

symptoms. When it is borne in mind that with rapid increase of the tumour, with all the dangers of such a condition, there is a simultaneous development of the uterus, the dangers will be more easily appreciated. But a small tumour may remain small, be subject to no increase of growth, and yet become a source of grave danger. In such cases this is usually from torsion of the pedicle, with subsequent bleeding into the cyst, peritonitis or gangrene, and speedy death unless prompt relief be afforded by the resources of surgery. The dermoid cysts here preserve their well-known exceptionally strong tendencies to torsion of pedicle.

In small tumours the pregnancy may not be interfered with in any way even to full term, and the tumour itself may give no evidence of change, yet with the advent of abortion, premature or full term labour, the woman is at once placed in a position of great danger. This is particularly the case if the tumour be small enough to be still accommodated within the pelvis, as then it is sure to be more or less injured during labour, and the injury has been such as, in many cases on record, to kill the patient.

My experience of the grave condition which I have chosen as the subject of my paper consists of four cases. In three of these ovariectomy was performed at varying stages of pregnancy. In the fourth, ovariectomy was also done, but in the non-pregnant condition. This woman had borne three children after the diagnosis of ovarian tumour had been made. The case is here introduced as an exceptional illustration of how a serious danger may be repeatedly escaped.

My first case was reported in a paper communicated to the *Canada Lancet* for February, 1887. Apart from the main source of interest in the case, it was also interesting in some other particulars. I present the main features, copying from the *Lancet* report:—

“ On the 10th November, 1884, by the advice of my friend Dr. Dugdale of this city, I was consulted in the case of a lady, aged 37, the subject of an abdominal tumour. She had been married eighteen or twenty years, and was the mother of two children—one, a grown-up daughter, born a year after marriage,