

although the patient's sufferings during the attack of pelvic peritonitis caused her to scream for hours together so that she could be heard in the next house, she was hardly ever heard to complain after so painful an operation as this must have been of tearing out those adherent and distended pus tubes. As a matter of fact, the patient herself declared that the pain after the operation was as nothing compared with the agony she had endured with each of her attacks of pelvic peritonitis. She also stated the very day after the operation that she was entirely free from the pain she had had for so many years, although the cut in the abdomen was still very painful. Her convalescence was uneventful, her bladder trouble disappearing of itself; she was up in four weeks and walked downstairs in five weeks to go home, since when I have seen her nursing a sick daughter, and going about the house with considerable activity.

Since the above was written this patient has been seen several time. She states that she now looks forward to the approach of her husband with pleasure instead of with dread, and that she never experienced sexual pleasure until after her operation. Another patient with pus tubes, who has not yet consented to an operation, told me a few days ago that, although she loved her husband very dearly, she had never, since her first attack of pelvic peritonitis, cared to give him a kind look or say an endearing word for fear of arousing his passions, sexual intercourse not only causing her such dreadful pain at the time, but confining her to bed for several days afterwards. Few men, even among physicians, realize what terrible suffering women with certain diseases of the ovaries and tubes patiently endure in their attempt to fulfil their duty to their husbands. As Tait says, "The marital act is associated in her mind with something little short of horror." Many a time I have seen the tears fill the eyes during the gentlest possible digital examination, and yet these same women bravely endured the pain after abdominal section almost without a murmur. It is simply absurd to talk about the importance to the woman of retaining such appendages as these, because their removal will prevent her from ever experiencing the joys of motherhood or of feeling the proper affection for her husband. These things have been done already by the disease. The ciliated epithelium which wafts the ovum down towards the womb has disappeared from the tubes; the uterine end of the tube is strictured; the fimbriated end is sealed. The tube itself is full of pus, and the surface of the ovary is covered with several layers of organized lymph. The exquisitely tender organs are lying hopelessly imprisoned in Douglas' cul-de-sac, directly in the road of the male organ and only a couple