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GASTROPTOSIS.

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Gastroptosis is a term applied to downward displacement of the stomach. It is usually accompanied by ptoses of other abdominal organs, especially the right kidney.

Kussmaul was the first to call attention to some displacements of the stomach and their connection with clinical symptoms. However, it was Glenard's researches on enteroptosis which drew general attention to the frequent occurrence of downward displacements of abdominal organs and to their relation to symptoms of disease. On this account Glenard has been given the credit of priority, and dropping of abdominal organs in general is frequently designated Glenard's disease; and inasmuch as gastroptosis is generally accompanied by downward displacement of other abdominal organs they are sometimes considered together under the caption enteroptosis.

With regard to the nomenclature of the various ptoses of the abdominal viscera it is customary, following Glenard, to use the term enteroptosis to designate prolapse of the abdominal organs in general. Strictly speaking this is not correct, as, etymologically, enteroptosis means falling of the intestines. A better term for the general prolapse is splanchnoptosis. If we adopt this term we can use the term enteroptosis for downward displacement of the intestines, just as gastroptosis, hepatoptosis, splenoptosis, are used respectively for dropping of the stomach, kidney, liver and spleen.

In cases of gastroptosis it is rare to see displacement of