

cases as defined by Addison, who first separated out this disease as a clinical entity and describing it as "idiopathic" anæmia, or is one to follow such German authors as Biermer, Grawitz, Ehrlich and others, who give a wider field to this form of disease? Addison outlined this affection as "a general anæmia occurring without any discoverable cause whatever, cases in which there had been no previous loss of blood, no exhausting diarrhœa, no chlorosis, no purpura, no renal, splenic, miasmatic, glandular, strumous or malignant disease." The wider view is perhaps best expressed in the words of Schaumann, who states, "I hold the same views as those authors who consider the disease is not an etiological unity, but only a symptomatic group, which can be produced by causes of all kinds. I regard as pernicious anæmia, not only the so called idiopathic or better cryptogenetic cases, where the disease develops without any recognizable cause and apparently spontaneously, but also those in which a definite etiological cause for the anæmia is to be found. Among such causes are the following :—(1) Intestinal parasites ; (2) gastro-intestinal disturbances of all kinds ; (3) pregnancy and the puerperium ; (4) repeated hæmorrhages ; (5) infective processes (syphilis, malaria, typhoid) ; (6) intoxications (carbonic oxide poisoning). If I had to define my position in a few words, I consider that we must regard as pernicious anæmia, those cases of severe anæmia, which correspond to the clinical picture described by Biermer and possess the blood condition described by Ehrlich, irrespective whether such cases occur in individuals previously healthy or in those already affected with disease, and irrespective whether the anæmia runs a fatal course or not."

Stockman has endeavored to establish the view that any severe anæmia may, by lowering the nutrition of the blood vessel wall, give rise to large or small hæmorrhages, and these in turn of course increase the anæmia, thus establishing a vicious circuit, and the cases thus become pernicious in character. This explanation would necessarily do away with any specific character of pernicious anæmia. This theory does not explain however why every severe anæmia—and there are