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FLOATING KIDNEY SIMULATING DISEASES OF THE GENITAL ORGANS IN WOMEN.*

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Movable kidney is a much more common disease than is generally supposed, occurring in about 1 in 250 cases in general practice and in about 1 in 5 of the women who consult the gynecologist. It is much more frequent in women than in men; it occurs much oftener on the right side than on the left; less frequent still on both sides at once, and very rarely on the left side alone. It is important that it should be recognized oftener, because it gives rise to symptoms very similar to those produced by lacerated cervix and other diseases of the genital organs.

2. The causes are: (a) loss of perirenal fat; (b) violence either in the form of a blow on the loins, but more often by the sudden jerk of jumping or prolonged vomiting; (c) frequent pregnancies causing relaxation of the abdominal walls; (d) tight lacing, which forces down the liver and the liver pushes down the kidney; (e) the kidneys are heavier during menstruation, which, therefore, is a contributory cause.

3. The symptoms are disorders of all the organs supplied by the great sympathetic and pneumogastric nerves

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