

local disease of the endometrium. Also such conditions as insufficiency of the cardiac valves or emphysema will cause an increase of flow in another and different way. Metrostaxis under such circumstances does not come within the range of our subject and only requires a passing notice. If, however, a menorrhagia should continue after the febrile attack has passed away, and in fact seem to date from it, the condition should be recognised as one for local treatment. This is self-evident because we know that vitiated conditions of the blood and disturbances in the circulation seldom or never cause prolonged menorrhagia except when associated with an already diseased local condition. The history of a patient will often point to a statement made to the effect that her menorrhagia began with some illness, and has continued more or less ever since. In such a case we have undoubtedly a local disease which only wanted the opportunity to set going an abnormal function in the organ involved.

Coming now to the *local conditions* which cause menorrhagia and metrorrhagia we may classify them as follows:—Those involving disease of the adnexa and parametral tissues, and those involving actual disease of the uterine tissues proper. Metrostaxis due to the former condition generally gives relief to pain, and will not, as a rule, return after the inflammatory lesion has disappeared. It is therefore better not to check it; the rest and associated treatment will be all that is necessary. It is better to wait until the condition begins to manifest a tendency to become chronic before resorting to the curette.

Myomatous tumors of the uterus seldom give rise to hæmorrhage unless they are so situated that the endometrium undergoes an extreme change in its vascularity. Tumors growing towards the cavity and not involving the outer uterine layers produce great increased vascularity and hyperplasia of the endometrium, while tumors which tend to grow outwards and become sub-peritoneal do not cause any vascular or nutritive changes in the endometrium whatever, and are therefore not accompanied with hæmorrhages. In all cases of uterine myoma, accompanied with excessive hæmorrhage, it is advisable to curette the cavity as a preliminary step, instead of wasting time and reputation with