

One of these was a young man, a cigar-dealer of this city, who, from a very early period of his life had contracted the habit of introducing substances into the anus for the purpose of having sexual pleasure. He had been led to the practice by seeing, while yet a very young child, a dog coupled with a bitch, and supposing that the connection was by the anus, he had inserted a wooden lead pencil into the corresponding opening of his own body. This had caused him some local pain but it had also produced a singular but voluptuous sensation the exact location of which he was then not able to fix.

At this time he was about seven years old. In a few days he repeated the operation with a like result, but on this occasion with the handle of a tooth brush well oiled. Again he experienced pleasure which was distinctly referable to the penis. After this he often performed this act, using always the same article with which to accomplish his purpose.

At about the age of ten he was initiated into masturbation and pederasty by the boys of a boarding-school to which he was sent. Masturbation, however, gave him no pleasure, neither did pederasty when he was the active agent. Indeed he had difficulty in getting an erection sufficiently vigorous for the purpose. His weakness in this respect was soon discovered, and he was relieved from that part of the performance very much in accordance with his wishes, as the rôle of the passive gave him more pleasure than that of the active

agent. Every night, therefore, he took part in these shameful performances and frequently to the extent of half a dozen or more times. On each occasion he experienced the voluptuous sensations to obtain which was rapidly becoming one of the chief objects of his life. He remained at the school five years, and then left it to go into a tobacco mercantile establishment to learn the business, but, as he said, with his health shattered, his nervous system irritable, with almost constant headaches, and with such a degree of relaxation of the sphincter ani as to sometimes make it impossible for him to hold his feces after they had once reached the rectum.

At this time he formed an association for pederastic purposes with a young man who was to take the active while he himself took the passive part. Articles of agreement were drawn up between them in which each swore eternal fidelity to the other, and in which they were called, respectively, husband and wife. They took a room together and at night slept in one bed. There were two beds in the room and both were occupied for a few minutes so as not to excite suspicion, and then the one who was in this disgusting arrangement to act the part of the "husband" came to his "wife's" bed and remained there during the night. Generally pederasty was practiced night and morning.

Frequently the passive agent would array himself in female attire and would sit up at night waiting for the other to return home—sometimes he was kept out late

by his business, which was that of a liquor dealer—and then would receive him with every demonstration of affection.

These relations continued for three years, at the end of which time the passive agent went into business as a cigar dealer, and his associate was obliged to leave the city, in consequence of a difficulty with the police in regard to a gambling operation in which he was engaged. The connection was, therefore, broken up, though with much regret and many manifestations of grief on both sides. He then resumed his performances on himself, though he was constantly on the lookout for a man with whom he could establish *rappports*, such as those which had been interrupted. He frequently fell in love at first sight, but was afraid to make advances, lest he should be refused, and perhaps exposed. All this time he had a very lively sense of the impropriety and illegality of his proceedings. He knew that if detected disgrace and severe punishment would be the result. He endeavored, however, to reconcile his mind to his conduct, by endeavoring to persuade himself that he could not help doing what he did; that the tendency was born in him, and, that though his body was that of a man, his soul was a woman's. He gave himself a woman's name, calling himself "Lida" whenever he was operating on himself, and insisting on being called so by his acquaintances, telling them some story about its being an abbreviation of his real name.

In all his life, he had never experienced the slightest sexual feeling for women. Upon one occasion he had passed the part of a night with a prostitute, but was unable to have connection, or even to have an erection. Since about his fifteenth year he had had strong erections while engaged in pederasty, and emissions of semen took place at each performance, though without there being any contact with the penis. Indeed, this organ was in such a hyperæsthetic state while the act was being performed on him, that he could not bear it to be touched. The least contact, even, with his clothing, was sufficient to produce a semi-epileptic paroxysm, in which, while there was no loss of consciousness, there were involuntary contraction of the muscles of the face, arms, and legs of both sides of the body, and an immediate relaxation of the sphincter of the bladder, attended with discharge of whatever urine might be in the viscus. This condition of enuresis was often manifested during sleep, but more especially when there had been no sexual relations that night.

