

after the beginning of the menses, which had been cut short by the illness. The woman had been a prostitute and the pelvic peritoneum presented, as is so common in this class of patients, signs of old inflammation, numerous bridges passing across in Douglas's fossa between the uterus and rectum; and the ovaries retracted almost to the uterus by shortening of the broad ligament. The Fallopian tubes were twisted and dilated, and the external tissue of the ovaries thickened and of a very opaque, white colour. The mucous membrane of the uterus was about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lines in thickness, of a reddish colour, and, as the sections exhibited showed, tolerably normal. The Fallopian tubes were distended with material composed of blood corpuscles and desquamated epithelium. In the left ovary was a fresh corpus luteum  $\frac{1}{2}$ " long, the lining wall yellow, not folded; the interior was filled with coagulated blood. Dr. Osler stated that he had brought forward the specimen to enable him to refer to a recent valuable paper by Dr. Leopold in the *Archiv für Gynæcologie*, on the structure of the uterine mucous membrane during menstruation, a subject which has been brought prominently before the profession in the past few years by Kundrat, Engelmann, Williams and others. In the present case no reliable deductions could be drawn as the woman had died of an acute disease, the onset of which had interrupted the menses. Leopold had examined the uterine mucous membrane on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 8th, 9th, 21st, 24th, 25th, and 26th days during and after menstruation in healthy women who had died of various accidents. Two or three days before the menses appear the membrane is swollen, having reached its greatest development, not presenting at this time any signs of fatty degeneration nor is it congested. The hæmorrhage proceeds from the capillaries of the superficial part of the mucosa, the epithelium of which and the upper part of the glands alone being thrown off in the process, and not, as Williams supposes, the entire membrane. He has not found marked fatty degeneration of the membrane a constant feature. One very remarkable case was referred to at length; that of a girl 23