

freely, but were instantly restrained by the application of, as many fingers, six required ligatures, and as soon as the oozing ceased, the edges of the flaps were approximated, five points of suture made, cold water dressing applied, and the patient placed in bed on her back. During the operation, she lost about twelve ounces of blood, union by the first intention took place throughout the wound; on the fourth day the sutures were removed, and on the eighth the ligatures came away, the cold water dressings were changed for warm, cicatrization perfected, and she is now up and engaged in her usual domestic affairs.

The growth proved to be an adipose tumor, with its cyst of condensed cellular membrane, and weighed 12½ lbs.—It is now in course of preparation for the Museum of McGill College.

It is very seldom that the surgeon meets with such an enormous dispendent tumor of *labium pudendi*—I have not been enabled to find the record of any such.—The swelling which the patient discovered immediately after delivery, thirty years ago, was probably “thrombus,” formed by the rupture of one or more small veins; the fluid parts of which being absorbed, left the more solid; these became organized, and being supplied with vessels from a adipose tissue, gave that character to the tumor. How it could have been mistaken for hernia is remarkable, having the history and progress of the case so clearly described by the patient, not to mention its situation and absence of impetus on coughing, &c. &c.

St. Johns, C. E., October 20, 1856.

XXIII.—*Case of Spina Bifida, with Post-natal Hydrocephalus*, in which the operation of *Paracentesis Capitis* was performed 17 times.
By J. B. Gibson, M.D., Clarenceville, C.E.

On the 17th December, 1855, attended Mrs. N—in her confinement. She was delivered of a male child, which, upon examination, was found to have a tumor that was situated low down in the lumbar region, of the size of a couple of goose eggs. It was soft, impressible, and fluctuating, presenting all the ordinary character of the swelling, familiarly known as *hydro-rachitis*, or *spina-bifida*; a third of its surface, however, was peculiar, from presenting a raw appearance, and discharging a thin, watery fluid. Co-existent with this local condition, the lower limbs were partially paralyzed. These circumstances caused me to give a very unfavorable opinion as to the probability of the child's surviving for any great length of time. The tumor was dressed with ung. simplex, and I left it, expecting that I should soon hear of the death of the infant.