Finally he formed a pederastic association with a man of about fifty years of age. As he said, it was not the kind he wanted, but he had, as he declared, no alternative. This man proved to be very salacious, and sometimes had relations with him three or four times in the course of the day and night. He had several times been under the charge of a surgeon of the city for fissure of the anus, but had never revealed the real circumstances to him.

About a year before he came under my observation he had had an epileptic fit during pederastic intercourse. This was after having had such connection four times in the course of one night, when he was greatly exhausted, and in an exceedingly hyperæsthetic condition. During this attack he bit his tongue. After this he had repeated seizures, some taking place during the pederastic acts, and others just after they were ended. All were apparently directly connected with them, except the two last, which had occurred while he was in his shop, and engaged in his legitimate business. In the second of these he had fallen against a hot stove and burnt his hands and chest quite severely. It was for treatment for his epileptic convulsions that he came to me.

As soon as he entered my consulting room, I was sure, from his appearance and manner, that there was some derangement of the genital system, but I was not prepared for the horrible instance of depravity the details of which, after some difficulty, I succeeded in eliciting from him. Here was a man about twenty-three or twenty-four years of age who for nearly twenty years had had sexual orgasm in the strangely unnatural way mentioned, more times than an average of once daily. He informed me that he had made a calculation, and was sure that he had either acted upon himself or been acted upon by others, at least ten thousand times! He was exceedingly thin; his eyes, black, were deep sunken in their sockets, his hair was black, thin, and dry; he

had no beard, and but a slight mustache; his skin was sallow, and the expression of his face that of a person who has committed a crime, and is fearful of being discovered. While speaking, he kept his eyes cast towards the floor. After he had told me the story as I have given it, I proceeded to examine him more critically. I found that he had had repeated headaches, and attacks of vertigo; that he had scarcely any appetite, that he suffered greatly from dyspepsia, that his bowels were sometimes constipated, and sometimes extremely loose; that he had pains in his back, and that he had had for several months past, sharp, shooting electric-like pains in his legs, which he had taken for neuralgic pains, but which, from the peculiar gait, the absence of the patellar tendon-reflex, and the presence of other symptoms, were certainly indicative of the existence of locomotor ataxia. He also had incontinence of urine, and the ordinary phenomena of incoördination, met with in the affection in question. On submitting him to ophthalmoscopic examination, I ascertained that the left pupil was very considerably larger than the right, that there was neuro-retinitis on both sides, and that on the left side there had been several retinal hæmorrhages. The field of vision was considerably restricted in that eye. At times there had been diplopia.

Extending my examination to the genital organs, I found the penis extremely small, but the moment I touched it an involuntary shudder ran through his body, and, for the instant, he lost consciousness—the attack

was clearly epileptic in character. Although he could touch and handle the organ with comparative impunity—though when he retracted the prepuce, there were slight spasms—it was, he said, impossible for any one else to touch it without an epileptic seizure being produced. There was no phimosis. In its flaccid state, the penis was not larger round than a man's little finger, and did not exceed two and a half inches in length. I suspected from this conformation that he had taken the active part in pederasty, as well as the passive, to which he had confessed, but he assured me, that he had never done so half a dozen times in his life and that his penis had always been as small as it then was. The testicles were of about the normal size, though, perhaps, somewhat softer than they are usually found to be in the healthy state. The anus was extremely relaxed; to such an extent, in fact, that it would have been perfectly easy to have introduced the hand.

He informed me that at times his inclination towards being a woman was so great that he had been repeatedly strongly tempted to amputate the genital organs. He had been told by his paramours, however, that if he did so he would no longer be capable of experiencing pleasure in the pederastic act, and this had restrained him.

But with this tendency to femininity, he had a disgust for women, so far as the sexual feeling was concerned; and, as has been said, he had never felt in the slightest degree any venereal excitement in their pres-

ence and under circumstances calculated to produce the orgasm in normally constituted men.

