

organs "cystic ovaries." These little cysts, however, were nothing more than ripe ovarian follicles and their removal was a blunder, which I frankly confess I have once or twice committed in my earlier years.

For removing normal ovaries for neuralgia there is certainly no excuse. Neuralgia is the cry of the nerves for better nourishment. The ovaries are richly supplied with nerves and are the most apt to feel the need of better food.

If we are not justified in removing inflamed and tender ovaries, is any other treatment satisfactory? We can answer, yes, decidedly. Rest in bed with the pelvis elevated, saline laxatives to remove fecal obstructions lying on the ovarian veins, the application of iodine to the vaginal vault and poultices to the lower abdomen, rarely fail to bring relief. In very severe cases a few doses of opium are necessary. In neuralgia, on the contrary, opium is contra-indicated, for the simple reason that by disturbing digestion it cuts off the only hope that leads to succor. On the contrary, instead of being paralyzed by opium the stomach should be toned up with strychnine and the appetite encouraged so that the patient may eat freely and digest well plain but nourishing food. As the blood of the best fed person becomes poor and anæmic without sunshine and fresh air, such patients must be urged to pass most of their waking hours in the fresh air and sun out of doors. Iron and phosphoric acid may be added to the strychnine.

In cases of congestion of the ovaries, we have in the galvanic current a valuable means of toning up the relaxed vessel walls which have ceased to receive their proper stimulus from the great sympathetic nerves. I have demonstrated the power of toning up dilated vessels in many cases of swollen and painful testicles as well as in the thyroid gland. If you place the two poles of the galvanic battery near the two sympathetic nerves in the neck and gradually turn on the current, you can make the patient faint every time owing to the contraction of the arterioles of the brain; while a lesser current made to pass through the enlarged thyroid gland will diminish its size enough to give the gasping sufferer from goitre immediate relief. If you pass the same current through a swollen testicle or varicocele you will diminish its size and cure the pain, and so I was led to employ the same treatment in congestion of the ovaries with very fair success.

For ovarian neuralgia and pelvic pain as well as for the exaggerated pain of hysteria, I have found the fine wire faradism of considerable benefit. After a seance of twenty minutes the pain will remain away for several hours and in most cases half a dozen applications on succeeding days will completely cure it, provided always that the general condition is being attended to.