

The Canadian Practitioner and Review.

VOL. XXX.

TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1905.

NO. 12

Original Communications.

THE RELATION WHICH HYPERTROPHY OF THE VARIOUS TONSILS OF WALDEYER'S RING BEARS IN THE ETIOLOGY OF DISEASE.

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This ring is composed of masses of lymphoid tissue situated in the pharynx and connected with each other in a greater or less degree by lymph channels. The constituent parts of the ring are the Pharyngeal tonsil of the naso-pharynx; the two Faucial tonsils, located on either side between the pillars of the fauces; and the Lingual tonsil, lying on the posterior fourth of the tongue on either side of the glosso-epiglottic fold and behind the circumvallate papillæ. Owing to the separation into two lateral halves which sometimes occurs in the latter, some writers look upon it as double. The same might be said of the pharyngeal tonsil, but for all practical purposes these are single bodies, and may be considered as such.

Besides these various tonsils, there is also situated within each ventricle of the larynx a minute area of adenoid tissue. But as it requires for physiological purposes, the demonstration of the microscope, and has little if any bearing upon the health of the individual, it may logically be left out of the circle of Waldeyer's ring; as also may the small amount of lymphoid tissue which in some instances develops in the middle turbinal region of the nose.

In fetal life the tonsils rarely advance beyond a rudimentary stage, hence at birth the post-pharynx is usually