

Such, undoubtedly, has been the result in this case. The prognosis must, therefore, in this case be grave—a protracted illness, gaining strength for a time, then a relapse, and finally non-absorption of nutriment, death.

Case V.—T. G., æt. 51, a tailor by trade. Has suffered from indigestion for years. Called to see him in June, 1896. Found him vomiting large quantities of blood. Blood afterwards passed from his bowels. Became very anæmic and weak; almost collapsed. After hæmaturia was controlled, made an examination and found stomach distended; pain on palpation, especially towards the pyloric end. Examination of stomach showed free hydrochloric acid. Here we had to deal with a case of ulceration of the stomach. This was manifest from the symptoms of which the patient complained—the distension of the stomach and the pain on palpation localized at the pylorus, and the examination of the stomach contents. He had another attack in August, 1897. The treatment adopted was absolute rest in bed, chopped ice, ergot, opium and stimulant hypodermically. His food was of the lightest—milk and lime water; then broths and raw oysters, fresh fish, broiled beef-steak in the order named, as his stomach was able to bear the changes.

This synopsis of a few cases will, perhaps, serve to exemplify the points which I wish to emphasize in the diagnosis of chronic gastric affections. The most important points to consider are as follows:

I. Does there exist any lesion in any other organ which would act as a cause of the gastric trouble?

II. The duration of the trouble.

III. Has the trouble been continuous, or has it been intermittent?

IV. Is the stomach distended?

V. Is the stomach painful on palpation, and is the pain localized?

VI. Can a tumour or an induration be made out?

VII. The chemical examination of the stomach.

1. Is blood present?

2. Is free hydrochloric acid present or absent?

3. The presence or absence of lactic, acetic and butyric acids.

4. The presence or absence of pepsinogen.

5. The presence or absence of the milk curdling ferment.