

acquired, which we must in these cases always predicate, pelvic disease may be an important factor in the causation of the mental unbalance.

My practice is in the treatment of these cases to remove as far as possible hopelessly diseased structure, to correct displacements, repair lacerations, free adhesions especially of the clitoris, to remove no normal parts, except in cases where there is a decided hereditary history and in puerperal cases, in which I feel that I am justified, after consultation with the friends, in removing the tubes. Up to the present writing I have examined 149 women, all with mental trouble; 124 were married and 20 single. Of the married, 116 or 93 per cent., and of the single, 17 or 85 per cent., showed decided pelvic disease. Superficial lacerations of cervix or perineum, minor grades of version without adhesions I don't class as pathological, only such conditions as my honored teachers, Price, Kelly and Martin of Berlin, would consider sufficiently pathological to necessitate treatment in the ordinary course of gynecological practice.

In dealing with these cases we must remember the paradoxical statement of McGuigan of Kalamazoo Asylum, that mental cases require little mental treatment. The recovery is usually blocked to a serious extent by physical conditions only. He states that of the female inmates examined, less than 10 per cent. have normal pelvic organs. He lays down the rule that surgical relief is indicated when we have an abnormal condition present that causes any distress whatever, not especially during the period of mental disturbance, for sometimes it is not noticed then, but particularly in the period of normal mental action.

Horman, Physician to Pittsburg Insane Hospital, speaking of the proven work done along this line by Rohe, Manton and Price, says: "I feel that they have opened up a new field for the gynecologist and established the beginning of a new era for the alienist." He goes on further to state that we should be more concerned about our patients, especially of the neurotic type, who are suffering from uterine disease. Many times, if the uterine disturbances were relieved, the insanity would be removed. I cannot do better than to give a paragraph from one of his articles.

"No fact has been more clearly established by psychologic investigation and neurologic anatomy than that the human anatomy is wholly dominated by the sympathetic nervous system. The whole physical structure is subservient to its influence. It is a despotic force with compulsory requirements. There is no stasis, either active or passive, no modification of the activities,