

The next few cases illustrate the association of irritable heart with enlarged thyroid.

Case XIII.—Young woman of 24, unmarried; complains of a swelling in neck which has been noticed for about a year. Thyroid found moderately enlarged, especially the right lobe. No tremors or exophthalmos; no history of fright. Heart often palpitates, especially for past six months. Menstrual flow has diminished recently from four days to two days. The thyroid enlargement is thought to be more noticeable at these times. Hands and feet are sometimes felt to be swollen at time of periods; finger nails sometimes turn blue and extremities get cold. Patient complains of feeling nervous; mother and sister have both had enlarged thyroids. Patient noticed nervousness and palpitation of heart before swelling in neck. Heart beat is so pronounced that it may be distinctly seen and felt through underflannel. Heart not noticeably enlarged; no murmurs; pulmonary second exaggerated.

Two years later; patient married and pregnant about six months. Apex beat exaggerated; heart dulness increased outwards about two inches; no murmurs; pulmonary second exaggerated. She was confined in due time in a country town and I was told she made an excellent recovery from her puerperium.

Case XIV.—Young man of 24; has had several weeks of severe financial worry; feeling weak and short of breath for about three weeks; occasional headaches; bowels costive. Pulse 96; heart slightly enlarged. Heart beat visible and shows systolic retraction of precordium one inch outside outer limit of dulness. Heart sounds clear; pulmonary second exaggerated; no murmurs. Vessels of neck show undue throbbing. Both lobes of thyroid moderately enlarged.

Case XV.—Young woman of 21, unmarried; complains of burning pains in feet, palpitation of heart, swelling of neck. History of worry about love affair, commencing a little before symptoms complained of and continuing up to present. Feels nervous; pulse 132; no tremor, exophthalmos, or von Graefe. Apex beat exaggerated, heart dulness normal; no epigastric pulsation; thyroid gland moderately enlarged. Prescribed medicine which patient did not take, but shortly afterwards a reconciliation took place between her and her lover and the symptoms soon began to subside. Two months later, however, the thyroid was still a little enlarged and her pulse was 96, but the subjective symptoms were gone.

A critical review recently published by Cheinisse¹ in *La Semaine Médicale*, deals with some of the problems under discussion. He draws attention to the fact that there has recently been a three-fold increase