

the menstrual wave, of the uterine flood, in obedience to the irritation arising from the nerve stump or the spinal and ganglionic centres, may suffice to cause an increased pressure and a flow of blood at intervals, especially at the times when menstruation should have occurred, but this will never persist for any length of time. It is in this class of cases, with a uterine status favoring hæmorrhage, that the habit, the disappearing wave of the uterine flood, or, more correctly speaking, the influence exerted by the ganglia and nerve stumps, will lead to the semblance of menstruation, but never to a normal and persistently recurring flow. It is now well known that a third ovary does occur, although only a myth until 1863. One such case, and another of an accessory ovary, is pictured by Winckel. Olshausen, Klebs and others have observed and published isolated cases, but notwithstanding all the numerous laparotomies of late years by competent observers, not one has met with a third ovary except Olshausen in the removal of an ovarian cystoma. Continuance of menstruation after removal of both ovaries has been so frequently reported and the presence of a third ovary so rarely that, *à priori*, we must conclude that an additional remaining ovary cannot be accepted as an explanation for this phenomenon. Whilst the present status of our anatomical and physiological knowledge will not admit of either of the above explanations, it is fully in accord with the facts observed in the cases reported, which conclusively prove that the continuance of menstruation, undoubted menstruation, regular and persistent, is due to the presence of ovarian tissue, however small in quantity and whatever it may have left. From the history and examination in my own cases and in that of Prof. Schatz, we may safely draw the following *physiological conclusions*, which are corroborated by numerous cases of oöphorectomy and of double ovariectomy, now observed, the histories of which have been recorded for a sufficient length of time after recovery from the operation:—

1. That the continuance of *menstruation* after removal of both ovaries is due to remnants of ovarian stroma left *in situ*.
2. That particles of ovarian tissue, however small, which