

point at which lymph is deposited, it is called the adhesive stage. This is the reparative, the building up point. It is only by the action of inflammation that the deposition of lymph is excited, and it is only by, or through this agent, that restoration or healing goes on, for it is out of lymph that tissue cells are formed. There is at this stage of inflammation, an extravasation of lymph as there is in the first stage a flow of mucus or serum, according to whether it be mucus or serous membrane that may be affected. If then it play such an important part in the cure of diseases, how important that its pathology be understood.

Coagulable lymph is poured out in a semi-fluid condition, being mixed more or less with serum, but the fluid parts being soon absorbed it becomes more solid in its character, and not unfrequently seriously embarrasses the physician or surgeon by its too profuse deposition. Thus the central portion of a phlegma in its first stages owes its hardness to the presence of coagulable lymph. So too in hepatization of the lungs, the air cells are filled up with solidified lymph. Unless its depositions be normal in character, and not too profuse in quantity, it may be the cause of a fresh complication of difficulties.

The deposition of lymph, or fibrin, may be prevented either by too great violence or too long continuance of the inflammation, by the impairment of the general health, or by congestion of the part itself. The lymph too, may pass into the fibro-cellular state and development proceed no farther. This fibro-cellular tissue so formed, is that which connects the walls of wounds, and is the tissue of which cicatrices, false membranes, thickenings and adhesions, are composed.

But if all the conditions are favourable and lymph is deposited, it begins to undergo development and by regular gradation reaches the point at which it becomes living tissue. Blood vessels are soon formed in the deposited fibrin, whether by development or extension it matters not, and by regular cellular formation, reparation goes on. It is not possible within the limits of this article to speak at any great length of the supposed manner of the formation of tissue cells, nor would it be advisable if such were the case. Suffice it to say that it is by regular gradation, of the growth or development of one cell added to another, and their successive virification, that the waste places are built up, and the devastation made by disease, obliterated.

When, however, the pouring out of lymph is arrested, that which has already been deposited may be absorbed. We take advantage of