

THE
MARITIME MEDICAL NEWS,
A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

VOL. XII.

HALIFAX, N. S., MAY, 1900.

No. 5

Original Communications.

GASTRIC ULCER.*

By MURRAY MACLAREN, M. B., C. M., M. R. C. S., St. John, N. B.

Of late the subject of simple gastric ulcer and its complications has been freely discussed in the medical world—surgical interference being the most prominent feature dealt with. The subject therefore, while lacking something in freshness, still is always of interest from the frequency of the condition, the urgent and dangerous complications which may arise therefrom, and the procedures which have been resorted to in dealing with them. Anything like a full consideration of the subject can hardly be attempted, there is so much to be said—even if justice could be done, so merely some of its phases here and there will be referred to.

The frequency of ulcer of the stomach seems to vary in different countries. (Ewald.) Sebert gives as the average for Europe, between 4 and 5 per cent. Berthold of Berlin gives 2.7 per cent., Nolbe of Munich 1.23 per cent., Griess of Kiel, 8.3 per cent., J. Jener, 10 per cent., Starck gives 13 per cent. for Copenhagen and Welch gives 5 per cent.

Ewald says this diversity need not surprise us, if we consider that the origin of ulcer of the stomach may in part be traced to direct irritation of the mucous membrane, and that the influence of this factor varies with the habits of life and the different kinds of food taken in different places.

In all countries females are the more frequent sufferers, and this is in the proportion of about two to one.

* Read at meeting of N. S. Branch British Medical Association, April 19th, 1900.