

GASTRIC CANCER.

lieved by vomiting, and less localized than in ulcer.

11. Causation not known.

12. No improvement, or only temporary improvement, in the course of the disease.

GASTRIC ULCER.

by vomiting, and more sharply localized than in cancer.

11. Causation not known.

12. Sometimes a history of one or more previous similar attacks. The course may be irregular and intermittent. Usually marked improvement by regulation of diet.

CHRONIC CATARRHAL GASTRITIS.

ulcer. Fixed point of tenderness usually absent.

11. Often referable to some known cause, such as abuse of alcohol, gormandizing, and certain diseases, as phthisis, Bright's disease, cirrhosis of the liver, etc.

12. May be a history of previous similar attacks. More amenable to regulation of diet than is cancer.

Treatment.—The disease is incurable and palliative measures are alone indicated. The diet should consist of readily digested substances of all sorts. Many patients do best on milk alone. Washing out of the stomach, which may be done with a soft tube without any risk, is particularly advantageous when there is obstruction at the pylorus, and is by far the most satisfactory means of combatting the vomiting. The excessive fermentation is also best treated by lavage. When the pain becomes severe, particularly if it disturbs the rest at night, morphia must be given. One eighth of a grain, combined with carbonate of soda (gr. v), bismuth (gr. v-x), usually gives prompt relief, and the dose does not always require to be increased. Creosote (℥ j-ij) and carbolic acid are very useful. The bleeding in gastric cancer is rarely amenable to treatment. Operative measures have been advised and practised, and in exceptional instances there are cases in which the limited cancer could be resected with reasonable hope of recovery.

Non-cancerous tumors of the stomach rarely cause inconvenience. *Polypi* are common and they may be numerous; as many as one hundred and fifty have been reported in one case. *Sarcomata* are very rare. *Fibromata* and *lipomata* have been described.

Foreign bodies occasionally produce remarkable tumors of the stomach. The most extraordinary is the hair tumor, of which a number of instances have been reported in hysterical women who have been in the habit of eating their own hair. A specimen in the medical museum of

McGill University is in two sections, which form an exact mould of the stomach. The tumors which they form are large and very puzzling and have been mistaken for cancer. In one instance the ball of hair was removed by a surgical operation. The tumor was thought to be a movable kidney.

VIII. HÆMORRHAGE FROM THE STOMACH (*Hæmatemesis*).

Etiology.—Gastrorrhagia, as this symptom is called, may result from many conditions, some of which are local, others general.

1. In local disease in the stomach itself: (a) Cancer; (b) ulcer; (c) disease of the blood-vessels, such as miliary aneurisms of the smaller arteries, and occasionally varicose veins; (d) acute congestion, as in gastritis, and possibly in vicarious hæmorrhage, but both of these are extremely rare causes.

2. Passive congestion due to obstruction in the portal system. This may be either (a) hepatic, as in cirrhosis of the liver, thrombosis of the portal vein, or pressure upon the portal vein by tumor, and secondarily in cases of chronic disease of the heart and lungs; (b) splenic. Gastrorrhagia is by no means an uncommon symptom in enlarged spleen, and is explained by the intimate relations which exist between the vasa brevia and the splenic circulation.

3. Toxic: (a) The poisons of the specific fevers, small-pox, measles, yellow fever; (b) poisons of unknown origin, as in acute yellow atrophy and in purpura; (c) phosphorus.

4. Traumatism: (a) Mechanical injuries, such as blows and wounds, and occasionally by the stomach-tube; (b) the result of severe corrosive poisons.

5. Certain constitutional diseases: (a) Hæmophilia; (b) profound anæmias, whether idiopathic or due to splenic enlargements or to malaria; (c) cholæmia.

6. In certain nervous affections, particularly hysteria, and occasionally in progressive paralysis of the insane and epilepsy.

7. The blood may not come from the stomach, but flow into it. Thus it may pass from the nose or the pharynx. In hæmoptysis some of the blood may find its way into the stomach. The bleeding may take place from the œsophagus and trickle into the stomach, from which it is ejected. This occurs in the case of rupture of aneurism and of the œsophageal varices. A child may draw blood with the milk from the mother's breast even in considerable quantities and then vomit it.

8. Miscellaneous causes: Aneurism of the aorta or of its branches may rupture into the stomach. There are instances in which a patient has a single attack of hæmorrhage without even having a recurrence or without symptoms pointing to disease of the stomach.

In new-born infants hæmorrhage may occur within the first two weeks and prove rapidly fatal; the precise etiology of this is not known. This *melæna neonatorum*, according to Hecker, occurs in one of every five hundred infants. In a few instances it seems to be associated with an acquired or hereditary hæmophilia. Occasionally it is met with in sound, healthy infants; in others the birth has been premature, and in such cases the bleeding may be associated with premature interruption of the foetal circulation. In very exceptional cases ulcer of the stomach has been found.

