

and subdivision of labor the artists become more and more expert. It does not surprise me therefore that the best results of the electrical treatment of fibroids is obtained by such men as Apostoli and Massey who employ this treatment alone. They both obtain results which neither I nor any other operating gynaecologist can hope for. In every large city we should encourage some one man to establish an electro therapeutic clinic, where our poor patients at least might obtain the benefit of his skill in electrical technique after having obtained the benefit of our experienced diagnosis. In time his reputation would reach the ears of the rich, and he would then have some substantial reward.

The present status of electricity is suffering, as did the status of abdominal surgery a few years ago, because they have been tried by men without sufficient experience, and have, as a consequence, been found wanting. The electrical treatment of fibroids requires the gynaecologist's knowledge of the pelvis and its contents, as well as the electrician's knowledge of the power he is wielding.

I must trespass on your time yet a little more while I refer to two points: one, a claim which has recently been made by Apostoli for the electrical treatment, which I can heartily endorse; and the other, an objection which has been made to it, which I can as heartily deny.

Apostoli has discovered that the very failures of electricity can be turned to advantage in the following manner: It has been found that in those cases where the electrical treatment has been badly borne, and has been followed by febrile reaction, so that the patients have been turned over to the surgeon for operation, the presence of pus tubes and pelvic peritonitis has been discovered. Apostoli has pointed out that electricity may be employed as a diagnostic agent for the purpose of detecting diseased appendages. A remarkable instance

of this came under my notice a little over a year ago. A young woman, who had been employed in a restaurant in a New England town, gradually lost her health with pain and hemorrhage. She suffered agony with her periods, which came too often and lasted long, so that her face was blanched and haggard. There was no difficulty about the diagnosis, as the tumor was large, round, symmetrical and in the median line, extending up to the umbilicus, and could be easily seen and felt bulging up the abdominal wall. Several physicians in the United States, her family physicians in Montreal, as well as myself, all agreed that it was a fibroid. One of them had tried electricity several times, but always with bad results, and so did I. As she was laid up in bed for several days each time, I concluded that the appendages were diseased, and after three applications I decided to stop and to perform coeliotomy. On opening the abdomen the tumor was at once seen surrounded by adherent intestines, but it still appeared a symmetrically pear-shaped fibroid. I could not, however, detect the ovaries and tubes, and while digging around for them I made a line of cleavage, which being followed up I was able to dissect out a portion of the tumor, which proved to be a sausage-shaped pus tube, which was delivered intact, tied and cut off. Then followed a large cystic ovary, then the other tube which broke and inundated the field with pus, and then the other ovary, by which time the supposed fibroid was gone and only a moderate sized uterus remained. The pelvis was carefully washed out and drained, the patient made a rapid recovery, and is now at work and enjoying perfect health. So that in this case Apostoli's doctrine, that when the application of his method causes febrile reaction the tubes are badly diseased, was fully borne out. Now, the objection to electricity which has so often been made to it, especially by one of my most