

think it well worth a trial, and if it succeeds in all hands, it will prove one of the greatest boons ever conferred on the thousands of women whose life is month by month drained out of them. In the *Medical Times* of June, '88, Lowenthal, of Lausanne, records 23 cases of chlorosis successfully treated by artificial repression of the menses. This method consists of employing hot water injections at 49 Cent. (120 F.) with absolute rest in bed. No bad effects were noticed.

Both writers consider menstruation as we find it, 4 to 8 days, as an abnormal phenomenon due to civilization; savage women, they say, only lose a mere trace of blood in their monthly discharges.

Too often the value of a treatment is denied without the latter having a fair trial or even in some cases without being tried at all. Thus, in a discussion which lately took place at the Gynecological Society of London, several of the most decided speakers against Apostoli's method admitted that they had never tried it, while others had tried it, but had taken upon themselves to deviate in many ways from the precepts laid down by the inventor of the method. Case in point is one in which laparotomy for fibroid cystic tumor is reported by Dr. Charles C. Merz in the *Medical Age*, and by whom it was successfully removed. During the course of the report the following paragraph appears: "For several months electricity was used, the negative pole in the uterus, the positive on the abdomen, no accurate record was made of the strength of current used in these treatments, but a current of from four to eighteen cells of a McIntosh battery was used. These applications were made every four to six days, but were followed by no appreciable result." Anyone reading this paragraph would put it down as a case in which Apostoli's method had been tried and failed. But such is not the case. Apostoli's method consists of certain accurately measured doses; but from 4 to 18 McIntosh cells may mean all the way from little, to no electricity at all,

passing through the tumor between the poles. It is worse than useless, for it discredits the method, to attempt to treat fibroids by Apostoli's method, without being supplied with Apostoli's tools.

Dr. Thallon (in *Brooklyn Medical Journal*) reports a case of vicarious menstruation from hæmorrhoids in a young lady aged nineteen. He believed this to be due to the displacement of the womb, which was flexed and fixed in the hollow of the sacrum. There was obstinate constipation which the patient encouraged in order to escape the excessive pain, and hemorrhage which attended an evacuation. She had pain in the back and rectum, and presented a degree of wretchedness pitiable to behold. She was treated for four months with forced feeding, peptonized milk, etc., and very small doses of bichloride of mercury and arsenic, and the hot rectal douche. A surgical operation for hæmorrhoids was attempted under cocaine, but abandoned. A couple of weeks later it was performed successfully under ether. The mass being completely tied off in segments up to healthy mucous membrane, eighteen stout silk and numerous catgut ligatures being applied. The uterine trouble was treated by systematic tamponing in the knee-chest position. A tight band between the cervix and anterior vaginal wall was divided under cocaine, the cervix being pulled backward so as to put it on the stretch, and the two ends of the incision were then approximated by deep catgut sutures. A retroversion pessary was inserted, and three months later the patient was etherized, the uterus was forcibly lifted from the retroverted and retroflexed into the normal position. The adhesion of the fundus to the rectal wall was ruptured. As the sound encountered some resistance at the internal os and detected some roughness at the fundus, he introduced a Nott's divulsor, and after moderately stretching the internal os, he curetted, removing three or four polypoid growths. At the end of one week she was convalescent.