PREFACE

of the gland elements in adenomyomata. Our first cases had clearly shown that the glands in the diffuse myoma owed their origin to a flowing outward of the normal uterine mucosa. In all subsequent cases these tumors were examined most carefully from this standpoint. Sometimes the mucous membrane origin was easily proved, but in many cases not only were numerous sections necessary, but in some instances a clear idea of the condition was obtainable only after an examination of very large sections embracing the entire uterine wall. This labor yielded fruit, as in nearly every case in which diffuse adenomyoma existed we have been able to trace the mucous membrane origin of the glands. Much credit for the large and beautiful sections is due to our laboratory assistant, Mr. Benjamin O. McCleary.

While endeavoring to ascertain the method of development of adenomyomata I have likewise been trying to determine how these growths can be recognized clinically. I cannot help feeling that any one who reads the chapter on symptoms will agree with us that diffuse adenomyoma has a fairly definite clinical history of its own and that in the majority of cases it can be diagnosed with a relative degree of certainty. This definite gain in our knowledge certainly emphasizes the fact that any morbid process should be studied carefully both from its histological and also from its clinical aspects and shows the importance, for all those who do surgical work, of a thorough familiarity with the histological appearances of the pathological processes they are dealing with.

In this book the publishers have deemed it wise to use a larger type than usual. At the beginning of each case an epitome is given and in the succeeding paragraphs the essential features are emphasized by the employment of spaced type. This arrangement will permit those who wish to obtain the gist of the book to do so in a few hours, without going into all the minor details, provided that their reading is supplemented by a careful study of the illustrations.

I wish to express my thanks to Dr. Henry M. Hurd for his advice on numerous occasions, to my brother, Dr. Ernest K. Cullen,