

the patient before you. In this way, as you perceive, the general outline of the stomach is fairly well defined and mapped off from the surrounding organs. By this means also a tumour at the pylorus is more definitely marked out, and at the same time tumours lying behind the stomach become less distinct.

Gastrodiaphany, or Transillumination of the stomach, is another aid to the eye in the process of inspection. This process must, of course, be conducted in a dark room. By the aid of the gastrodiaphane the stomach is illuminated and its general contour and size fairly well defined. It is not, however, absolutely reliable, as the illumination is conveyed to the intestines if they are distended with gas. Tumours of the anterior wall of the stomach, however, are clearly demonstrated by this process. Before passing the gastro-diaphane the patient should drink about one pint of water. I will endeavour to illustrate this process at the close of this paper.

2. *Palpation*.—In making palpation, the patient should be upon his back with his knees drawn up so as to relax the abdominal muscles. The patient's attention should be as far as possible withdrawn from the fact that you are palpating the stomach. The more you succeed in fixing the patient's attention upon something else, the more relaxed will his abdominal muscles become and therefore the more deeply will you be able to palpate. The hand of the palpator should be warm and the palmar surfaces of the extended fingers placed gently across the patient's abdomen in the region of the stomach. The pressure should now be gradually increased along with a rotatory motion, the fingers being flexed from the third joints. In the diseases under consideration, what can we thus ascertain? If the stomach is not entirely empty, more or less gurgling will be elicited. This has no particular significance. Should the stomach be distended with gas, a drumlike feeling will be communicated to the palpating hand. This will indicate that fermentation is going on and this will be found to exist most markedly in the diseases under consideration in the following order:—Gastritis, cancer, ulcer. If the stomach is empty and a sense of resistance is encountered in a more marked degree than in the normal condition, we may have to deal with a diffuse cancerous growth in the walls of the stomach, fibrosis of the stomach or chronic catarrhal gastritis.