

can be with-drawn after the speculum has been introduced.

I shall conclude with a few words as to treatment. This may be either medical or surgical, or both. The medical treatment consists in regulating the bowels, diminishing the engorgement of the liver, and in remedying as far as possible the defects in the general circulation. In over-coming constipation, you must carefully avoid anything approaching a purgative, which in the atonic or relaxed condition of the intestine would cause prolapsus and with intense pain. More especially should you avoid aloes which as you are aware acts more especially on the lower part of the bowels and causes congestion of the pelvic organs. Castor oil and sulphate of magnesia should not be given as they irritate the rectum.

On the contrary only the mildest laxatives should be employed. My favorite in these cases is the confection of Black Pepper which gives almost immediate relief when taken in a dose of 1 or 2 teaspoonful every night. Another very mild laxative is a mixture of equal parts of cream of tartar and sulphur, rubbed into a paste with syrup and taken in the same quantity. The compound liquorice powder of the German Pharmacopœia consisting of powdered senna and powdered liquorice of each 2 parts; powdered fennel and sulphur, of each 1 part and white sugar 6 parts. Where there is congestion of the liver you will find prodophyllin in the dose of  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  a grain in pill form every night, a mild and safe remedy. You can also do much for this class of patients by recommending a suitable diet, in which fruit and vegetables should enter largely; they are nature's laxatives.

You must also warn them against drinking decoctions of tea which containing a considerable quantity of tannin, dry up the secretions of the intestines, allowing those hard plugs of fecal matter to form which press upon the veins and cause them to be distended.

For reasons already mentioned the use of alcohol should be discouraged.

The surgical treatment may be either palliative or curative. The former consists in the local application of anodyne and astringent ointments and injections. The best of these and the one I invariably use is the unguentum gallæ cum opio. It is always soothing, and when employed in con-

junction with remedies which keep the contents of the bowels semi liquid, it will almost seem at times to be curative.

When there is much bleeding a lump of alum cut into the shape of a suppository may be inserted, or an enema of a 20 grains to the ounce solution of persulphate of iron will generally control the hemorrhage.

Among the curative surgical measures one of the best, least painful and safest is the injection of carbolized oil, equal parts of each with a hypodermic syringe into the distended vein which forms the pile.

When piles are internal and not readily brought down, a speculum is employed to uncover them. The operator generally takes only one pile at a time, always selecting the uppermost one first, and injects into its interior from one to four drops. The injection turns the pile white, probably con- gulates the blood in its vessels, and results in its shrinking away, without the inflammation being at any one time severe enough as a general thing to prevent the patient from attending to his business. The well known power of carbolic acid to act as a local anaesthetic antiphlogistic and antisu- purative favors the progress. When the irritation of the first injection has measurably subsided, another pile is attacked in the same way."

Of the two remaining methods, the ligature and actual cautery, the latter is most generally employ- ed. If you have a Paqueline thermo-cautere, you should employ the sharp pointed platinum tip at a little below white heat. By gently pulling the swollen mass down and pushing this into it at one or several points according to its size, the circula- tion in it is stopped and in a few days it shrivels up. If you have not such an instrument any blacksmith could make you an iron cautery con- sisting of a handle, stem, and at the end of that a sphere of metal for storing the heat necessary for supplying the point projecting from it and which does the actual work.

When there are loose flaps of skin hanging around the anus you may snip them off with a pair of scissors, hemorrhage if any being controlled by the ligature or pressure.

I have not been called upon to do any of these operations here, for I have not yet come across a case that did not readily yield to medical treat- ment which as I have already said consists largely in preventing constipation.