

that a subphrenic abscess is ten times over more dangerous than a collection of pus in the lowest portion of the peritoneal cavity.

Let us consider the effects of drainage from the uterus in cases of puerperal saprophytic infection. Clinically we find a foul discharge from the uterus due to decomposition of dead tissues such as portions of placenta and membranes. For many years it has been deemed important to clear out the decomposing debris from the uterine cavity. In connection therewith curettement and irrigation have been more or less popular. Many now think that the dangers connection with these procedures are serious. As before mentioned we rely greatly on drainage. Many of us thought that we might use Fowler's position with much benefit. As a consequence our custom now is to place the patient in the sitting position when the discharges become offensive. Fortunately, if we can place the patient in the proper position, no complications such as occur in septic peritonitis will prevent drainage.

It unfortunately happens that Fowler's position is so uncomfortable as to become impossible for some patients. Without discussing the various modifications of the position employed by Miss Lash in her Cottage Hospital, Toronto. The head of the bed is elevated fifteen to twenty inches. The patient is allowed to bear part of the weight of her body on the feet, which are implanted on a pillow or cushion resting on the foot of the bed. If the patient gets tired she is fastened to the headboard in the ordinary way; in some cases she is fastened to the headboard in such a way as to give partial support while she bears part of the weight of her body on her feet. It will be noticed that in these two modifications the patient is lying on her back instead of sitting or half sitting up, and, as a rule she is perfectly comfortable. In several cases of sapræmia occurring in Toronto, drainage by this position, and eliminative treatment by the administration of calomel and Epsom salts, without any intrauterine douching or scraping, have cured the patients.

*The Administration of Morphine.*—The history of this old drug is interesting. It has probably been blessed and cursed to a greater extent than any other drug in the pharmacopœia.