

or chill; but this is not so easy of demonstration for the sub-acute and chronic forms as it is for acute catarrh of the colon. It is also stated that muco-membranous catarrh may result from certain organic diseases of the colon, such as cancer, obstruction, etc., but such cases have not come within my own cognizance.

#### SYMPTOMS.

The primary symptoms of colon catarrh I consider to be: (1) Excessive secretion of mucus; (2) excessive irritability of the muscular coat of the colon, causing it to harden and become palpable; (3) constipation, due probably to both altered secretion and altered motility of the colon; (4) pain—often colicky—and tenderness of colon; (5) nervous phenomena, especially well-marked mental depression, often hypochondriasis, sometimes true neurasthenia.

In acute cases cardiac depression is often well marked. In addition to these, vomiting of food, often without pain or discomfort, not infrequently occurs; also dyspeptic symptoms. Coldness and blueness of extremities and poor circulation, leading to chilliness, etc., is not infrequently seen.

For the discussion of the symptoms in detail colon catarrh must be subdivided into (1) acute general catarrh and (2) sub-acute and chronic catarrh; and for clinical purposes a further subdivision of this latter must be made, according as the catarrh is, first, practically limited to the cecum and ascending colon, or, secondly, is fairly general in the colon or mainly involves the transverse or descending colon. The first of these two latter subdivisions is of importance clinically, because primary cecal catarrh (that is, typhlitis) is very apt to be mistaken for the secondary cecal catarrh, which almost invariably accompanies appendicitis.

#### SYMPTOMS OF ACUTE COLITIS.

First, then, acute general catarrh, also called acute simple colitis, or acute catarrhal colitis: This condition is so well described by Dr. Hale White in Dr. Clifford Allbutt's "System of Medicine" that I need not detail the symptoms here. I would, however, add that from the cases I have seen I should say that a marked symptom of these cases is the extreme cardiac depression which accompanies the attack when acute. In three well-marked cases this has been most striking. In one, which was apparently due to influenza, a strong young man was rendered prostrate in a few hours, and his pulse-rate fell to under forty per minute. The doctor who saw him before I did states