

relation to the size of the varix ; or in other words that one may suffer as much or more, from a small as a large mass. This is a clinical feature peculiar to enlarged veins in any situation, because pain only attends their presence or evolution, in the presence of inflammation or phlebitis.

It therefore follows that we should bestow as much attention on the minor cases, as those of massive proportions. And further if we can only see those early, before the larger tributaries are involved, the infirmity may be cured before complicating elements present themselves.

TREATMENT, PALLIATIVE AND RADICAL.

In the greater portion of simple, uncomplicated varicocele, the source of no inconvenience, the simplest and safest therapy is the best to be approved. Abstinence from excessive venery, masturbation, too long standing, or violent athletic exercise should be observed. Daily bathing of the scrotum, with an elastic scrotal supporter, removed every night, will suffice in most cases.

It is only when the enlarged veins give rise to pathological symptoms, to marked diminution of virility, to pained heat, or a sense of weight in the scrotum, that the radical measures of treatment of a surgical order are to be considered.

And in this respect, it may be laid down as a rule, that the operation or measures of treatment which entails least mutilation or division of the tissues is the better. In my own experience, excision of the redundant scrotum is very seldom called for. With cocaine locally applied we can usually painlessly perform the necessary manipulations. Needle-electrolysis, ligature, or excision of the vessels is not difficult. Few if any have to lay up during treatment.

CONCLUSIONS.

1. Varicocele or phlebectasia of the spermatic cord is an infirmity of early life ; its evolution being contemporaneous with the advent of sexual activity.

2. Pathologically, while the vesicular inertia, dilatation, thinning, sclerosis, or thrombosis, are quite indetical with varix in other situations, in this instance, an organ intimately associated with vital processes with procreation and individuality is involved, we have severe local symptoms with