

either here or abroad, who has done as much toward this advancement as Howard A. Kelly.

We have purposely laid much stress on the mistakes and mishaps that have occurred, and have given our deaths in full, as we feel that much more can often be learned from failures than from successes. Moreover, we felt that a frank statement of our mishaps might help other surgeons to avoid the unpleasant complications that we have occasionally encountered.

Our mortality, taking all the cases from 1889 to July 1, 1906, was rather high—between 5 and 6 per cent. It included all the early cases, but also embraced many of the desperate cases and also many cases of myoma associated with malignancy. Just before going to press we have gone over the histories from July 1, 1906, to January 1, 1909, and find that in 238 myoma operations the death-rate has been less than 1 per cent.—an evidence of a continued improvement in our operative technique.

The work would not have been complete without some reference to the autopsy findings in a large number of cases. Professor William H. Welch kindly placed his valuable records at our disposal. We are also deeply indebted to him for the sympathetic co-operation he has always accorded us in the laboratory studies.

To the casual observer the preservation of myomatous material to the extent of several tons would seem unnecessary, but Dr. Henry M. Hurd has assisted us in every way. This foresight has been of the greatest value in many instances, notably in those cases in which sarcoma had been overlooked at the first examination, or in which subsequently to a supposedly simple hysteromyomectomy, a sarcoma developed in the stump. We also owe much to Dr. Hurd for his advice.

The illustrations have been made with wonderful accuracy in detail by Mr. August Horn and Mr. Hermann Becker. Further comment is unnecessary, as the pictures speak for themselves. We are also fortunate in having several examples of Mr. Max Brödel's work. When it is said that a drawing has been reduced one-half, linear measurement is intended. In reality the flat surface of the picture is only one-fourth the natural size. It is well to bear this point in mind, otherwise the reader will not get an adequate conception of the actual size. With few exceptions the illustrations are original. We wish to thank Dr. George H. Simmons for allowing us to use several of the illustrations which we have already published in the "Journal of the American Medical Association."

To Mr. Harry Hall and Mr. Hardy, of the Surgeon-General's Library, we are indebted for their kind assistance rendered while we were verifying the literature.

Dr. Herbert I. Cole, of Mobile, Ala., rendered much assistance in the preparation of the chapter dealing with the findings at autopsy.

Mr. Benjamin O. McCleary made most of the slides from which the histological pictures have been drawn. He also rendered most valuable aid in controlling the many numbers scattered throughout the book and also in checking off all measurements.