

**Prize Competition, see Pages 228 and xxxiv.**

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## Original Articles

### ABDOMINAL PAIN.\*

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With the limitations that must be placed on all subjective symptoms, pain is the one which more than all others leads to the recognition and localization of disease within the abdomen. Fortunate is the physician who has the aid of a patient with clear intelligence to describe the character, the mode of onset, the localization, the direction of transmission, the association with altered function, and the many qualities of this valuable clinical expression of disease. Unfortunately, too often, when the aid of the patient is needed the most, as in the toxic period of typhoid fever, it avails not as it should.

#### ASSOCIATE EXPRESSION OF PAIN.

*Spasm of Muscles.*—The occurrence of *spasm* of muscles, related by nerve supply to the organic lesion which causes the pain, as indicated by *resistance*, is of great aid in the localization of the lesion. No more valuable indication of the occurrence of irritation or inflammation exists than this symptom. Of much

\*That portion of the symposium on abdominal pain assigned to the author—abdominal pain in general and that due to disease of the stomach, liver and pancreas. Presented to the New York State Medical Association at the meeting in Albany, January 26th to 28th, 1904.