

into a bicornuate uterus. Watkins (5 b.) after opening the abdomen found that what he had diagnosed the passage of the curette into the peritoneal cavity, was the passing of the curette into the Fallopian tube. In Hind's case the uterine sound was introduced in the uterus before incising the abdominal wall; after opening the abdominal cavity, it was seen that the sound had threaded the whole length of the Fallopian tube. It was presenting at abdominal orifice of the tube. In Floeckinger's case (5 a.) laparotomy showed that the uterine sound was in the oviduct. In Thorn's case (5 d.) one uterus was myomatous, the other was latero-flexed and latero-verted. In the case of myoma of the uterus, the uterine sound was introduced 14 cm., suddenly there was a lack of resistance, hasty removal of the sound followed upon this. On opening the abdomen, it was seen that the sound had penetrated for a distance of 3 cm. into the Fallopian tube. Ahlfeld (5 e.) also reports a case in which after laparotomy, it was seen, that the left oviduct had been entered by a sound, introduced into the uterus. Nevertheless, this occurrence, the introduction, by way of the uterus, of any instrument into the Fallopian tubes is very infrequent, so infrequent that its possibility has been denied by competent observers, because:

1st. Under natural conditions, the lumen of the uterine end of the oviduct is so small that it is only with difficulty that one can introduce a bristle into it.

2nd. Under normal conditions the broad ligaments and also the ovarian ligaments maintain the Fallopian tubes in a transverse position in the pelvis.

Lawson Tait was never able on the cadavar to sound the tubes through the uterus. He maintained that under normal conditions, it is impossible to introduce by way of the uterine canal an instrument into the normal Fallopian tubes. Catherization of the tubes is more liable to occur in the presence of such pathological conditions, as uterine latero-version and latero-flexions, after interstitial gravity, after haematometra, etc., etc.

3rd. The instrument may have slipped into a small cavity, which has developed in the interior of a uterine fibromyoma.