

there had been nausea and vomiting in the beginning of the disease, but after it ceased it did not return. In some cases the appetite is voracious, accompanied with increased thirst. In this case there was anorexia from the beginning to the end. There was no jaundice or tinting of the skin of any nature. No anasarca which might be expected with thrombosis of the vena cava; probably the compensatory circulation of the return blood through the extensive anastomosis formed by the superficial cutaneous veins prevented its occurrence. In remarking upon the duration of the disease, it may be said that it is much shorter in children than in adults. But it is exceedingly difficult to be definite upon this point, as the beginning of the disease cannot be fixed with certainty. In very debilitated children a few weeks may see the end, while in others, six to thirteen months. Ebstein says he has seen but one case of cancer of the kidney in a child which lasted as long as two years. It is, however, erroneous, as maintained by Walshe and Lebert, that the renal cancer runs a more rapid course than other visceral cancers. The contrary, in fact, is established, namely, that as a rule death is longer delayed in renal cancer than in primary cancer of any other internal organ. The mean duration of cancer of the pylorus, of the liver, lung, or brain is under thirteen months, or thereabout. This tolerance on the part of the kidney may be accounted for by the duplication of the organ; when one kidney becomes disabled, the other takes on a compensatory hypertrophy, and does the work of its diseased fellow. The advantage of much room being afforded the enlarging organ, in virtue of its situation, is also obvious.

As the prognosis of this disease is decidedly bad, invariably fatal, the treatment consists in the employment of such therapeutic measures as will tend to relieve distressing symptoms. I may say that the removal of cancerous kidney is a procedure which I don't think is regarded as sound by scientific surgeons. Walcott extirpated a cancerous kidney which he had taken for a hepatic cyst; the growth weighed two and a half pounds, and the patient survived the operation just two weeks.