

Thus, for instance, the ordinary malignant growths find an abiding place here the same as in any other tissue in the body. Carcinoma, sarcoma, fibroma and other neoplasms have all been reported as being found in the thyroid gland. They possess no interest to us here more than in any other part of the body. Nor have I deemed it wise to distract your attention from the point at issue (diseases due to an aberration of secretion in the thyroids) by discussion of simple thyroiditis, which is always a consequence of some of the infectious diseases, and always resolves upon the application of a cold pack, or suppurates, is incised, and goes on to prompt recovery.

Now let us consider these aberrations of secretion seriatim:

*Athyrea* is a condition which we characterize as myxedema in adults and cretinism in children. It is caused by the partial or total lack of secretion in the thyroid gland, or, in the operative form (the so-called *cachexia struma priva*), by the removal of the thyroid gland in its entirety. Where there is a complete obliteration of the thyroid gland we have a pure myxedema or cretinism, or as we have chosen to call it, *athyrea*. Complete *athyrea* is not a common disease in this country, in fact, it may be considered a very uncommon disease. In some of the older lands, notably in Switzerland, certain portions of Northern Italy, and among some of the counties of England it is comparatively common.

The next form, *hypothyrea*, is infinitely more common, and is the common goitre which we know in this part of the country so well. In this should be included the cases formerly characterized as partial myxedema. Partial myxedema (I use this term to make my point clear) is very much more common than a casual observer would believe. Among the children of the poorer classes, where comparatively little attention is given to the mental condition of the child, and none too much to the physical, most of these cases are found. My friend, Dr. Inglis, some years ago called my attention to this in looking over some cases of nervous disease and mental vacuity among children under my care in the Protestant Orphan Asylum of Detroit. Since that time I have been able to discover a goodly number of cases dropping into this class, and benefited very much (as were my cases in the Orphan Asylum) by the careful administration of thyroids. These children to which I refer are apathetic, dull, languid, mentally sluggish, much addicted to nocturnal enuresis, owing to the lack of control of the higher powers of will and judgment; apt to be careless in their habits, dirty in their appearance, and