

Now there are many points in the case which direct to a common enough cause, viz., cirrhosis of the liver, nearly all the symptoms of which are plainly present, and which is, in my opinion, the true cause of all we see. The history separates itself into that clinical and practical division observed by Murchison, viz., alcoholic dyspepsia and portal obstruction.

*Alcoholic Obstruction.*—1. Distinct alcoholic history. 2. The outset was markedly insidious. He cannot definitely make it clear when the disease began—when he first felt that his health was beginning to fail. 3. The early symptoms were morning retching and vomiting, a sinking at the epigastrium, loss of relish for food, furred tongue, bad taste, flatulence, disordered bowels, urine loaded with lithates.

Now, let us consider some of these main causes. There is no evidence of the presence of any of the ordinary causes of non-obstructive jaundice. There was no fever, no blood-poisoning, no injuriously-acting metallic influence was at work. The jaundice came on gradually and slowly, and was first noticed by the patient's friends. He had been at a funeral, when one of his friends, whose mind being wholly unoccupied in the pauses of the dismal ceremony had time to observe the personal defects of his neighbors, whispered to our patient here, "What makes you so yellow?" He felt very uncomfortable at this disquieting question, and on his return home immediately consulted a mirror, with the result that he distinctly perceived that the conjunctiva was yellow, so that the onset could not have been sudden. Nor was there ever any pain in the hepatic region. Now in gall-stone passage there is severe and sudden colic, with tenderness over the fundus of the gall-bladder, rigors, vomiting—all followed in twelve to twenty-four hours by intense jaundice. Could it be due to a malignant tumor obstructing the duct? There was no physical sign of tumor; pain was absent, and in malignant tumor death occurs early. "The very circumstance of jaundice lasting in any case longer than six months would be an argument against its being due to a cancerous tumor." There is a distinct history of dram-drinking carried on persistently and uninterruptedly for many years, and