

Jennie R., aged twenty-four, has had, since she was fifteen years old, enlargement of the thyroid. It commenced as a small, round growth in the right side, and gradually grew to its present size. For some years, owing to tachycardia and breathlessness, she has not been able to walk any distance or to go upstairs; for some years has had exophthalmos. When I saw her, early in January of this year, she was an anæmic girl with prominent eyes, a very nervous manner, and rapid pulse. She had a very large swelling, which was round and smooth, extending from the sternum to the hyoid bone, and this swelling went under the sterno-mastoid. It was not fluctuating, soft, and did not appear to be vascular. I looked upon the case as one of large colloid cyst, and recommended operation. This was performed January 27, 1899, and the tumor, as expected, turned out to be a colloid cyst. Hæmorrhage was quite free, and a number of ligatures had to be applied, the superior thyroid being ligated. Recovery was complicated by a continuous high temperature (104° F.) and a very rapid pulse (180-200), following immediately on the operation. The discharges from the wound were tested and found perfectly sterile. It was supposed that this was a case of the so-called thyroid intoxication, which has been described by several writers. On giving free vent to the discharges from the wound, which were thin and watery, the temperature and pulse rapidly subsided, and the patient recovered completely. I heard from her on the 15th May. She says, "I have begun to feel like a different person, and just wonder how I ever put in such a miserable existence as I did the last five years. You would scarcely recognize me as the same person. My heart does not palpitate as it did before the operation."

I think these cases sufficiently prove that increase of thyroid tissue can produce a group of symptoms very much resembling Graves's disease. Now, these symptoms, in my experience, only come on in encysted cases with solid cysts. In cysts with fluid contents I have never seen them, so pressure can be but a small factor in the production of these symptoms.

In cases of true Graves's disease the improvement after operation is not so great. During the past four or five years I have operated on several cases, removing one-half of the enlarged thyroid. Although in these cases there has been