

upon it (as in duration) were oftener present without than in connection with it; and moreover, none of the alterations about the os and cervix of the womb, were so considerable as those which were apparent in its cavity."

In the second lecture Dr. West alludes to several clinical facts which serve to show 1stly, that the neck of the uterus is not so sensitive a part and is not so endowed for ulceration as is commonly believed; of the different classes of women the conditions calculated to inflict local injury on the uterine neck exist in prostitutes in a far greater degree than in any other; yet observation tends to prove that be the causes of diseases of the os uteri, what they may, sexual excesses at any rate, have no great share in their production, of 40 females admitted into the Lock Hospital indiscriminately, the os and cervix were absolutely healthy or presented only, and this, but rarely a slight blush of redness; in 10 others there were only what we would call epithelial abrasion not over a line in breadth; in the remaining 3 the excoriation was more extensive surrounding the os uteri for about one-third of an inch. 2dly, The presence of ulceration is not necessarily attended by any local disturbance of functional activity. Perhaps no more striking exemplification of this assertion could be set forth than the case afforded by women suffering from procidentia uteri; here the part is exposed more than any other to external injury, it is in a state of permanent disease, the ulcerations are generally indolent and consist of a surface from which the epithelium has been denuded, but for which latter a covering of lymph has been substituted, they are further marked by vivid redness and elongated granulations from which an albuminous secretion constantly weeps. In addition to ulceration there is commonly conjoined more or less hypertrophy of the organ. Nevertheless, under these urgent disadvantages conception can still take place, pregnancy can be passed through without accident, and labour can be accomplished in safety, the very functions being normally discharged that are supposed to be especially disordered by ulceration of a far simpler type than that described above as occurring under much more favorable circumstances. This proposition concerning non-impairment of uterine function by ulceration is fully demonstrated in the present lecture by the discussion of a series of questions founded upon the analysis of 1,226 cases which is well deserving of a careful consideration. Dr. W. has further more shewn that menstrual disorder is not more common, more severe or different in kind; leucorrhœa is not more abundant nor furnished from a different source, and pain is not more excruciating when the os uteri is ulcerated than when that condition is absent. These opinions are borne out by tables that have been constructed from which it appears that amenorrhœa existed in 37.6 per