There was nothing to do for this patient, so far as I could determine, but to give him the bromide of sodium, with the view of lessening his reflex excitability and arresting the epileptic paroxysms, to which he was subject. He promised to abstain from further pederastic acts, but I had no confidence in his protestations. Indeed, he said that he did not himself believe that he would be able to stop. He returned in about a week, better so far as the epilepsy was concerned, but with no improvement in other respects. He had committed pederasty, passively, five times in that period, a slight reduction from the average. I saw him, at intervals, for several months. So long as he took the bromide he was better, and his inclinations to his vice lessened in number and intensity. It had rendered him a little weaker in his legs, however, and he stopped taking it. His ataxic symptoms steadily became more profound. Finally in the winter of 1880-1881, he died of some lung trouble, in Cuba, whither he had gone for his health.

There are few cases on record in which a more decided inversion of the sexual feeling has been exhibited than in this instance. The exact mechanism of the production of the orgasm by friction against the mucous membrane of the rectum, is, of course, easy of explanation; but that it should have been put in action at so early a period, and without the ordinary physio-

logical process being developed, are certainly remarkable facts. And again, that when the glans penis began to exhibit excitability, it should, when excited, instead of leading to the sexual orgasm, result in an epileptic paroxysm is another extraordinary phenomenon.

In another case, the patient, a young man, twenty-eight years of age, consulted me for treatment for pederastic tendencies to which he was subject, and to which he had repeatedly yielded, though always afterwards experiencing the most intense feelings of remorse. He had never had sexual intercourse with women, nor had desire in that way. He had attempted it repeatedly, in order that he might, by success, be diverted from his pederastic inclinations, but had never succeeded. No excitations in connection with women caused him any sexual excitement. He was absolutely impotent with them.

This patient was of a different type from the other. He was well educated, had travelled extensively, and had ample means at his command. His family was of the highest respectability. All these circumstances increased the deep sorrow he felt at the tendencies which, in the most unaccountable manner, had been developed in him, and which had produced in him a feeling of the most profound melancholy.

The origin of the impulse was sudden, and occurred when he was about twelve years of age. He had been severely flogged at school for some boyish offense, and soon afterward experienced in the sexual organs sensa-

tions which he had never felt before, accompanied by an erection which lasted fully half an hour. That afternoon, he went into a river near by to bathe, in company with another boy, and, while in the water, he swam with his hands resting on the other boy's shoulders. He had often done this before, without having any sexual excitement provoked, but upon this occasion his penis came in contact with the gluteal region of his companion, and, instantly, he felt just such sensations as he had experienced when he had been flogged, and, like them, accompanied by an erection. They were close to shore, and before he knew what he was doing, he was performing a pederastic act. From this time on, while at school, he continued the practice, sometimes acting as the passive, but generally as the active agent. When he left school, he stopped for a long time, having become aware of the iniquity of his proceedings, but the sight of a naked man, or even the pictures or statutes of such men, were sufficient to cause sexual excitement, but not reaching to the extent of emissions.

While at college he studied hard, and during the four years of his attendance never once yielded to his inclinations. He, however, frequently practised masturbation, and during the act always directed his mind toward the subject of the gluteal region of man, of naked men, and images of men committing pederasty. There was scarcely a night that he did not commit self-pollution. Nocturnal emissions, also, were common,

and were always accompanied by lascivious dreams, of which pederastic acts were the principal features.

All this injured his mind and weakened his generative organs. He cursed himself for his inability to refrain, and for the unnatural course which his sexual desires took. Several times he had attempted to turn them towards women, but in vain. They were absolutely incapable of rousing in him the least venereal excitement. He read romances of an indecent character, in which women were made to act lascivious parts; he bought obscene pictures and looked at them, hoping, by these means, to provoke a natural desire; but he was absolutely dead to all excitations of the kind. These things disgusted him, and, as he said, when he saw several naked prostitutes in obscene positions, he had a feeling of nausea that almost ended in vomiting. The society of virtuous women he could not bring himself to seek, on account of the sense of his utter unfitness, by reason of his moral turpitude for such associations. He was fast becoming morbid and full of eccentric notions relating to sexuality. For instance, he spent the whole of one evening drawing the gluteal regions of the great men of the world, and imagining that he was having pederastic relations with them.

