

TRUE ANGINA.

Most common between the ages of forty and fifty years.

Most common in men. Attacks brought on by exertion.

Attacks rarely periodical or nocturnal.

Not associated with other symptoms.

Vaso-motor form rare. Agonizing pain and sensation of compression by a vise.

Pain of short duration. Attitude: silence, immobility.

Lesions: sclerosis of coronary artery.

Prognosis grave, often fatal.

Arterial medication.

PSEUDO-ANGINA.

At every age, even six years.

Most common in women. Attacks spontaneous.

Often periodical and nocturnal.

Associated with nervous symptoms.

Vaso-motor form common. Pain less severe; sensation of distention.

Pain lasts one or two hours. Agitation and activity.

Neuralgia of nerves and cardio-plexus.

Never fatal.

Antineuralgic medication.

There are cases in women which are sometimes very puzzling; for instance, when the patient presents a combination of marked hysterical manifestations and attacks of angina and has aortic insufficiency. In such instances the patient should receive the benefit of the doubt and be treated for true angina.

Prognosis.—Cardiac pain without evidence of arterio-sclerosis or valve disease is not of much moment. True angina is almost invariably associated with marked cardio-vascular lesions in which the prognosis is always grave. With judicious treatment the attacks, however, may be long deferred, and a few instances recover completely. The prognosis is naturally more serious with aortic insufficiency and advanced arterio-sclerosis. Patients who have had well-marked attacks may live for many years, but much depends upon the care with which they regulate their daily life.

Treatment.—Patients subject to this affection should live a quiet life, avoiding particularly excitement and sudden muscular exertion. During the attack nitrite of amyl should be inhaled, as advised by Lauder Brunton. From two to five drops may be placed upon cotton-wool in a tumbler or upon the handkerchief. This is frequently of great service in the attack, relieving the agonizing pain and distress. Subjects of the disease should carry the *perles* of the nitrite of amyl with them, and use them on the first indication of an attack. In some instances the nitrite of amyl is quite powerless, though given freely. If within a minute or two relief is not obtained in this way, chloroform should at once be given. A few inhalations act promptly and give great relief. Should the pains continue, a hypodermic of morphia may be administered.

In the intervals, nitroglycerin may be given in full doses, as recommended by Murrell, or the nitrite of sodium (Matthew Hay). The nitroglycerin should be used for a long time and in increasing doses, beginning with one minim three times a day of the one per cent solution, and increasing the dose one minim every five or six days until the patient complains of flushing or headache.

Huchard recommends the iodides, believing that their prolonged use influences the arterio-sclerosis. Twenty grains three times a day may be given for several years, omitting the medicine for about ten days in each month. In some instances this treatment is certainly beneficial. Two men, both with arterio-sclerosis, ringing, accentuated aortic sound, and attacks of true angina, have under its use remained practically free from attacks—one case for nearly three, and the other for fully four years. This treatment is, however, not always satisfactory, and I have had several cases in which the condition has not been at all relieved by it.

For the pseudo-angina, the treatment must be directed to the general nervous condition. Electricity is sometimes very beneficial, particularly the Franklinic form.

VI. CONGENITAL AFFECTIONS OF THE HEART.

These have only a limited clinical interest, as in a large proportion of the cases the anomaly is not compatible with life, and in others nothing can be done to remedy the defect or even to relieve the symptoms.

The congenital affections result from interruption of the normal course of development or from inflammatory processes—endocarditis; sometimes from a combination of both.

(a) Of *general anomalies* of development the following conditions may be mentioned: *Acardia*, absence of the heart, which has been met with in the monstrosity known by the same name; *double heart*, which has occasionally been found in extreme grades of foetal deformity; *dextrocardia*, in which the heart is on the right side, either alone or as part of a general transposition of the viscera; *ectopia cordis*, a condition associated with fission of the chest wall and of the abdomen. The heart may be situated in the cervical, pectoral, or abdominal regions. Except in the abdominal variety the condition is very rarely compatible with extra-uterine life.

(b) *Anomalies of the Cardiac Septa.*—The septa of both auricles and ventricles may be defective, in which case the heart consists of but two chambers, the *cor biloculare* or reptilian heart. In the septum of the auricles there is a very common defect, owing to the fact that the membrane closing the foramen ovale has failed at one point to become attached to the ring, and leaves a valvular slit which may be large enough to admit the

handle of a scalpel. Neither this nor the small cribriform perforations of the membrane are of any significance.