In medical practice, hæmorrhage from the stomach occurs most frequently in connection with cirrhosis of the liver and ulcer of the stomach. It is more frequent in women than in men, owing to the greater prevalence of round ulcer in the former.

Morbid Anatomy.—When death has occurred from the hæmatemesis there are signs of intense anæmia. The condition of the stomach varies extremely. The lesion is evident in cancer and in ulcer of the stomach. It is to be borne in mind that fatal hæmorrhage may come from a small miliary aneurism communicating with the surface by a pin-hole perforation, or the bleeding may be due to the rupture of a sub-mucous vein and the erosion in the mucosa may be small and readily overlooked. It may require a careful and prolonged search to avoid overlooking such lesions. In the large group associated with portal obstruction, whether due to hepatic or splenic disease, the mucosa is usually pale, smooth, and shows no trace of any lesion. In cirrhosis, fatal by hæmorrhage, one may sometimes search in vain for any focal lesion to account for the gastrorrhagia, and we must conclude that it is possible for even the most profuse bleeding to occur by diapedesis. The stomach may be distended with blood and the source of the hæmorrhage not apparent either in the stomach or in the portal system. In such cases the œsophagus should be examined, as the bleeding may come from that source. In toxic cases there are invariably hæmorrhages in the mucous membrane itself.

Symptoms.—In rare instances fatal syncope may occur without any vomiting. In a case of the kind, in which the woman had fallen over and died in a few minutes, the stomach contained between three and four pounds of blood. The sudden profuse bleedings rapidly lead to profound anæmia. When due to ulcer or cirrhosis the bleeding usually recurs for several days. Fatal hæmorrhage from the stomach is met with in ulcer, cirrhosis, enlargement of the spleen, and in instances in which an aneurism ruptures into the stomach or œsophagus. Gastrorrhagia may occur in splenic anæmia or in leukæmia before the condition has aroused the attention of friends or physician.

The amount of blood lost is very variable, and in the course of a day the patient may bring up three or four pounds, or even more. In a case under the care of George Ross, in the Montreal General Hospital, the

patient lost during seven days ten pounds, by measurement, of blood. The usual symptoms of anæmia develop rapidly, and there may be slight fever, and subsequently œdema may occur. An interesting circumstance connected with gastro-intestinal hæmorrhage is the development of amaurosis, the mode of production of which is still under discussion.

Diagnosis.—In a majority of instances there is no question as to the origin of the blood. Occasionally it is difficult, particularly if the case has not been seen during the attack. Examination of the vomit readily determines whether blood is present or not. The materials vomited may be stained by wine, the juice of strawberries, raspberries, or cranberries, which give a color very closely resembling fresh blood, while iron and bismuth and bile may produce a blackish color like altered blood. In such cases the microscope will show clearly the presence of the shadowy outlines of the red blood-corpuscles, and, if necessary, spectroscopic and chemical tests may be applied.

Deception is sometimes practised by hysterical patients, who swallow and then vomit blood or colored liquids. With a little care such cases can usually be detected. The cases must be excluded in which the blood passes from the nose or pharynx, or in which infants swallow it with the milk.

There is not often difficulty in distinguishing between hæmoptysis and hæmatemesis, though the coughing and the vomiting are not infrequently combined. The following are points to be borne in mind in the diagnosis:

HÆMATEMESIS.

1. Previous history points to gastric, hepatic, or splenic disease.

2. The blood is brought up by vomiting, prior to which the patient may experience a feeling of giddiness or faintness.

3. The blood is usually clotted, mixed with particles of food, and has an acid reaction. It may be dark, grumous, and fluid.

4. Subsequent to the attack the patient passes tarry stools, and signs of disease of the abdominal viscera may be detected.

HÆMOPTYSIS.

1. Cough or signs of some pulmonary or cardiac disease precedes, in many cases, the hæmorrhage.

2. The blood is coughed up, and is usually preceded by a sensation of tickling in the throat. If vomiting occurs, it follows the coughing.

3. The blood is frothy, bright red in color, alkaline in reaction. If clotted, rarely in such large coagula, and mucopus may be mixed with it.

4. The cough persists, physical signs of local disease in the chest may usually be detected, and the sputa may be blood-stained for many days.

Prognosis.—Except in the case of rupture of aneurism or of large veins, hæmatemesis rarely proves fatal. In my experience death has fol-

lowed more frequently in cases of cirrhosis and splenic enlargement than in ulcer or cancer. In ulcer it is to be remembered that in the chronic hæmorrhagic form the bleeding may recur for years. The treatment of hæmatemesis is considered under gastric ulcer.

