

## FRIDAY MORNING.

Dr. J. F. W. Ross, of Toronto, gave the address on "Midwifery." It dealt with abdominal and pelvic operations for the relief of conditions incident to the puerperal state. The report of a case of *rupture of the uterus, upon which he had operated successfully*, was listened to with much interest.

Dr. J. C. WEBSTER, of Edinburgh, read a paper on "Place of Pessaires in Gynecological Treatment." The paper drew attention to the fast disappearance of the use of these instruments as a better knowledge of accompanying pathological conditions was being acquired, which conditions, when treated, did away with the necessity for supports. Those cases in which supports were of use were described.

Dr. LAPHORN SMITH, of Montreal, read a report of one hundred and ten operations for retro-displacement of the uterus, of which forty-two were Alexander's operations of shortening the round ligaments, and sixty-eight ventrofixations or suspensio-uteri operations. The results of both operations had, on the whole, been very satisfactory, with the exception of two cases, in which the ligaments broke, being very fatty, and also partly owing to the method of operation, which he has since improved; in one of these cases he immediately performed ventrofixation with good results; the other was a complete failure, having declined further operation. Also in one of the Alexander cases the uterus remained in good position for six months, when it began to fall a little. The failures all occurred among his earlier cases, none having occurred among those operated upon during the last two years. So far no case of hernia had resulted from the operation. The ventrofixations gave even better results than the Alexander's. They were performed for the most part upon women who not only had contorsion within but the ovaries and tubes were at the same time prolapsed and bound down by more or less dense adhesions. In many of these also there was laceration of the cervix and perineum, with cystocele and rectocele.

Dr. PLAYTER prepared a paper on "Cold Air in the Treatment of Consumption," which was read by title. Doctor Playter first referred to the two principal causes of phthisis, the seed and the body soil. By nearly all physicians the bacillus was recognized as a cause, but a number of them believed it to be but a consequence. The truth lay between the two views. The bacillus would not grow and multiply in the body unless the tissues were in a defective, practically *diseased*, state, but it is indispensable to the formation of tubercle. The diseased state, Dr. Playter claims to have