

symptoms, which complicate the problem of treatment. An abdominal bandage, with a well-adjusted pad, will in some cases give great relief, but not infrequently it seems impossible to retain the floating organ by mechanical means, and even nephrography is not always successful. I have known the *diagnosis* of the condition to be followed by relief to some of the most distressing symptoms, and in the above reported case, the patient, a doctor, took a substantial dinner—the first for many months—when it was announced that the “abdominal tumor” was only a floating kidney.

II.—*The Anatomical Tubercle.*

There have been of late years several very interesting observations upon the common post-mortem wart, or as it was named by Wilks, who first described it, *verruca necrogenica*. It is now very generally regarded as a local tubercle, the result of inoculation. The presence of bacilli has been demonstrated in several instances. They consist chiefly of granulation tissue, occasionally with giant cells, and with papillomatous outgrowths of the epidermis, which gives the tubercle the wart-like character.

They are met with in persons who perform many post-mortems, and in those whose business brings them into close contact with animals and animal products. Their occurrence is by no means infrequent. In Germany it is quite common to see the hands of the demonstrators of pathology (and more particularly the attendants in the autopsy rooms) disfigured by these structures.

I have myself eight or ten scars from these warts, which I have had at times on my hands during the past fifteen years. They rarely increase in size beyond a quarter of a dollar piece, are seldom painful, and are only unpleasant on account of the disfigurement. In my case they have lasted variable periods, from four or five weeks to eight or nine months. I have usually found them to disappear spontaneously. Thus, the last one I had was the result of accidental inoculation made from a phthisical subject early in November. I persistently refrained from local treatment in order to watch its development. It gradually spread, and after attaining the size of a ten-cent piece remained