

THE

MONTREAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

VOL. XVIII.

DECEMBER, 1889.

No. 6.

Original Communications.

CURETTING THE UTERUS, AND THE METHODS OF TREATING THE CAVITY AFTERWARDS.

BY T. JOHNSON-ALLOWAY, M.D.,

Instructor in Gynæcology, McGill University; Assistant Surgeon to the Montreal
General Hospital; Gynæcologist to the Montreal Dispensary.

Since specialists no longer regard curetting the uterine cavity with apprehension, when performed by an experienced operator, and under properly chosen circumstances, it is interesting to study the best methods of treating or dressing the wounded surface thus deprived of its endometrium. Included under this subject matter I place those cases of uterine disease which require the use of the sharp curette for the relief of abnormal hæmorrhages in all their protean forms, also in abortion cases where much manipulation has been necessitated, and the uterine contents have been removed with the curette and uterine forceps.

Before entering directly upon the subject it will be necessary to say a few words regarding the cases which generally require curetting, and the best kind of instrument to use.

Menorrhagia and metrorrhagia indicate local disease or change in the lining membrane of the uterine cavity. In certain zymotic diseases, when we have blood change, increased menstruation is not at all uncommon. This increase in the flow is due to increased stimulation of the sexual organs under the influence of these blood changes, and I have no doubt is often determined and made more pronounced by some pre-existing