

pathological point of view ; and while it is, perhaps, as well to retain the term, yet one should not lose sight of the fact that it is used to designate varied pathological processes.

1. Of benign neoplasms in this locality the most commonly met with is the adenoma or mucous polypus. This growth, most frequently met with in children, consists in a hypertrophy of the glandular structure of the intestine. In its formation Lieberkuhn's crypts become much enlarged and elongated, and the columnar cells lining them greatly increased in numbers, thus producing a projection upon the mucous surface. This gradually increases in size until it interferes somewhat with the passage of fæces, which forces the tumor downward, making tension upon its mucous attachment until a pedicle is formed, which consists of mucous membrane and the blood-vessels and lymphatics of supply. These polypoid growths, which are single or multiple, vary in size from that of a pea to that of a hen's egg, or even larger.

The lobulated surface of the mass is reddish in color, unless nipped by the sphincters when it becomes livid. So far the neoplastic process has been quite superficial, and there has been no tendency to pass beyond the basement membrane, nor to invade the deeper tissues with new glandular and cell elements. Nor is there any tendency toward metastasis. Under the microscope there is still a regularity of arrangement in the cells and follicles in marked contrast to the irregular and haphazard deposition of the new tissue in a malignant growth.

2. Fibroma of the rectum or fibroid polypus, though not so common as the adenoma, yet appears to be a pretty constant accompaniment to long-standing internal piles, and to anal fissure. It consists essentially in an increased connected tissue formation, superficial in character and covered by the mucous membrane, which is usually dragged down to form a pedicle.

3. Papilloma, or villous polypus of the rectum, is a rare disease, though a similar growth in the bladder is frequently met with. In the rectum it consists in a projecting mass of mucous papillæ covered by columnar epithelium. The pedicle in this case is usually broad ; indeed, the growth is sometimes sessile. The peculiar warty appearance is fairly characteristic. It is largely confined to adult life, and tends to bleed freely when examined, in addition to secreting mucus abundantly.

4. Muroid cystoma, and

5. Dermoid of the rectum are rare, and their pathological characteristics too well known to be considered.