

principles of asepsis, a small minority alone will pass through this ordeal unscathed.

In proof of the latter statement I adduce the temperature records of the Rotunda Hospital for a portion of two months in the years 1879 and 1880. These charts, which have fortunately been preserved, contain the temperatures registered of ninety-nine patients, and a reference to the ward books of the same periods proves conclusively that the hospital was in a more than usually healthy condition at this time. Carbolic acid and Condy's fluid were in general use, and the hygienic state of the institution had markedly improved, and yet an analysis of these ninety-nine records cannot fail to surprise us.

Forty-eight out of these ninety-nine charts record a morbid state of temperature; of these, nine reached up to or above 105 deg. F., eighteen more were up to 103 deg. F., whilst in only five instances is the range of temperature up to but not above 101 deg. F. Moreover, in reading the notes of the apparently normal cases, one is compelled to suspect that the temperature did not accurately express the true condition of affairs. I find the following notes appended to no less than ten of these, all occurring in one of the two bound books containing forty-nine and fifty charts respectively:

1. Chill, pain in abdomen.
2. Chill, erysipelatous patch over buttocks.
3. Succession of chills, headache.
4. Great pain in abdomen.
5. Great pain in abdomen, also down legs.
6. Chill.
7. Chill.
8. Feeling very weak and faint when sitting up.
9. Chills, lochia fetid and scanty.
10. Series of chills, face flushed, lochia very fetid and scanty.

Results such as these compare badly with our present-day statistics, which show for the six months ending April 20th, 1905; that amongst 918 women delivered in the wards of the hospital, there were 58 cases recorded as morbid, a percentage of 6.31.

An analysis of these 58 cases will show that our results are still more favorable than the bald statement of the figures would lead one to believe. In 48 instances the temperature and pulse did not remain above the normal for longer than four days, and of the remaining 10, morbidity in 5 cases did