

ABSENCE OF THE EXTERNAL ORGANS OF GENERATION—PROBABLY ALSO OF THE UTERUS AND ITS APPENDAGES IN A YOUNG LADY.

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The patient, a delicate looking little girl was brought to me for advice about four years ago. A few months previous to her application she took a severe cold, and ever since she had been suffering from a hacking cough, shortness of breath, and constantly increasing general debility.

The first point of interest which her case presented and which somewhat perplexed me, was the mention of her age, for while her aunt, who brought her to me positively asserted that "Nellie" was several months past her *seventeenth* year, she certainly did not appear to me that she could possibly be, at the outside, much over *ten* years of age, and my surprise was greatly increased when, while sounding her lungs, I observed that not only her mammae were wholly undeveloped, but also the areolae and the nipples appeared extremely diminutive and rudimental. A careful examination of her chest revealed extensive lesions all over the upper half of her left lung. I prescribed for her the hypophosphites, a generous diet, and above all abundance of sunlight and pure air. Under this treatment she soon began evidently to improve, and, being near the early part of the summer, in order to give her every opportunity for recovery, her friends took her away to the country. Up to this time although more than seventeen years of age, she had never menstruated.

I had never seen or heard anything more of my little patient for fully three years, when I was called one evening to see her in her bed. She had recently returned from the country, where she had been living more or less during all this time in comparative good health, although her cough had not entirely left her, and, to use her aunt's words, "she had never been yet like other girls of her age." She was now suffering from a severe attack of dysentery, which in addition to her other troubles helped to prostrate her very low. The constant tenosmus and the great irritation in the lower part of her