

2. That a vast amount of female disease is merely simulated.

3. That physicians, themselves a disturbing influence, do not recognize this fact, are unable to detect malingering where it really exists, and are so incompetent to practise.

4. As they are, also, for the reason that "it is impossible for any man to penetrate the mysteries of an organism that he does not share."

It is unnecessary to do more than present these statements in all their grossness. We can only believe that their authoress was unaware what she penned. It would be wicked to believe that she spoke from any personal experience; but there can be no doubt that she has totally misrepresented the general experience of her sex. Physicians, to whom the treatment of the diseases of women would be simply disgusting, were it not for the belief that women really suffer physically far more in proportion to men than is generally supposed, can well afford to pass over this criticism upon themselves, however unintended it may have been, in silence; but an imputation upon the character of their patients has been made, which, unless challenged, would tend to prevent the disclosure of much real suffering, and bestowal of much real aid, and besides to lower the moral standard of professional and social intercourse with women.

If Mrs. Dill has not committed a fearful error of judgment, not only are physicians universally a curse to the community, but the daily meeting of clergymen with parishioners, of teacher with scholar, of friend with friend, unattended as these are by the disgust which is so constantly present in the case of the medical attendant, are productive of so direct and intense a degree of sexual excitement, "even in the purest women," that the very name of continence is a delusion, and of chastity a lie.

Were her statements true, no honorable man could longer continue to practise his profession. If they are true the sooner every one, both men and women, is made to confess the fact, the better for us all; and if female physicians base their claims to recognition and support on such vile slanders as these, never before in this community so distinctly stated, the sooner the better this also.

"Possessed, however, of an immense plexus of nerves of which man knows nothing, and sensitive to a thousand pains of which he cannot dream," the discovery retired to will probably remain in their own possession, and that of their over-enthusiastic advocates.—*Gynecological Journal*.

Ulceration of Intestine, Causing Sudden Death.

A young gentleman, a clerk, was taken ill on Tuesday morning, and kept his bed through the day. On the evening of Wednesday a cup of tea was sent to him. Very shortly afterwards, his sister went to his room and found him writhing on his bed in agony. He said he was choking, and asked for some brandy, but before she could leave the room to get it he suddenly expired in her arms. Mr. James K. Wood, the father of the deceased, said his son had not been ill in any way previous to Tuesday last, and up to that time had never been under medical treatment in his life. The family

were awakened early on Tuesday morning by the shrieks of the deceased, whom they found on the staircase walking in agony and complaining of intense pain in the stomach. For a time he completely lost his sight. Brandy was administered, deceased was put to bed, and medical aid summoned. On the following day he appeared to have perfectly recovered. Dr. Kibber, who had attended the deceased, said that from the external appearance of the body, there was not the slightest indication of disease, and he was perfectly at a loss to account for death. Subsequent witness made a *post-mortem* examination, and found an ulcer in the intestines. This, it appeared, had suddenly given way, and there was a great deal of fluid in the abdominal cavity, which would at once account for death. He had never before either met with or heard of a case of a similar character, and it was one which would prove of so much interest to the members of the medical profession that he was thankful the family of the deceased had resolved upon allowing a *post-mortem* examination to take place.

There are several interesting features in this case and it would have been well had it been put on record in more detail. The temporary loss of sight in connection with an abdominal lesion is a symptom which may claim attention. We believe it is not very infrequent.—*Medical News and Library*.

Sciatica—Recovery.

CLINICAL NOTES, BY G. W. FOSTER, M.D.

Chris. Byrne, Irish-seaman, aged 33, was admitted to ward 12, bed 214, on the 20th October. The patient's history as an invalid begins with an attack of syphilis in 1853, and includes a second attack with buboes resulting in suppuration in 1857, and a third attack of venereal sore with gonorrhoea in 1865. In 1867 he shipped from Baltimore for Liverpool with a scant crew and during stormy weather. He was attacked at sea with a pain in the calf of the right leg, which he describes as having been of a "shooting" character, like "thrusting needles in the flesh," and reaching from the calf of the leg to the knee. The pain afterwards extended to the thigh along the course of the sciatic nerve. There was tenderness of the surface on pressure.

On reaching Cork, he was sent to hospital, and remained five weeks under treatment. He does not know what treatment was resorted to, but thinks he took quinine. At the expiration of five weeks' detention in hospital he was discharged measurably relieved of pain, but it recurred three days after his departure from the hospital.

Three weeks later he was admitted to a hospital in Liverpool to be treated. He remained under treatment four weeks; took quinine and had blisters applied over thigh and hip. He then shipped upon a vessel for America, which was driven by stress of weather into Londonderry, where he again underwent one month's treatment, and was dismissed as cured.

On the 20th August, 1868, he entered the city hospital at New York, and underwent four weeks' treatment for the most part with hypodermic injections containing morphia, and, as he thinks, quinine combined.