

able amount of force is sometimes used, and care must be taken lest we rupture many fibres of the organ and lay the patient open to the chance of inflammatory or infective processes.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon the necessity for the most rigid antiseptic precautions, as well as for a due amount of gentleness in these most important manœuvres. We must not lose sight of the fact that serious results have followed in some cases. After rapid dilatation the patient should remain a day or more in bed. A glass stem may be inserted, and may be kept in place by loosely packing the vagina with antiseptic gauze or wool.

The chief advantages of the slower methods are that anæsthetics may be dispensed with, and that there is not the same loss of time to the patient, but even with gradual dilatation we cannot forget either the necessity for antiseptics or for rest.

Cases of cellulitis are recorded as following undue exercise and exposure to inclement weather soon after gradual dilatation by careful men. By keeping the causes of the trouble in view, and by bearing in mind that in all cases both general and local measures are required, we can bring our patients to such a condition of health that the menstrual period will no longer be approached with dread.

Clinical Notes.

Foreign Body in Œsophagus.*

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THE patient, B. F. W., aged 24, was sent to me by Dr. F. E. King a short time ago, with the history that he had swallowed a hard piece of biscuit about thirty-six hours previous. He complained of severe cutting pain, locating the position by putting his hand on the vertebræ halfway down his back. On questioning him, found he had been eating oysters with his cracker, which led me to think it was a piece of oyster shell.

He said the pain for the first day was in the throat, but with repeated efforts at swallowing and by taking food he had got it farther down, but the pain had become more severe.

On laryngoscopic examination, found an abrasion on the left arytxenoid. With probes or œsophageal forceps of different kinds

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