

side and Achilles of the other, there is steadily taking a firmer position the champion of moderation, whose teaching is that our therapeutical munitions of war are to be gathered from all sources. He will, I am sure, freely admit that with our present knowledge, medicinal agents have to take a much inferior status to surgical, in the treatment of pelvic diseases, but he will also be prepared with his case book in hand to point to recoveries of vicious pelvic conditions under purely medical means, in support of which I wish to give briefly the following cases:

Mrs. R., aïl 24.—Eight months married, missed her first menstruation and at about two months miscarried, from which time she has been invalided with all the symptoms suggestive of pelvic infection. On examination find left side of pelvis blocked with extremely tender, boggy, exudate; temperature runs 100 to 101; husband gives history of having scarcely recovered from an attack of gonorrhœa at the time of his marriage and he is now under treatment for gleet discharge; patient was placed under local hot douching daily for two weeks and tampons bearing boro-glyceride with belladonna. Improvement was steady and treatment was continued with diminishing frequency of tamponade for two months, at which time she left for the country and returned quite well. Examination then revealed a thickened but not tender left tube. She now rides a bicycle and is in excellent shape. This case had been advised for operation before commencing above treatment.

No 2, Mrs. D., aïl 35.—Married several years; had three or four miscarriages, the last one a month ago, since which has had increasing pelvic pain; chills, temperature runs 102 to 103; on examination I found the whole pelvis blocked by exudate but the left side only tender: here I thought I distinguished fluctuation and believing pus to be forming strongly recommended immediate operation; this was refused absolutely. Instituted treatment same as above with the result that she steadily improved and is now free from pain and only has remaining of her former symptoms an irregularity of menstruation with considerable distress for

the first day; a recent examination revealed her pelvis blocked tight on the right side and the left side free from tenderness but thickened along tube. She works hard and has gained in weight.

No. 3, Mrs. K., aïl 39.—Married 13 years, three miscarriages; four living children. Had inflammation following birth of second child about nine years ago; was laid up for two months or more. Had poor health since but never laid up till this attack, which dated from a severe cold or la grippe. Symptoms now all point to pelvic inflammation: examination discloses a double sided mass; extremely tender; uterus displaced downwards, almost to vulva; operation being refused the same treatment as in other cases adopted with marked improvement. This case has improved but never recovered to the same extent as the previous ones. Its feature is the great alleviation of her distress in spite of extremely severe conditions. I would certainly like to operate and would expect to find both ovaries imbedded in solid exudate.

These cases have several points of interest that could be brought out: they are given here to illustrate what may be accomplished by suitable medical treatment. They could be multiplied if necessary. I do not argue that all pelvic inflammatory troubles are to be dealt with medically, on the contrary. I am convinced that the greater number are essentially surgical and a closer discrimination of our cases will doubtless lead us to a clearer selection of appropriate treatment and help us to steer away from that rock in the course of specialism, the tendency to deal with all things by the rules of its particular caste.

#### REPAIRING LACERATIONS.

There are few operations that give more satisfactory results than plastic work on the torn genitals and it would seem to me from the great vascular and lymphatic richness of the pelvic tissues making infection of so easy accomplishment, the repairs of even what would appear to be trivial abrasions is justified. At the same time one so frequently sees instances of tears that are free from any of the pathological aftermath, that one