

case of a urethral discharge as specific, or as having been propagated solely by sexual contact. There are numerous other etiologic factors, far removed from the sexual sphere that may cause it. The causative agencies may be divided as follows:—

(1) *Specific or Microbic.* This constitutes such elements as the gonococci, or infection due to other pyococci, the latter being capable of engendering not only a very virulent and at times extremely chronic case, but may also be accompanied or followed by just as many and just as severe complications and sequelæ respectively, as are met with in the course of the ordinary gonococci form. Chancroidal pus may likewise give rise to a urethral discharge of greater or lesser severity. Similar effects are occasioned by the virus of syphilis, ushering in a condition of affairs at first simulating urethritis, until the definite character of the dyscrasia is recognized later at the advent of the secondary phenomena of lues. Infection by the tubercle bacilli is another potent factor not to be overlooked. Furthermore, inoculation with sundry micro-organisms invading the vaginal canal, as, for example, the bacillus coli communis, etc., may similarly be productive of urethral inflammation in the male.

(2). *Non-Specific or Non-Gonococcic Urethritis.* This comprises those forms of this affection whose causes bear no intrinsic specific qualities, but, notwithstanding, which are known to cause urethritis. Thus the trichomonas vaginalis, occasionally inhabiting the normal vagina, may be credited with its production. Then, again, irritating discharges from the cervix and the uterine cavity, and the acidity of the mucous secretion, preceding the menstrual flow or following it, as well as the menstrual blood *per se*, are etiological factors of import. The non-specific form may also originate in the course or follow certain of the specific febrile diseases, as typhoid fever, pneumonia, la grippe, epidemic parotiditis, etc.

(3) *Mechanic.* Over-indulgence in *venerio* is also apt to create urethral irritation; this is often observed in newly married men, especially so when they have been leading a chaste life prior to matrimony. Urethritis may also be caused by the action of divers mechanical factors upon the urethral mucosa, as, for instance, the passage of calculi or the introduction of foreign bodies into the canal. Catheterization or the insertion of the different urethral instruments for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes do not infrequently occasion urethral inflammation.

(4) *Diathetic or Systemic.* To this category belong those cases of the disease which make their appearance during the existence of some nutritional error or faulty metabolism. Thus the lithemic state is not rarely accompanied by urethritis. The same may be said of acute