

18

A CASE OF TYPHOIDAL CHOLECYSTITIS WITH CHOLELITHIASIS.¹

BY

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Cases of typhoidal infection of the gall-bladder are, on the whole, not so very uncommon, and during the present year not a little attention has been paid to them in the recent papers of Dr. Osler and Dr. Mason at the last annual meeting of the Association of American Physicians. So far as we are aware, however, no cases of the kind have been brought to the notice of this Society, and the present communication is presented, inasmuch as its clinical interest is certainly worthy of some attention. The following are the notable features:

1. A suppurative cholecystitis in the course of typhoid fever and originating from the presence of typhoid bacilli in pure culture in the gall-bladder.

3. The difficulties and special features of diagnosis of an infected gall-bladder complicating typhoid fever.

3. The mode in which the complication affects the course of the malady.

4. The means of treatment and the effects of the complication.

The patient concerned was a female, aged 35, a typewriter by occupation. She was admitted to the Royal Victoria Hospital on the 21st of September, having been treated previously for nearly three weeks by Dr. Deeks. Her symptoms during that time had been not unlike those of enteric fever, viz., general malaise, insomnia, remittent fever, enlarged spleen and gastro-intestinal disturbances.

On the day previous to admission, however, diarrhæa set in with clay-coloured stools. There was severe pain in the abdomen, referred to the right side near the umbilicus, the temperature within a very few hours dropped from 102° to 98°, and the pinched facies expressed great anxiety. The pulse, however, was good and not notably increased in rapidity.

¹ The present case occurred while the Retrospect on similar conditions which appears in this number was being written.