

Tinnitus is occasionally present, is slight in degree, and is felt to be in the head rather than in the ears. Paracusis is not observed, the hearing in the left ear being still too good for the occurrence of this symptom.

The history of this case is the usual one in otosclerosis. The dulness of hearing began in the right ear at the age of 22, and in the left at the age of 24. The onset in both ears was very gradual, and without known cause.

In this family, therefore, the normal age onset for otosclerosis appears to be between the ages of 25 and 30. Thus in C 4, where no exciting cause could be discovered, the left ear became affected in the thirtieth year. In C 2 the dulness of hearing began at the age of 25, but for some time previous to that the patient had suffered from chlorosis, and when this condition was rectified the progress of the otosclerosis ceased until the age of 30 was reached. Then the deafness began to increase and has since been progressive.

In C 6 the deafness showed itself in the right ear at the age of 22, and in the left at 24; but this rather earlier onset may well be accounted for by the fact that both membranes were somewhat indrawn, a circumstance indicating some previous catarrhal condition in the Eustachian tube or middle ear. As will be shown later, such factors are of great importance in ante-dating the onset of otosclerosis.

Passing back to the previous generation of the present family, it will be seen that the families B and D of both parents were burdened with deafness, and indeed both parents were themselves deaf. Taking the father's family first, two deaf subjects are found, B 1 and B 4, out of a family of eight. In B 1 the deafness made its appearance between the ages of 50 and 60, and in B 4, the father of the present generation, about the age of 55. Going back still another generation, A,