

health. Incision of the cervix for dysmenorrhœa is one thing; incision of the cervix for sterility, even if there be dysmenorrhœa, is another, and it behooves us to draw the line of distinction in every case, and not to take it for granted that every woman is sterile who may have dysmenorrhœa or feeble health, or that every man is prolific who may be vigorous and enjoy good health. I am sorry to say that I have had the misfortune to incise the cervix in half a dozen cases of sterility, where I found afterward, to my great mortification, that the husbands were incapable of procreation, because their semen had no spermatozoa, and that, too, since I have known the value of the microscope. In each case the operation was called for to restore health, but was totally useless for the relief of its incidental accompaniment, sterility, and would not probably have been submitted to for considerations of health alone, had it not been for the hope of offspring afterward. I made the mistake of operating on these cases, because the social position, moral character, and appearance of health in the husband, conjoined with the excessive dysmenorrhœa and utter prostration of the wife, led me to operate without the preliminary step of ascertaining whether there were spermatozoa or not. I wish others to profit by my mistakes; and I am less ashamed to tell you of them, than I am to own them to myself.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL.

TAKEN BY PERMISSION FROM DR. HODDER'S CASE BOOK.

LARGE FIBRO CYSTIC TUMOR.

MRS. McCALLUM, AGE 59.

Admitted October 5th, 1893.

UNDER THE CARE OF DR. HODDER.

She states that about sixteen years ago a small lump formed on the cheek about the anterior edge of the masseter, and an inch or more above the angle of the jaw. It gave her no pain or inconvenience for some time, for two or three years, it scarcely increased in size; but, at the end of this period, a second tumor formed posterior to the first, which increased more rapidly in size, pushing as it grew the former to the front.

As the inconvenience was slight, and she suffered no pain, she did not apply for advice, the tumor slowly increasing in size. About six or seven years ago it took on a more rapid growth for a time, and again became indolent. Nine months ago it grew more rapidly than it ever had done and increased from the size of a goose egg to its present dimensions. She showed it to one or two medical men in the country who

declined to have anything to do with it, and she was sent in under my care.

On her arrival here, the tumor was large, firm and elastic, giving an indistinct sense of fluctuation in the posterior portion, while it was firm, hard, and lobulated anteriorly. It extended from near the angle of the mouth on the left side to two inches behind the ear, and from the malar process to an inch or more below the lower jaw.



It measured fifteen inches in circumference ten and a half inches antero posteriorly, and ten inches from above to below. The skin was thinned and somewhat adherent on its most prominent part, and the veins were numerous and large. It was firmly bound down by the platysma and fascia, yet a certain amount of mobility existed which induced me, with the previous history, to believe that the parotid gland was not implicated.

Furthermore, the fingers could be pushed under the angle of the jaw, and the facial artery could be felt dipping under the tumor after its passage round the jaw.

Her general health was good, she felt no severe pain, only inconvenience from its weight and pressure, appetite good and functions well performed, and as she was desirous of having it removed, I agreed to do so, if after consultation, it was deemed desirable. Drs. Beaumont, Wright, Aikins, and Richardson, saw the case with me, and the operation was fixed for Saturday, 17th October, at (1) one P.M.

The operation consisted in making two incisions from its anterior to its posterior edge, including an elliptical portion of the integument about three inches wide on its convex surface. The flaps were dissected off and the fascia and