The foramen ovale may be patent without a trace of membrane closing it. In some instances this exists with other serious defects, such as stenosis of the pulmonary artery, or imperfection of the ventricular septum. In others the patent foramen ovale is the only anomaly, and in many instances it does not appear to have caused any embarrassment, as the condition has been found in persons who have died of various affections. The ventricular septum may be absent, the condition known as trilocular heart. Much more frequently there is a small defect in the upper portion of the septum, either in the situation of the membranous portion known as the "undefended space" or in the region situated just anterior to this. The anomaly is very frequently associated with narrowing of the pulmonary orifice or of the conus arteriosus of the right ventricle.

(c) **Anomalies and Lesions of the Valves.**—Numerical anomalies of the valve are not uncommon. The semilunar segments at the arterial orifices are not infrequently increased or diminished in number. Supernumerary segments are more frequent in the pulmonary artery than in the aorta. Four, or sometimes five, valves have been found. The segments may be of equal size, but, as a rule, the supernumerary valve is small.

Instead of three there may be only two semilunar valves, or, as it is termed, the *bicuspid condition*. In my experience, this is most frequent in the aortic valve. Of twenty-one instances only two occurred at the pulmonary orifice. Two of the valves have united, and from the ventricular face show either no trace of division or else a slight depression indicating where the union had occurred. From the aortic side there is usually to be seen some trace of division into two sinuses of Valsalva. There has been a discussion as to the origin of this condition, whether it is really an anomaly or whether it is not due to endocarditis, foetal or post-natal. The combined segment is usually thickened, but the fact that this anomaly is met with in the foetus without a trace of sclerosis or endocarditis shows that it may, in some cases at least, result from a developmental error.

Clinically this is a very important congenital defect, owing to the liability of the combined valve to sclerotic changes. Except two foetal specimens all of my cases showed thickening and deformity, and in fifteen of those which I have reported death resulted directly or indirectly from the lesion.

The little fenestrations at the margins of the sigmoid valves have no significance; they occur in a considerable proportion of all bodies.

Anomalies of the auriculo-ventricular valves are not often met with.

Foetal endocarditis may occur either at the arterial or auriculo-ventricular orifices. It is nearly always of the chronic or sclerotic variety. Very rarely indeed is it of the warty or verrucose form. There are little nodular bodies, sometimes six or eight in number, on the mitral and tricuspid segments—the nodules of Albini—which represent the remains of

foetal structures, and must not be mistaken for endocardial outgrowths. The little rounded, bead-like hæmorrhages of a deep purple color, which are very common on the heart valves of children, are also not to be mistaken for the products of endocarditis. In foetal endocarditis the segments are usually thickened at the edges, shrunken, and smooth. In the mitral and tricuspid valves the cusps are found united and the chordæ tendineæ are thickened and shortened. In the semilunar valves all trace of the segments has disappeared, leaving a stiff membranous diaphragm perforated by an oval or rounded orifice. It is sometimes very difficult to say whether this condition has resulted from foetal endocarditis or whether it is an error in development. In very many instances the processes are combined; an anomalous valve becomes the seat of chronic sclerotic changes, and, according to Rauchfuss, endocarditis is more common on the right side of the heart only because the valves are here most often the seat of developmental errors.

Lesions at the Pulmonary Orifice.—*Stenosis* of this orifice is one of the commonest and most important of congenital heart affections. A slow endocarditis causes gradual union of the segments and narrowing of the orifice to such a degree that it only admits the smallest-sized probe. In some of the cases the smooth membranous condition of the combined segments is such that it would appear to be the result of faulty development. In some instances vegetations develop. The condition is compatible with life for many years, and in a considerable proportion of the cases of heart-disease above the tenth year this lesion is present. With it there may be defect of the ventricular septum. Obliteration or *atresia* of the pulmonary orifice is less frequent but a more serious condition than stenosis. It is of necessity associated with either imperfection of the ventricular septum or patency of the foramen ovale and persistence of the ductus arteriosus. *Stenosis of the conus arteriosus* of the right ventricle exists in a considerable proportion of the cases of obstruction at the pulmonary orifice. At the outset a developmental error, it may be combined with sclerotic changes. The ventricular septum is imperfect, the foramen ovale is usually open, and the ductus arteriosus patent. These three lesions at the pulmonary orifice constitute the most important group of all congenital cardiac affections. Of 181 instances of various congenital anomalies collected by Peacock 119 cases came under this category, and, according to this author, in eighty-six per cent of the patients with congenital heart-disease living beyond the twelfth year the lesion is at this orifice.

Congenital lesions of the aortic orifice are not very frequent. Rauchfuss has collected 24 cases of stenosis and atresia, and stenosis of the left conus arteriosus may also occur, a condition which is not incompatible with prolonged life. Ten of the sixteen cases tabulated by Dilg were over thirty years of age.