Soon after leaving college, while stopping at a hotel in this city, a telegraphic message arrived for him late in the evening, just as he had undressed, and was going to bed. The bell-boy of the hotel, who brought it to him, was a rather handsome lad, and excited the desires

of the patient to an inordinate degree. He offered him a considerable sum of money to remain with him all night, and, without much persuasion, consent was obtained. He had never experienced such intense venereal excitement as he did that night, and he committed pederasty eleven times before morning. His remorse over this was very great and his physical suffering excessive. He could not walk for several days; had constant headache, and could not sleep. He sent for an ounce of laudanum, intending to take the whole of it, but, on reflection, contented himself with a little less than a teaspoonful. This gave him sleep, and some measure of relief from his other nervous symptoms. He recovered, however, went to Europe, and there indulged several times. Then he returned to New York, indulging two or three times, and, finally, he came to me, as I have stated.

I found that he was sincerely desirous of being cured of his tendencies, and of recovery. He had, with this latter end in view, formed the acquaintance of a young lady, but as he had never experienced any sexual inclinations towards women, he was afraid to think seriously of matrimony. Thus far, there had been apparently no serious inroads committed on his health, except as regarded his mind. He was subject to severe fits of depression, during which he suffered the keenest feelings of remorse, and had thoughts of suicide. He had never before consulted a physician.

I advised continuous association with virtuous women,

and a system of severe study of subjects that would require abstract thought of the highest kind. I suggested mathematics. He at once agreed to pursue the exact course I marked out for him in these respects.

I also recommended cold baths every morning, a liberal diet, and plenty of outdoor exercise, either of walking or horseback-riding.

I cauterized the nape of the neck and the lower dorsal and lumbar regions, and administered the bromide of sodium, in fifteen grain doses, three times a day. The cauterization was repeated every ten days. At the end of the third month there had been a very decided improvement. Bromism had been produced to a tolerably severe degree, and with its appearance, the unnatural proclivities towards men began to disappear. He no longer had images, such as had formerly haunted him, passing through his mind, and he could look at a nude statue of a man without feeling any sexual excitement. Occasionally, however, the impulse to pederasty would come over him, but it lasted only for a few minutes, and was never yielded to. He had not, however, had any inclination towards women. He had had but one nocturnal emission, and that was soon after beginning treatment.

All this was very favorable, and I determined to continue the treatment unchanged for another period of three months.

At the end of this time there had been still greater amendment. Sleep had become regular and sound;

his melancholic disposition had almost disappeared; his abnormal sexual tendencies no longer existed. In fact, there was no venereal excitement of any kind. There were no emissions, no erections. Judging that the bromide had now been carried far enough, and that he had obtained such a degree of control over himself, as to prevent his returning to his former habits, I stopped its administration, and gave him, instead, the following prescription:

R. Strychniæ sulph. gr. ij.
Acid. hypophosph. dil. ʒ ij.
M. ft. sol. Dose: ten drops three times a day.

He took this without interruption for three months. During this period he had no relapse. The images, which formerly excited him now disgusted him, for he associated them with some of the most remorseful feelings a man could have, and he had begun to take pleasure in the society of respectable women. He had not, however, experienced any but the faintest evidences of sexual excitement, though occasionally he had felt slight normal desires.

Over a year has now (March, 1883), elapsed, and he is still under treatment, though I have not seen him for two months. At that time he was strong and healthy, free from all pederastic tendencies; in fact, entertaining the liveliest disgust for it, and thinking seriously of marriage. He had had, several times, natural sexual desires, accompanied by erections, but a high sense of morality, which now exists in him, has prevented any