

flesh is heir, have their origin in, are accompanied by, or end in inflammation. Its study is one that is equally interesting, whether regarded in its healing tendencies, or its morbid condition. It is by inflammation that foreign substances are removed from the body; that wounds are closed; that ulceration is healed. The importance of a thorough knowledge of its conditions therefore, cannot be overrated.

The word inflammation we derive from the Latin *inflammatio*, which signifies a flame, a burning, and chemistry teaches us that there is, in a philosophical sense, an actual and excessive combustion going on in the part inflamed.

The symptoms of inflammation, when the part effected is external, are too well known for any extended remark. They are an alteration in size, color, temperature, and functional action of the parts effected. These conditions may all occur simultaneously, or only one or two of them may be visible. But where some organ beyond the range of vision is affected, its diagnosis is more difficult. Pain is one of the usual concomitants of such inflammation. It serves a useful purpose, by preventing the use of the affected part; yet it is well to remember, that the pain is not always located in the affected part. For instance, in some cases of Ophthalmia, the pain is felt along the fifth pair of nerves, and in the teeth, in consequence of the intimate connection of the nerves. So too, the pain accompanying inflammation of the pulp of a tooth, may be felt at some distance from the organ affected. Yet the careful dental student will find little difficulty in diagnosing inflammation of any of the dental organs.

Local inflammation may cause constitutional derangement. Febrile symptoms very frequently accompany. The tongue is coated, the skin becomes hot and dry, the pulse quick, hard, and full, the secretions arrested or diminished, and the patient is tormented with the thirst of Tantalus. Such symptoms require constitutional treatment.

The cause of inflammation may be either local, or predisposing. If local the first thing will be the removal of the irritating cause. If predisposing the treatment will be more complicated. Inflammation may terminate by Resolution, or by Metastasis.

The termination by Resolution, means a return of the affected part to health. The irritating cause having been removed, the pain lessens, the swelling subsides, the redness fades out, and the disordered organs resume their wonted functions. With regard to the internal