transformation of the heart is an unsettled question. The prevailing opinion, however, is that it is a *chronic* myocarditis, origi-