

Lehmann and others are of opinion that the intestinal secretions, but especially the bile, share this emulsifying power with the pancreatic secretion. It has been shown by experiment that when the bile is directed from the intestinal canal, fat appears in the stools, much the same as in the case of the suppression of the pancreatic juice in Barnard's experiment. Cases have been reported of this kind where disease of the liver was alone found, the pancreas being quite healthy, fat having been present in the stools. Again, fatty diarrhoea has occurred where a post-mortem examination showed no recognizable disease of either the liver or pancreas. Such a case is reported by Prout in a woman, where the only pathological condition discovered was ulceration of the large intestine. Fatty stools have also been found in cases of phthisis, diabetes, cholera, typhoid fever, intestinal tuberculosis, and other diseases.

It would seem, then, that any morbid condition which interferes with either the digestion or absorption of fatty matters may produce fatty diarrhoea, provided a fatty diet be indulged in; and from the fact of frequent recoveries having taken place, it is probable that it may be produced by mere functional disturbance. At all events, this explanation seems best to explain the case I have had the honor of presenting to you. Its short duration, the improvement in health, and the absence at the present time of symptoms of any grave organic disease, would harmonize best with this view of the matter. Tulpius (1652) gives the report of a case where fat was not alone found in the stools, but also in the urine. And Jäger relates the finding of fatty concretions in the vagina, but one cannot help indulging in some suspicions as to the genuineness of this latter case, when the many hysterical vagaries of the sex is considered. As analogous to this subject, it might be well to mention that peculiar substance, *ambergris*, which is well known to be a fatty secretion into the intestines of the *Physeter Macrocephalus*, or sperm-whale. Enormous quantities of this is sometimes found. In one whale it amounted to as much as 182 lbs. It is thought to be due to a diseased condition of the intestines, as when found, the whale is in poor condition, being either thin or sickly, or even dead.