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❖ Original Contributions ❖

SOME PREVENTIBLE DEFORMITIES; THE SURGEON'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM *

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It is a sobering exercise of self-examination to reflect upon the disabling effects of deformity and to learn that many departures from the normal attitude result from lack of oversight, from unacquaintance with the natural history of disease, or from inattention to details of treatment.

One chief reason which justifies the existence of specialism is that the practitioner who confines his work to some narrow line has an opportunity to accumulate large experience on that line and to be able to draw practical conclusions, which may be of value to those engaged in general practice. The subject coming up for our consideration at this time is one of this class, and it cannot be expected that on such a subject the general surgeon should have opportunity to reach conclusions such as the orthopedic surgeon ought to be able to form, such as may be of benefit not only to his colleagues, but also to those who look to him for expert advice.

PARALYTIC DEFORMITIES.

We are called to see many patients suffering from various forms of paralysis. Our advice is sought not so much because

*An address delivered at a meeting of the South Waterloo Medical Association, Nov. 17, 1909.