Symptoms of Congenital Heart-disease.—Cyanosis occurs in over ninety per cent of the cases and forms so distinctive a feature that

the terms "blue disease" and "morbus cæruleus" are practically synonyms for congenital heart-disease. The lividity in a majority of cases appears early, within the first week of life, and may be general or confined to the lips, nose, and ears, and to the fingers and toes. In some instances there is in addition a general dusky suffusion, and in the most extreme grades the skin is almost purple. It may vary a good deal and may only be intense on exertion. The external temperature is low. Dyspnoea on exertion and cough are common symptoms. The children rarely thrive and often display a lethargy of both mind and body. The fingers and toes are clubbed in a grade rarely met with in any other affection. The cause of the cyanosis has been much discussed. Morgagni referred it to the general congestion of the venous system due to obstruction, and this view was supported in a paper, one of the ablest that has been written on the subject, by Moreton Stillé. Morrison's recent analysis of 75 cases of congenital heart-disease shows that closure of the pulmonary orifice and patency of the foramen ovale and the ventricular septum are the lesions most frequently associated with cyanosis, and he concludes that the deficient aëration of the blood owing to diminished lung function is the most important factor. Another view, advocated by William Hunter, was that the discoloration was due to the admixture in the heart of venous and arterial blood; but lesions may exist which permit of very free mixture without producing cyanosis.

Diagnosis.—In the case of children, cyanosis, with or without enlargement of the heart, and the existence of a murmur are sufficient, as a rule, to determine the presence of a congenital heart-lesion. The cyanosis gives us no clew to the precise nature of the trouble, as it is a symptom common to many lesions and it may be absent in certain conditions. The murmur is usually systolic in character. It is, however, not always present, and there are instances on record of complicated congenital lesions in which the examination showed normal heart-sounds. In two or three instances foetal endocarditis has been diagnosed *in grávida* by the presence of a rough systolic murmur, and the condition has been corroborated subsequent to the birth of the child. Hypertrophy is present in a majority of the cases of congenital defect. It is impossible in the scope of a work of this sort to enter upon elaborate details in differential diagnosis between the various congenital heart-lesions. I here abstract the conclusions on this question given by Hochsinger in his recent monograph:*

"(1) In childhood, loud, rough, musical heart-murmurs, with normal or only slight increase in the heart-dulness, occur only in congenital heart-disease. The acquired endocardial defects with loud heart-murmurs in young children are almost always associated with great increase in the heart-dulness.

"(2) In young children heart-murmurs with great increase in the

* Die Auscultation des kindlichen Herzens, Wien, 1890.

cardiac dulness and feeble apex beat suggest congenital changes. The increased dulness is chiefly of the right heart, whereas the left is only slightly altered. On the other hand, in the acquired endocarditis in children, the left heart is chiefly affected and the apex beat is visible; the dilatation of the right heart comes late and does not materially change the increased strength of the apex beat.

"(3) The entire absence of murmurs at the apex, with their evident presence in the region of the auricles and over the pulmonary orifice, is always an important element in differential diagnosis, and points rather to septum defect or pulmonary stenosis than to endocarditis.

"(4) An abnormally weak second pulmonic sound associated with a distinct systolic murmur is a symptom which in early childhood is only to be explained by the assumption of a congenital pulmonary stenosis, and possesses therefore an importance from a point of differential diagnosis which is not to be underestimated.

"(5) Absence of a palpable thrill, despite loud murmurs which are heard over the whole præcordial region, is rare except with congenital defects in the septum, and it speaks therefore against an acquired cardiac affection.

"(6) Loud, especially vibratory, systolic murmurs, with the point of maximum intensity over the upper third of the sternum, associated with a lack of marked symptoms of hypertrophy of the left ventricle, are very important for the diagnosis of a persistence of the ductus Botalli, and cannot be explained by the assumption of an endocarditis of the aortic valve."

Treatment.—The child should be warmly clad and guarded from all circumstances liable to excite bronchitis. In the attacks of urgent dyspnoea with lividity blood should be freely let. Saline cathartics are also useful. Digitalis must be used with care, and it is sometimes beneficial in the later stages. When the compensation fails, the indications for treatment are those of valvular disease in adults.

III. DISEASES OF THE ARTERIES.

I. DEGENERATIONS.

Fatty degeneration of the intima is extremely common, and is seen in the form of yellowish-white spots in the aorta and larger vessels. *Calcification* of the arterial wall follows fatty degeneration, atheromatous changes, and sclerosis. It occurs in either the intima or the media. In the latter it produces what is sometimes known as annular calcification, which occurs particularly in the middle coat of medium-sized vessels and may convert them into firm tubes. Calcification of the intima is a common terminal process of arterio-sclerosis.