

is made to a peculiar type of insanity, dependent upon disease of the generative organs in women, which is of great medico-legal importance. It is characterized by hallucinations, sometimes amounting to delusions of violation, and may be the only evidence of mental disorder. False charges of rape and seduction may originate in such delusions.

The insanities of pregnancy and the puerperal period are considered under a separate division, apparently with the object of emphasizing the importance of this phase of the subject. The author insists upon a close analogy between parturition and menstruation, which he considers a "mimic pregnancy" (labor?), extending the analogy to include the associated or dependent disturbances of the nervous or mental system which belong to both conditions. As to the cause of the nervous disturbances of pregnancy, he believes them to be a result of high nervous and vascular tension; the nervous disorders (including mental derangements) of puerpery and lactation are the result of shock, lowered nervous and vascular tension, and spanæmia with toxæmia. The hypothesis is advanced that minor degrees of thrombosis may constitute a stage or factor in the production of these insanities. The paper concludes with an urgent appeal for the establishment in all institutions for insane women of a systematic and careful examination for possible causes of mental derangement in disease of the pelvic organs, which, when found, should be relieved, if necessary, by operation.

The subsequent discussion, participated in by such distinguished men as Hack, Tuke, Savage, Bantock, McNaughton Jones, Wilks, Percy-Smith, Edis and others, constitutes an exceedingly interesting array of opinions, which should be read in their entirety to be fully appreciated. Only a brief reference to the most salient points is permitted by the limits of this synopsis. Dr. Savage, while readily admitting a frequent and more than accidental relation between insanities and disease of the pelvic organs, stated that as a fact only a relatively small number of cases in insane asylums had been benefited by the results of examination in this direction. In connection with the subject he suggested, as worthy of investigation, the question as to the advisability of ovariectomy for insanities associated with or caused by masturbation. As to