

accompanied by morbid conditions, telling now more especially upon one set of organs, now more especially upon another.

From the comparison of these cases, and a study of the literature, the following conclusions are suggested:—

1. In general hæmochromatosis some primitive agency, as yet unknown, is at work leading to (a) an increased destruction of hæmoglobin taking place either in localised hæmorrhages, or within the blood stream, or perhaps sometimes within the parenchymatous cells themselves; (b) a degeneration of the cells of certain organs by which they become unable to throw off the granular pigment deposited in them, and, becoming loaded, finally disintegrate.

2. The cirrhosis would seem to be of the nature of a chronic interstitial inflammation, secondary upon the presence in the tissues of pigment set free after the destruction of the parenchymatous cell.

These are practically the conclusions to which Kretz came in his study along the same lines.

Hæmosiderosis of the liver cell was observed in our cases (as in many in the literature), to be associated with a history of intestinal disturbance, and at times (in three instances) of prolonged suppuration.

These facts suggest that the primitive agency, leading alike to blood destruction and to cell degeneration, may be bacterial in its nature.

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