VII. DISEASES OF THE INTESTINES.

I. DISEASES OF THE INTESTINES ASSOCIATED WITH DIARRHŒA.

CATARRHAL ENTERITIS; DIARRHŒA.

In the classification of catarrhal enteritis the anatomical divisions of the bowel have been too closely followed, and a duodenitis, jejunitis, ileitis, typhlitis, colitis, and proctitis have been recognized; whereas in a majority of cases the entire intestinal tract, to a greater or lesser extent, is involved, sometimes the small most intensely, sometimes the large bowel, but during life it may be quite impossible to say which portion is specially affected.

Etiology.—The causes may be either *primary* or *secondary*. Among the causes of *primary* catarrhal enteritis are: (a) Improper food, one of the most frequent, especially in children, in whom it follows overeating, or the ingestion of unripe fruit. In some individuals special articles of diet will always produce a slight diarrhœa, which may not be due to a catarrh of the mucosa, but to increased peristalsis induced by the offending material. (b) Various toxic substances. Many of the organic poisons, such as those produced in the decomposition of milk and articles of food, excite the most intense intestinal catarrh. Certain inorganic substances, as arsenic and mercury, act in the same way. (c) Changes in the weather. A fall in the temperature of from twenty to thirty degrees, particularly in the spring or autumn, may induce—how, it is difficult to say—an acute diarrhœa. We speak of this as a catarrhal process, the result of cold or of chill. On the other hand, the diarrhœal diseases of children are associated in a very special way with the excessive heat of summer months. (d) Changes in the constitution of the intestinal secretions. We know too little about the *succus entericus* to be able to speak of influences induced by change in its quantity or quality. It has long been held that an increase in the amount of bile poured into the bowel might excite a diarrhœa; hence the term bilious diarrhœa, so frequently used by the older writers. Possibly there are conditions in which an excessive amount of bile is poured into the intestine, increasing the peristalsis, and hurrying on the contents; but the opposite state, a scanty secretion, by favoring the natural fermentative processes, much more commonly causes an intestinal catarrh. Absence of the pancreatic secretion from the intestine has been associated

in certain cases with a fatty diarrhœa. (e) Nervous influences. It is by no means clear how mental states act upon the bowels, and yet it is an old and trustworthy observation which every-day experience confirms that the mental state may profoundly affect the intestinal canal. These influences should not properly be considered under catarrhal processes, as they result simply from increased peristalsis or increased secretion, and are usually described under the heading *nervous diarrhœa*. In children it frequently follows fright. It is common, too, in adults as a result of emotional disturbances. Canstatt mentions a surgeon who always before an important operation had watery diarrhœa. In hysterical women it is seen as an occasional occurrence, due to transient excitement, or as a chronic, protracted diarrhœa, which may last for months or even years.

Among the *secondary* causes of intestinal catarrh may be mentioned:

(a) Infectious diseases. Dysentery, cholera, typhoid fever, pyæmia, septicæmia, tuberculosis, and pneumonia are occasionally associated with intestinal catarrh. In dysentery and typhoid fever the ulceration is in part responsible for the catarrhal condition, but in cholera it is probably a direct influence of the bacilli or of the toxic materials produced by them. (b) The extension of inflammatory processes from adjacent parts. Thus, in peritonitis, catarrhal swelling and increased secretion are always present in the mucosa. In cases of invagination, hernia, tuberculous or cancerous ulceration, catarrhal processes are common. (c) Circulatory disturbances cause a catarrhal enteritis, usually of a very chronic character. This is common in diseases of the liver, such as cirrhosis, and in chronic affections of the heart and lungs—all conditions, in fact, which produce engorgement of the terminal branches of the portal vessels. (d) In the cachectic conditions met with in cancer, profound anæmia, Addison's disease, and Bright's disease intestinal catarrh may develop, and may terminate life.

Morbid Anatomy.—Changes in the mucous membrane are not always visible, and in cases in which, during life, the symptoms of intestinal catarrh have been marked, neither redness, swelling, nor increased secretion—the three signs usually laid down as characteristic of catarrhal inflammation—may be present post mortem. It is rare to see the mucous membrane injected; more commonly it is pale and covered with mucus. In the upper part of the small intestine the tips of the *valvulæ conniventes* may be deeply injected. Even in extreme grades of portal obstruction intense hyperæmia is not often seen. The entire mucosa may be softened and infiltrated, the lining epithelium swollen, or even shed, and appearing as large flakes among the intestinal contents. This is, no doubt, a post-mortem change. The lymph follicles are almost always swollen, particularly in children. The Peyer's patches may be prominent and the solitary follicles in the large and small bowel may stand out with distinctness and present in the centres little erosions, the so-called follicular ulcers. This may be a striking feature in the intestine in all forms of catarrhal enteritis in children, quite irrespective of the intensity of the diarrhœa.