

a large quantity of fæces, with much distress, and sometimes sickness at the stomach, with severe colic. To add to his misery abscesses will form in the perineum, or about the anus, and will terminate in the formation of fistulae.

Digital examination will reveal the condition of the part. The surface of the mucous membrane will be found uneven, and the edges of the ulcer can be felt distinctly raised. Considerable tenderness will be experienced, or actual pain with a feeling of faintness as the finger is passed over the ulcerated surface, and on withdrawal of the finger it will be found smeared with blood, or a certain quantity of blood and mucus may be expelled with the finger. The ulcerated surface in some cases, feels as though it was excavated and the edges will be raised and somewhat hard. The ulceration is somewhat circular, rarely solitary, and in advanced cases will pass up the bowel beyond the reach of the finger. The surgeon should not be content with a digital examination, but to render more certain his diagnosis he should examine with the speculum. This is sometimes a painful proceeding, necessitating the use of an anæsthetic. On passing up the instrument, even when the greatest care and gentleness are practiced, if an ulcerated surface is met with hæmorrhage will follow and the instrument will become filled with blood which soon coagulates. This must be removed before a satisfactory inspection of the mucous membrane can be obtained. The best method of removing the clot is by a continuous stream of cold water, which is preferable to the swab. If the surface of the ulcer is very vascular, and continues to bleed, a piece of ice introduced into the speculum will be sufficient to arrest it, and a fair view of the surface of the ulcer can readily be obtained. The mucous membrane around the ulcerated patch is usually healthy in appearance, but sometimes it is quite nodular, thickened and irregular, the ulcer itself feeling deep and excavated. This latter condition is alone seen in advanced cases. The speculum will reveal the ulcerated surface with distinctness, the edges sometimes raised, sometimes they appear undermined as though the connective tissue beneath was being destroyed by the ulcerative process. Some writers describe the mucous membrane