

ground daily. If electricity could stop menstruation in these cases of recurrent pelvic inflammation, it could possibly cure them. I have used it in cases of salpingitis, with pelvic inflammation, to satisfy the patient's friends that nothing but the knife would eventually avail. I will not do so any more. If they require such treatment for a disease upon which its vaunted potency is, in my experience, lost, they must go elsewhere.

I wish here incidentally to state, and I hope you will pardon the digression, that I have been interested to notice the peculiar relationship existing between tubercle and chronic inflammatory pelvic disorders. In at least every other case in my case book I find that the patient has lost either father or mother, or both, from phthisis, or has a strong tendency to tubercle from her collateral family history. When the organs become more than usually active, owing to marriage, they seem unable to undergo the great changes required without becoming diseased. I hope at some future time to collate my cases and bring this subject before you. Such a relationship has been noticed by many others.

Some of you may think I have been too aggressive and conservative; my remarks have been made in a spirit of friendly criticism, and in the hope that they may be, in a humble way, the means of assisting in the cure of suffering, by operation, that is too often but alleviated, and of impressing, to some slight degree, upon you the necessity of searching for other means than the knife for curing diseases as yet left uncured by either the gynaecologist or the neurologist.

Thanking you for your kind attention, I will now close.

Selections.

COMPLICATIONS OF DIABETES.

I will speak to-day of the complications of diabetes and the various forms which this malady may assume.

Most authors have attributed these complications to a formation of acetone in the blood, and have described them under the name of acetonæmia. The question is not settled. I

think the word acetonæmia can be retained, without inconvenience, for the condition which we understand by it.

By it we ought to designate the collection of phenomena, occurring in the course of diabetes, and acknowledged to be caused by the retention in the economy of poisonous products, whatever they may be.

Just so, uræmia means a poisoning, not by urea, but by all the excrementitious material which the kidneys no longer eliminate.

These facts being granted, we must admit five principal forms of acetonæmia, which may remain separate, but which ordinarily co-exist, and give rise to a picture of symptoms peculiarly complex. I will designate them as follows, according to the functional disorder predominating: Muscular form, gastro-enteric form, dyspnoëic form, cardiac form, cerebral or comatose form.

Muscular Form.—This form is characterized by extreme languor, painful points in the muscular masses, and a sensation of suffering occasioned by motion. These patients have a presentiment of approaching death. The face is discolored, although there is no notable change in the expression of the physiognomy. There is no febrile reaction, but rather a lowering of the temperature by half a degree, coincident in general with a diminution of the quantity of urine.

These symptoms persist for a certain time, then disappear; sometimes, if they are not controlled, they suddenly increase, or become complicated with symptoms of one or the other of the forms which follow; in this case they may be regarded as a prodrome of these latter.

Gastro-enteric Form.—Preceded in certain cases by extreme languor and general weariness; this form is characterized by a sensation of malaise, and by nausea, followed by abundant vomiting.

The vomit consists of mucus and bile. The vomiting returns at intervals during many days. An obstinate constipation occurs in some cases. But at other times, there exists a liquid diarrhœa, extremely abundant, and preceded or accompanied by violent colic and a notable diminution in the secretion of urine. This flux appears to me to be the result of natural causes, and to be destined to eliminate the organic