

roy, Lougheed of Petrolia, and a few friends of deceased. An incision was made from the top of the sternum to the pubis, through the integument; the sternum was separated from the costal cartilages and removed, exposing the lungs, the upper lobes of which were found to be adherent to the walls of the chest, but otherwise healthy with the exception of pigmentary deposit. Heart, pericardium and spleen healthy; several large deposits of melanotic cancer in the liver and kidneys. The cardiac orifice and lesser curvature of the stomach were involved. The pancreas appeared to have been the starting point of the disease as that organ was a complete mass of adhesion. An incision was made into the stomach, and a large clot of blood, the size of a man's closed hand, was discovered. The difficulty in swallowing complained of so much by the patient was caused by a cancerous tumor in the cesophageal opening of the stomach, which had dropped downward by reason of its weight, and no doubt was the cause of the relief in swallowing which took place two weeks prior to death. It was thought unnecessary to examine the brain, as the cause of death was quite evident from the examination just made.

The above case is not only a very interesting, but also an instructive one, especially as the more prominent symptoms of true cancer, as given by the best authors, were absent, such as vomiting and the passing of blood and matter with the stools. The patient informed me that he never was sick at his stomach, much less to vomit. Most authors regard vomiting as a pathognomonic symptom of cancer of the stomach.

HERNIA—THE AUTHORS WHO WROTE ON IT—AND ITS TREATMENT PRIOR TO THE 18TH CENTURY.

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In the limits of the present article it will be impossible to enter very fully into all the authors' views, or even to give all their names, neither will I take the space necessary to mention the works from which most of it has been taken, but will, as briefly as possible give the principal means adopted with a view to cure hernia, reserving for another time some minor considerations.

The first allusion to hernia, although not definitely mentioned, is to be found in Leviticus

(xxi. chap.) 17, 18, 19, 20th verses, where the command is given: "Speak unto Aaron, saying, whosoever he be of thy seed in their generation, that hath any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God," and then the blemishes are enumerated, and I believe that hernia is one of them. Between the time of Pythagoras and the Peloponnesian war, philosophy and physic made such rapid progress that it was deemed necessary to divide them. But it is to Hippocrates that must be given the honor of the division of Physic into Medicine and Surgery, each branch having much more than any man can possibly master in the longest and most studious lifetime, and if this natural division had been followed, and even subdivided, how much better it would have been for all interested? He was the first who gave anything like a correct account of the diseases of his age, and he was the first who described hernia; and although not technically accurate as we understand it, no doubt it was substantially correct for the age in which he lived. It was less frequent in that age than at present, with our artificial and hot-bed diseased society.

Following Hippocrates we have hernia described by Meges, Georgias, Heron, and Sofratus, but by none of these is given any definite treatment for this affection. During the reign of the Emperors Augustus and Tiberius, Celsus described most accurately, hernia of the groin and scrotum. He gives the manner of operating in his time in hernia. The surgeon opened the scrotum, took hold of the sac, and after he had returned the intestine, cut it off; then he tied the spermatic cord and removed the testicle. He cut out part of the scrotum and re-united the lips, to form a solid cicatrix that would prevent the falling down of the parts. In the time of Antoninus, Galen and some of his successors described these diseases more accurately than was done before. Oribasius, Ætius, but more particularly Paulus Æginetus, who lived in the seventh century of the Christian era, omitted nothing which pertained to the method of treating hernia in his time, which varied somewhat from that practised by Celsus, because Constantine, the first Christian Emperor, who no doubt saw its evil effects in his empire, enforced a law against the treatment by the removal of the testicle. The only change introduced by Paulus Æginetus in the Celsus operation, was the tying of