
SELECTED ARTICLES

**THE RHEUMATIC ELEMENT IN
VARIOUS DISEASES**

patient is exposed to all the dangers of sepsis and shock in order that the whole sac wall may be removed. In incision we regard the enclosed fluid as the object to be removed, and we choose its point of exit according to a rule that holds good over the whole body, viz., give outlet to pent up fluid at the most presenting point, which will be in our pelvic cases somewhere about the vaginal vault or above the pubes and Poupart's ligament. Taking the classification already laid down, I would be guided in their treatment, whether by incision or excision, mainly by the extent of the adhesions. In septic cases, adhesions are commonly extensive, and it is in their handling that, it seems to me, the use of incision with drainage is especially applicable. In choosing the site of incision, whether it shall be supra-pubic or vaginal, my own cases have led more frequently to the former, and I can simply say that in one only was there any difficulty in maintaining drainage. In not one has there been hernia, and in every case the patient left the operating room in good condition, having been subjected to such simple handling. In every instance the woman has returned to her duties, and each is to-day in good condition. In three of the cases vaginal opening was done, combined in one case with supra-pubic incision. As regards the vaginally-heated cases, there has been no hernia so far, nor other mishap, one of them having since been confined. In twenty-three operations for pelvic fluid collections twelve have been excisions, with four deaths; eleven have been incisions, with no death and most satisfactory results.

HAIR-CURLING FLUID.

Borax, 3 ounces; carbonate of potash, 2 drachms; gum acacia, 1 drachm; spirit of camphor, 1½ fluid ounces; spirit of rosemary, 1½ fluid ounces; hot water, 40 fluid ounces. Dissolve the solids in the water. When cool add the spirit. On retiring at night wet the hair with this and arrange loosely, or roll in paper as usual while wet with the liquid.—Phar. Jour.

The relations between rheumatism and various other affections have been particularly elucidated by the investigations of the French school of clinicians, notably Bouchard and Charcot. The chief affections which have been found to be frequently dependent upon a rheumatic diathesis are various neuralgias, such as migraine and sciatica, chorea, tonsillitis and pleurisy. Confirmatory of these views is the well-known efficacy of antirheumatic remedies in many of these cases. As examples of this may be cited the remarkably favorable results obtained by Marie and Huot from the use of Salophen in chorea; by Claus, DeBuck, and Vanderlinden, Lutz, Lavrand, Goldschlager, Drews and others, in neuralgias; by Woodbury in tonsillitis, and arbour in pleurisy. That the effects of Salophen in these conditions are almost specific, is shown by the large number of observations already published. In the nervous form of influenza, which is more frequently met with at the present day than the other varieties, Salophen alone or in combination with Phenacetine is also promptly efficient in relieving the distressing rheumatoid pains. The advantages of this remedy are well summarized by Dr. John Davis Harley (The Lancet, December, 1896), who says: "For acute, articular and muscular rheumatism, as well as most forms of neuralgia, Salophen is the most successful remedy offered. In my practice, both private and hospital, I have met with phenomenal success with Salophen in all forms of acute rheumatism and neuralgias. Salophen is non-irritating to the stomach and free from any toxic action on the nervous system. As an antirheumatic, antineuralgic and antipyretic, Salophen approaches as near a specific as any remedy known to the profession."—New England Medical Monthly, March, 1897.