

diseased cervixes. Some thirty-three had retro-displaced uteri, and nineteen had more or less seriously lacerated perinei. In addition, eleven had inflammatory tubal or ovarian disease, three had fibroid tumors, and one a deep rectal fistula.

Subsequent upon suitable surgical treatment of these eighty cases we had return to physical health in nearly all, and thirty-six, or 45 per cent., recovered mentally, and twenty, or 25 per cent., had mental improvement, while the mental condition of the remaining twenty-four, or 30 per cent., remained stationary.

From this it is evident that, if septic infection is mainly responsible for the production of inflammatory conditions of the pelvic organs, occurring during the puerperium, and that so large a percentage of mental recovery and improvement succeeded the removal of these lesions, it strongly emphasizes how important a factor the micro-organism is in thus directly or indirectly being the cause of many a case of mental alienation. Moreover, it teaches these lessons, that too great care cannot be adopted by the accoucher in conducting a female through the really dangerous period of the puerperium and protecting her from sepsis; and to those having the care of the female insane, that the removal of inflammatory lesions of the pelvic organism when found, opens up a possible avenue of escape from mental thralldom of these unfortunate exiles of humanity.