

altogether apart from the individual. The patient and his disease are too often found living under identical conditions.

A very interesting chapter is the one on auto-intoxication as a cause of mental diseases. We have more than once called attention in our editorial column to the relation of constipation to slight forms of mental disease. Altogether the book is rich in explaining the causes of disease and the antiseptic treatment of them.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL REPORTS. Vol. III., Nos. 7, 8, 9. Report in Gynæcology, II. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1894.

These reports, contributed in the main by Howard Kelly, admirably illustrated, and with tabulations which show how minor a detail is expense in the publications of Johns Hopkins Hospital, are deserving of high praise, as showing the clinical methods of a keen, skillful expert, and as illustrating his ingenuity in combating complications and new conditions as they arise in the course of his practice. The readers of current literature are already familiar with the value of these papers, as they have appeared elsewhere.

Kelly describes his method of measuring the conjugata vera by external direct method, and, by comparison with internal measurements, shows that there is not a difference sufficiently great to be of any practical importance. The illustrations show the method at a glance.

The possible errors in diagnosis from deviations of the rectum and sigmoid flexure associated with constipation are pointed out. It is shown that such abnormal position is especially prone to be associated with fecal stasis. A number of cases are illustrated, showing how readily the tumor incident to this condition may be mistaken for diseased conditions of the parametrium, tubes, or ovary. This article is extensively illustrated.

Forty-five cases of operation for the suspension of retroflexed uterus are reported, all recovering. The author states that there are two distinct classes of patients in which the operation is applicable,—first, in young nullipara suffering from pelvic pressure, backache and dysmenorrhœa, in whom the retroflexion has existed for a number of years; second, in multipara in whom the retroflexion is acquired. Not only was there recovery, but in nearly all cases very great improvement in general condition.

Mary Sherwood contributes a paper upon "Potassium Permanganate and Oxalic Acid as Germicides against the Pyogenic Cocci," showing that permanganate alone in saturated solution will not destroy the staphylococcus pyogenes aureus. With oxalic acid at a temperature of 40° to 45° C., sterilization of infected threads by an exposure of one minute to its action is accomplished.

Staveley reports a number of complications occurring in cases of abdominal section through the presence of intestinal worms. Six cases are recorded, one resulting fatally. In all, reflex disturbances were most marked.

Under the head "Gynæcological Operations not involving Cœliotomy," eight hundred and thirty-eight operations were performed on six hundred and thirty-one patients. There is an elaborate tabulation of these cases.

One of the most ingenious contributions is an article upon the employment of an artificial reposition of the uterus in covering extensive denuded areas about the pelvic floor. Six cases are cited.

Murray writes a useful article upon "Photography applied to Surgery."

Russell presents the result of his work in urinalysis in gynæcology.

Robb insists upon the importance of employing anæsthesia in the diagnosis of intra-pelvic conditions, and proves his points by an analysis of some two hundred and forty cases.

Kelly describes his method of direct pressure for the resuscitation of persons from chloroform asphyxia. This seems to offer no advantages over methods already practised, and does not absolutely provide for the patulousness of the respiratory tract in so far as the mouth and nose are concerned.

One hundred cases of ovariectomy performed in women over seventy years of age are tabulated; twelve cases died. Of the three patients over eighty, all recovered. There is a tabulation of abdominal operations performed at the Gynæcological Department from March, 1890, to December, 1892. The operator calls attention to the fact that at first drainage was frequently used, but towards the last has been almost completely abandoned, the glass tube being given up altogether in favor of gauze. Over five hundred cases are recorded.

A record of deaths occurring in the Gynæcological Department is appended,—first, deaths without operation; next, deaths following gynæcological operation.

These reports are most valuable, not only because of their direct teaching, but because they illustrate how the immense material of a large hospital can be best utilized for the general education of the profession.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

A SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER UPON SUPRA-VAGINAL HYSTERECTOMY, by the new method, with report of additional cases. By B. F. Baer, M.D., Professor of Gynæcology in the Philadelphia Polyclinic and College for Graduates of Medicine, etc. Reprinted from Transactions of the American Gynæcological Society, Vol. XVIII., 1893.