

of surgery will get enough to satisfy his ambition. This reluctance to submit to operation causes such delay that aggravated conditions such as are rarely met here are common. The young surgeon must not needs wait till his more experienced brethren pass off the stage. Nor will he send his patients to a specialist. He himself must be a specialist, if possible, in all departments of surgery. Frequently does he feel the need of consultation on special cases or rare conditions. With few instruments, inefficient appliances and unskilled assistants he must tackle the most difficult operations, and often these come first on the list.

Among the first gynaecological cases we treated was a rare form of congenital atresia vaginae with menses retained four years. The posterior portion of the vagina, the uterus, and the right fallopian tube were distended with the accumulated debris. A tumor equal in size to a uterus of fourth month of pregnancy was formed.

One of our early cases of urethral stricture was a young man of 22 years of age, who for 17 years had "suffered many things of many physicians." The normal urethral tract was lost in a number of false passages, the result of repeated attempts to use the bougie by unskilled physicians. The whole perinaeum was a mass of fistulae. Irritable and emaciated he reluctantly agreed to operation, and to-day is in robust health, completely relieved of this local trouble. In these and such as these—and in others more difficult still—the young physician, self-reliant and resourceful, yet learns to say "my help cometh from the Lord."

As already hinted, the greater part of the work is surgical. Of diseases purely medical some are absent which are comparatively common at home, e.g., scarlet fever. But others, rarely met here, take their places, e.g., leprosy, cholera, beri-beri. Thanks to the strict quarantine regulations bubonic plague has not entered Ceylon. Fevers are very prevalent, especially malarial fevers of varied types. Digestive disturbances and dysentery are common. Tuberculosis runs a rapid course, probably because of lack of stamina in the patients and the scarcity of nourishing food. Diabetes is a veritable scourge among the educated classes and those who lead sedentary lives. The diet so largely rice partly explains this. Yet, strangely enough, it is rarely found in those engaged in manual outdoor labor, though the diet is similar in most respects. Welcome, thrice welcome,