

sulting from said contamination and not diphtheria, consequently if we have a simple non-malignant tumor of the breast, "or any other part of the body for that matter," we do not naturally look for the subsequent development of something which is essentially different in character, microscopical appearance and result as regards the patient.

Benign tumors of the breast have, until recently, been brought under one general class and named adenomata. Recent observers have, however, dissected out the subject fairly well, and have placed each species under a head of its own, according to the microscopical appearance and tissue of which it is composed. To the practical surgeon, however, a diagnosis is not always very easily arrived at. To distinguish between malignant and non-malignant growths, even in a situation so favorable for manipulation as in the breast, is a problem which occasionally taxes the ingenuity of the most experienced, and it will be found impossible to avoid error at times. It may be laid down as a rule, however, that the nearer the structure of a growth approaches the normal physiological tissue the more probable is it that such a formation is non-malignant, and the wider the channel the greater the possibility of malignancy.

In regard to the development of neoplasms whether they are of epithelial or connective tissue origin the question arises must they originate and increase by proliferation of the tissue which they represent, or can a cell of one series give origin to one essentially different, or may the result of multiplication be modified by the presence of cells of different systems on the same principle as if we plant certain kinds of vines in the same bed, such as cucumbers and citron we shall have resulting a fruit which is altogether unlike either one or the other.

The metamorphosis of the connective tissue corpuscles by what is known as epithelial infection or inoculation has been regarded by some as a very probable theory. How this infection might arise and what might cause it is as mysterious as the transformation which takes place in the fruit.

In regard to the origin of tumors the theory which stands out