

polypi may cause vaginal spasm, rendering examination absolutely impossible, severe dysuria may also result from such irritation.

The neuropathic disposition of many patients is sufficient of itself to produce painful reflexes at the beginning of an examination by the physician. One is astonished at times to encounter at a level with the cul-de-sac the parts resistant, fixed and painful, giving the impression of dense parametric adhesions. After waiting a few minutes until the patient becomes composed and accustomed to the manipulation the phantom adhesions vanish and the morbid condition gives place to the normal.

The use of cocaine greatly diminishes the irritation produced by contact with the examiner's finger.

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LYCETOL. A HINT ON THE TREATMENT OF RENAL CALCULI.—There is a certain class of cases of renal calculi in which much benefit is derived from the internal administration of antilithic remedies. These are cases where the calculus has not reached any considerable size, and is composed for the most part, of uric acid. The demand for a remedy that will disintegrate concretions of uric acid in the kidney, and facilitate their elimination in the urine, has however, been only imperfectly realized by the alkalies which have been chiefly employed for this purpose. While alkalies, especially lithium salts, undoubtedly exert a solvent action upon uric acid, this is not sufficiently marked to render it likely that they will dissolve stone in the kidney. A much more promising remedy seems to be Lycetol, which has a specific solvent action upon uric acid, as shown in the decided increase in the quantity of this substance excreted in the urine after its administration. Lycetol is also well adapted for prolonged use in renal lithiasis, since it is extremely pleasant to take and does not disturb the stomach. Dr. James H. Taylor, of Indianapolis, writes that in cases of renal calculi he has employed this preparation with very gratifying results, and others are equally positive in their statements regarding its value in all forms of the uric acid diathesis.—*Memphis Medical Monthly*.

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DR. LAPHORN SMITH has returned to Montreal from Europe, where he has been studying all summer. Following the example of the European gynecologists, he is forming a post graduate class limited to six practitioners, each course of demonstrations lasting one month.