

Mayo Robson says, speaking on catarrh of the gall-bladder and bile ducts: "An extension from the duodenum is probably the usual cause, and as the common bile duct traverses the walls of the duodenum very obliquely it is to be expected that the narrow terminal portion of the duct will be the first to suffer, and be the seat of the primary obstruction. Chronic catarrh of the gall-bladder and ducts is the sequel of above, with dyspeptic symptoms, due to associated gastro-intestinal catarrh."

In discussing the etiology of pancreatitis, he says: "Pancreatitis is probably always a secondary disease, and usually dependent on infection spreading from the common bile duct or duodenum."

Ochsner, pp. 159, 161 of his work on clinical surgery, says of pyloric obstruction, cholecystitis and pancreatitis:

"It is plain that each one of these conditions can only be relieved by securing perfect drainage for the cavities involved, and that stomach surgery is instituted to a very great extent for the purpose of overcoming faulty drainage of this organ."

Mayo Robson further says: "Though well recognized, I think it has not been sufficiently grasped that the essential cause of peptic ulcer is of a septic nature, and in many cases the source of the trouble is oral. Even so, drainage by gastro-enterostomy cures, irrespective of condition of mouth, and therefore we are justified in stating that faulty drainage is undoubtedly the chief cause."

Moynihan, on p. 47 of his recent work on gall-stones and their surgical treatment, says: "The fact that the bacillus coli is the most common inhabitant of the gall-bladder and of gall-stones, suggests that an intestinal origin is the most likely, for this organism abounds in the intestine, *though it is not, as a rule, present in large numbers in the duodenum when in a normal condition.*

Opinion is now universally in favor of the view that it is the irritation of gall-stones that determine the incidence of cancer. Authorities also agree that old-standing gastric ulcers are responsible for the vast majority of cases of cancer of the stomach.

We have here then clearly demonstrated by the statements of eminent authorities that infection is the cause of diseases of the liver, gall-bladder, bile ducts and pancreas, also of ulcer of stomach, and it is evident that the point of great significance is that of (as stated by one eminent authority) the associated gastro-intestinal catarrh. Also another very significant statement is that *the duodenum in its normal condition is practically free from infection.* It is quite evident, even to the superficial