

bleeding and sharply defined, slight yellowish discoloration, granular surface only at certain points.

3. Broad, pale, yellowish-red excoriation, sharply defined from surrounding mucous membrane, which is slightly inflamed at border, very faint granular appearance, whole surface bleeding readily. The whole of the malignant area is on a deeper level than the remaining part of the cervix. The border of the normal tissue is somewhat hard to the touch. The parts which he holds to be characteristic of cervical carcinoma are: (1) sharp definition at all points from the healthy tissues; (2) a difference in level between the diseased portion as a whole, and the healthy parts; (3) a slightly yellow color of the cancerous portions; (4) the appearance of yellowish-white, glistening, granular bodies over the whole or part of its surface.

In spite of all this, it is very difficult to say when you have really got beyond the diseased structure. Let me invite your attention to the various forms of treatment with their results, so as to compare them with the results of hysterectomy.

We all remember Mr. Clay's startling announcement a few years ago, that chian turpentine administered internally was a sure and certain remedy for cancer of the uterus. I tried the treatment faithfully in some twelve or fifteen cases, and not one recovered. I must, however, admit that it relieves pain, checks hemorrhages, and lessens the offensive discharges, but when I have said this I have said all I can in its favor.

*Caustics* of all sorts have been tried. I have tried them. I have never seen a single cure in any case. Offensive, broken down tissue has been removed, the patient made somewhat more comfortable, but the disease has gone on to its fatal issue. Lately I have used the milk of avelog; it is no better than any other caustic.

Now, in regard to the cutting operations, when the disease has spread so extensively as to have involved the vagina to such an extent as to prevent the entire removal of the uterus, I am still in favor of an operation with the knife, the scissors, the sharp curette, and subsequently the thermo-cautery. Much good

can be done, a large quantity of putrid, offensive tissue can be removed, the patient made more comfortable to herself and friends, her life perhaps somewhat prolonged, but no cure will result. When the disease is seen early, and when the disease is limited to the cervix alone, high amputation offers a tolerably fair hope of success. *Baker's* operation—My own two cases, already recited, were thus operated on; but the difficulty is to know how far to cut, when you are beyond the diseased tissue. It is impossible to answer this with any certainty. You are operating entirely on chance that you have gone beyond the disease, and for this very reason, then, I think the whole uterus should in every possible instance be removed entirely, so as to give the woman the best possible hope of recovery.

Abdominal hysterectomy (*Freud's* operation) was resorted to for this very purpose, but the results have been so very fatal, that the operation is to-day absolutely abandoned as unwarrantable. We come now to consider the subject of my paper, viz., *Vaginal Hysterectomy and its Results*. My own personal experience in this operation is so limited that I do not pretend to speak with any authority on the subject; my reading, however, in this direction has been very extensive, and, for my own part, I am convinced that this operation above all others, in properly selected cases, offers the very best chances of cure.

The statistical reports of the results at present are not, I will admit, just as favorable as they ought to be, but still they are rapidly improving. The opponents of this operation will not admit that the death rate is improving. It is a new operation, or at least an old one revived, and deserves; I think, every encouragement and trial. Compare the reports of ovariectomy to-day with those of twenty years ago, and see the marvellous improvement. Who would have thought then that it would ever have reached its present stage of success? How many thousands of lives have been saved! And why should not vaginal hysterectomy reach the same stage of perfection? Almost every unfortunate woman the sufferer of cancer of the uterus dies. At present the average duration of life Simpson gives as two to two and a half years; Tebert, sixteen