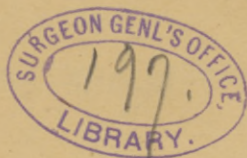


Van Derveer (A.)

A case of infantile
menstruation.



A CASE OF INFANTILE MENSTRUATION.

BY

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I DESIRE to report the following case, because of its seeming rarity :

Both Mr. B. K. and his wife present a good family history and are not related in any way. Mrs. K. was attended in her confinement by Drs. Snow and Perry of this city, yet the family is an old one of mine, especially on the father's side. I was called to see the child September, 1882, for some supposed trouble of the spine, and was quite surprised to get the following history: She is now two years and seven months old, and began a regular normal flow, lasting from four to five days, when she was four months old, and which has continued every twenty-eight days since. She weighs forty-nine pounds. Features and form that of a girl ten or twelve years old. Her mammary glands are as large as a small orange. The mons Veneris is well developed, and covered with a full growth of hair. The external labia large, and all parts of the vulva fully formed. She is bright and intelligent, but easily irritated, especially so at the beginning of the menstrual epoch. She is not allowed, nor does she seem to care, to play with children of her own age. Her appetite and tastes belong to a child much older. All functions seem to be performed normally. Has never been troubled with leucorrhœa. Has never shown any disposition to handle her parts or masturbate in any way. Is, in fact, quite modest with her mother, and particularly so with her father, and when I made my examination.

Her physical condition is splendid in development, there being no disease of the spine. She plays some with her dolls. And while it is difficult for a stranger to understand her speech, yet her parents have no trouble in that direction.

December, 1882, and January and February, 1883, she did not menstruate, and in her actions was very much more fretful, and inclined to be wakeful at night. March 18th, it came on again as of old, and has been normal since, she really appearing better in her disposition. No case of the kind ever known in the family.

