

MALIGNANT DISEASE OF THE UTERUS.

Mrs. ——— came to our Cure, May 11, 1850. Age 38; fair complexion; light hair and eyes; an active mind and cheerful heart. Her father had scrofula, and mother salt rheum; and to their child they had transmitted that *most enduring*, as well as *most dire* inheritance, a scrofulous diathesis.

She is the mother of two children; three years last February, had an abortion at the third month. Hemorrhage slight, at the time; but from being on her feet too soon, as she then thought, it became severe, and continued six weeks.

Since that time, her menses as she said, had not been regular. Their duration from six to eighteen days, and so frightfully profuse, that the recumbent posture, anodynes, astringent enemata, &c., were of no avail; tampon often the only efficient means. At those times she was always confined to the bed; and often for ten days in succession she was not raised or moved, save on a sheet. Between these attacks, there were intervals, of from one to two weeks, during which time she could sit up some; but had even then continually, what she called the Leucorrhœa, so foetid and profuse, as to require a change of napkins several times per day.

She had not been able to walk for about three years. Whenever she attempted to do so, Hemorrhage ensued. From the fact that the blood coagulated, as well as from the amount lost, was sure it could not be catamenial.

Thinking a bleeding polypus or some other abnormal growth might exist, an examination was made. Was surprised to find the vagina filled, seemingly, with a soft substance, some of which adhered to the index finger, presenting a yellowish white color. On inquiry, learned that she was daily using alum water enemata. This explained the mystery. The alum had coagulated the discharge, and in this semi-solid state, it was retained in the vaginal folds, and about the uterus. The astringent injections were discontinued, and several quarts of cold water used daily, till the vaginal tract was cleansed.

On a second examination, found the uterus heavy, hard, rough, and about four times its normal size: but not immovable, and in no wise sensitive on pressure. A glass speculum was then introduced, into which thin, yel.