

show the clearest signs of disease ; in the other they may appear normal. The morbid anatomist may in time discover collateral disturbances distinguishing these two states ; at present he cannot adequately. In one case of diabetes he finds the pancreas unaffected, in the next it is extensively diseased. Unaided by experimental pathology he is quite incapable of determining the important rôle played by this organ in regulating the sugar supply of the organism and in the production of diabetes. Similarly there may be an accumulation of the internal secretion, either due to (3) hypertrophy of a gland, or (4) not associated with recognizable glandular change.

In short, gentleman, I fear that I stand before you as a kind of reversed contrary Balaam. Summoned to bless—to illumine this discussion—I can only curse (as I take it all my predecessors must have done who have attempted to reconcile the anatomical results in the class of cases now before us) and can but point out to you the darkness that is upon the face of the deep. But happily there is this to be said to the credit of the morbid anatomist that the demonstration of this darkness is of the highest value as indicating the lacunæ in our knowledge and suggesting the various factors that have to be taken into consideration and carefully studied in order that we may gain a comprehensive knowledge of this intensely interesting and valuable subject of internal secretion and glandular function. It is in itself a step towards higher things to feel acutely our own ignorance.

And then, perhaps, things are not quite so black as here painted. While it may be that I am overbold—it may also be that this darkness but precedes the dawn ; that facts which seem so flatly to contradict each other can, in the growing light of experimental pathology, already be seen to range themselves in an orderly manner. Accepting the postulates, first, that the glands of the body afford an internal secretion capable of acting upon and transposing some substance or substances produced or assimilated by other regions of the body, and, second that, proceeding with due caution, we can utilise the results of anatomical and histological studies, then, applying the considerations which I have just urged, we must recognise the possible existence of three orders of conditions, each order being capable of further subdivision into two well marked groups.