

The subject is referred to by Gunzius, 1744; Bucholz, 1768; Sauvage, 1768; Portal, and one or two other writers of his time. In more recent times (1866), Cantani first published the history and description of a case.

Leopold, in 1875, collected nine cases and published them in tabulated form. In the list appended to this paper Leopold's method of classification has been, to a large extent, adopted.

Wickham Legg, in 1878, made a collection of twenty previously published cases. He expressed great doubt as to the correctness of diagnosis in these, for two apparently good reasons: (1) That in only two of the so-called cases had a post-mortem been made, and in both these the liver had been found in the normal position. (2) He stated that after a careful examination of anatomical literature, he had been unable to find the record of a single case of displaced liver. He had evidently overlooked Heister's case. Since 1878 the possibility of displacement has been proved, not only by post-mortems, but also by abdominal sections during life.

In 1885, Landau published a work, "*Die Wanderleber und der Hangebauch der Frauen*," in which he gave brief histories of sixteen cases which came under his own observation.

The last, and, perhaps, the most exhaustive work, was published in Paris, 1892, by Faure. In this a collection of fifty-four cases is given, as well as an account of a number of experiments made on the cadaver.

Some cases have been reported since, so that I have made a collection of seventy, which are herewith given in a tabulated form. In recording these cases I have taken into consideration only those in which the displacement was due to abnormal conditions below the diaphragm, excluding also such cases as are produced by tumor or abscess above the liver pressing it down. The slighter form due to pathological condition of the right chest, such as pleurisy, pneumothorax, and emphysema, are not rare, and are not here taken into consideration. Chvostek, Meissner, and Winkler have written long and able articles on this subject.

I am of opinion that the cases so far recorded might easily be divided into two classes. First, the wanderleber of the German, *fegato ambulante* of the Italian, floating liver, a condition almost always found in women with pendulous abdomen, usually after frequent childbearing; and a second class, made up of both males and females in whom the causes of displacement are varied. By far the larger proportion of cases belongs to the first class.

It is probable that the number recorded bears a small proportion to the number which really exists. This opinion is strengthened by the fact that so many have been published since the observations of Cantani in 1866. Previous to that time the subject was scarcely noticed, even in treatises on the liver, such as Budd, Frerichs, etc.