obstruction. One of these was for a knuckle of small intestine caught by adhesions to a raw place left by detaching omentum, and on freeing these the vermicular movements had at once carried off the contents. The intestine was enormously distended above this point, but collapsed below it. In another case, on opening the abdomen, he had found the bowel attached to the stump of an ovary, and separating the adhesions was all that was necessary.

He suggested to Dr. Shepherd that some of the dangers of an operation of this kind could be reduced by having made, the same size as the operating table, a pan of hot water to be kept at a temperature of 110° F. There would then be less difficulty in keeping the intestines properly warmed while outside the abdominal cavity, and the patient would leave the table warm, instead of with a temperature lowered to 96° as was often the case.

Dr. Wesley Mills suggested that when hyperæmia in the region concerned in this case was not to be explained on obvious mechanical principles, the nervous system was to be interrogated. The splanchnic region was that so much used by nature to regulate the blood pressure and relieve the heart; it alone, as physiology had demonstrated, could contain all the blood of the body, and its importance in the vital economy,—even in the maintenance of life itself,—recent experiments had rendered clearer than ever. Considering the rapidity of the changes after the unfortunate conditions had been altered, it seemed highly probable that the restoration of a normal circulation in the intestine was to be explained through the action of the vaso-motor centre by means of the splanchnic and other nerves of the sympathetic system. The abnormal condition of the circulation as well as the restoration to the normal, was probably brought about reflexly, though the direct action of toxins, etc., on the nervous centres as a cause of the hyperæmia, was also to be considered.

Dr. Shepherd, in reply, said that Kocher looked upon the congestion as due to hyperdistension of the intestine, and claimed that he could produce the same condition in animals by distending the intestine with gas. With regard to the volvulus, he had never seen or read of a similar case, but had not looked the matter up.

Functional Heart Murmurs.

Dr. James Stewart read a paper on this subject by Dr. Maude Abbott. (See page 1.)

Dr. W. F. Hamilton expressed his admiration for the character of the work displayed in the paper. So full of important details is it that in order to derive the full benefit therefrom one must peruse it thoughtfully and meditatively. To all interested in the study of cardiac cases such observations are especially helpful.